

We are **Church of the Presentation**,  
a welcoming Catholic community leading people  
into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ  
through **Word, Worship, and Outreach**.

**March 24, 2024 / Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**



## HOLY WEEK BEGINS

### Pardon & Peace

**Tuesday, March 26, 7:00pm**



*This Communal Service will  
conclude with the Sacrament of  
Reconciliation. We will have  
extra priests available for Confession.*

Weather permitting, all families are  
welcome to join us on the great lawn  
for an **Easter Egg Hunt on Holy  
Saturday, March 30**, at 10am. We'll  
have two hunts, one for ages 0-3, and  
one for kids ages 4 & up.

**Bring your Easter baskets!**



### Good Friday Bicycle Stations of the Cross with Fr. Bob



Weather permitting, we will leave from  
the front of the church on Good  
Friday morning after the 9am  
Morning Prayer Service  
(approximately 9:30am). We'll do a 12-mile route,  
stopping at Guardian Angel, Villa Marie Clare, St.  
Gabe's, Zion Lutheran, the Old Stone Church and  
the United Methodist Church. There is a shorter  
8½ mile route that will let you bail out as we loop  
back, if you want a smaller dose. There are a couple  
of hills on the route. At each stop, we'll  
reflect on several Stations of the Cross  
and the Liturgical architecture that the  
particular church emphasizes. Bring a  
bagged lunch for when we're done!



## THE TRIDUUM - A Three Day Celebration

### Holy Thursday, March 28

Morning Prayer, 9:00am  
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:30pm  
(followed by Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament until 11:00pm)

### Holy Saturday, March 30

Morning Prayer, 9:00am  
Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00am  
Easter Vigil Mass, 7:30pm

### Good Friday, March 29

Morning Prayer, 9:00am  
Bicycle Stations, 9:30am (see above)  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3:00pm  
Youth Ministry Living Stations, 7:30pm

### Easter Sunday Masses, March 31

**8:00am, 10:00am, 11:30am, & 1:00pm**  
*There is no 6:30pm Mass on Easter Sunday.*

**Easter Sunday Parking Help Needed!** Men & women high school age or older - we need you! If you can help, please contact Barry Ervin at 201-327-7367 (home) or 201-819-0891 (cell).



## TAKE A TAG!

...from the Sharing Board & help our Youth Ministry help the homeless in NYC on their Homeless Overnight Retreat!

## Easter Sharing

- † **Please remember to bring your Sharing Board items back to the parish by the end of this weekend. Thank you!**
- † Contributing **supermarket gift cards**; please bring them to the gift box in the Narthex.
- † **Tuesday, March 26**, at 10:00am: Sorting, packing, assembling food & carving hams (*RSVP to 201-327-1313 ext. 844. You **WILL NOT** get a call back*).
- † **Holy Saturday morning, March 30**: Delivering food to three of our soup kitchens (*RSVP to 201-327-1313 ext. 871 & you **WILL** get a confirmation call back*).
- † **Easter Sunday, March 31** at 7:30am: Serving meals in our Bronx soup kitchen. (*RSVP to 201-327-1313 ext. 871 & you **WILL** get a*

## Youth Ministry Happenings

[churchofpresentation.org/youthministry](http://churchofpresentation.org/youthministry)

**Next YM Gathering-** April 7 after 6:30pm Mass.

**IGNITE** - Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm in the Antioch Room. All high school students are welcome!

**Attn. All High Schoolers:** We are looking for Teen Lectors. Once trained, you'll be able to be scheduled to read at Mass. Contact Craig for more info.

**Attn. H.S. Seniors:** Are you interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister? Contact Craig or Shelby for training.

## Synod Updates - We Need Your Input!



Please join us as we give more input to the Pope and the Synod of Bishops. They are meeting again in October 2024, and are asking for some more feedback from us as a parish.

Please take a moment to fill out a sheet (at our table in the narthex) or complete an online survey. You can access the brief survey using the QR code or by [clicking here](#). (these links are also on the [parish website](#)).



**"Play-'n-Worship"**  
**Our Sunday School for ages 3 through Kindergarten** during 10am Mass in the Gathering Room.

**Note: No Play 'n Worship on Easter Sunday.**

Parents, you can now have a more meaningful worship experience with fewer interruptions, while your children learn about our faith in a fun environment with games, crafts & songs.

**Parent(s) must to sign their children in and out of the program, sign-in time starts at 9:45am.** Email Catzel at [catzel@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:catzel@churchofpresentation.org) with any questions.



## Green Thumb Ministry is back beginning Tuesday, April 2

Help us maintain the outside grounds of the church, i.e. by gardening, weeding etc. Bring whatever basic garden tools you may have. Come when you can. No commitment necessary. We'll meet in the parking lot opposite Mary's Grotto at **8:00am on Tuesday mornings beginning April 2.**

Questions? Email Michele Baron at [mbaron@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org)



## FROM THE PASTOR

The most important week of the Church year begins, when we celebrate everything we hold true and sacred. On Holy Thursday, we celebrate the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood. On Good Friday, we celebrate Jesus' Passion and venerate the symbol of his sacrifice for our salvation. At the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, we begin with a bonfire on the lawn, the scripture readings celebrate our history of salvation and we receive our new members into the Church. Because of Easter, our greatest feast, death no longer has a grip, and nothing has been the same since!

All of our Holy Week offerings are on the cover, with some highlights below:

- † The **Easter Mass Schedule** is different than the regular Sunday Mass schedule. *See the cover.*
- † **Pardon & Peace**, 7:00pm on Tuesday. What a great way to enter the week.
- † **Morning Prayer**, Thursday, Friday & Saturday mornings at 9:00am. During these three days, the Eucharist is suspended except for the evening services of the Triduum. Morning Prayer is a wonderful experience of music, psalms and reflections given by some lay members of our community.
- † **Holy Thursday**, the Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30pm, followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11pm.
- † **Good Friday**, weather permitting, Bicycle Stations after Morning Prayer; celebration of the Lord's Passion with veneration of the cross at 3:00pm & our Youth Ministry's Living Stations at 7:30pm.
- † **The Easter Vigil**, don't be afraid of it! It's one of the most exciting moments of the year, a great teaching tool for our families, and a great celebration welcoming new members into our faith.

Let's have a great Holy Week!

Fr. Bob



**Notes to our Elect & Candidates** - We invite our parish community to write notes of affirmation, hope, prayer or support as they anticipate celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil (**by Holy Thurs. please**). **The box for your notes is in the Narthex.**

**Sophia Catania, Annamarie Choi, Lucas Federico, Claudia Granger, Graham Granger, Karl Granger, Christina Maretzo, Nicholas Maretzo, Taylor Regalbuto, Alexavier Sanchez, Noelle Santosuosso, Charlotte Stiers, Marjolin Veliz**

Come as you are.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make authentic connections with other women  
Refuel and refresh | Learn more about God

### Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point

This study explores the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ. Join us as we examine the core questions that we need to wrestle with if we want to experience all that God has for us.

- How do I reach my child's heart?
- What challenges will I face in my efforts to follow Jesus more closely?
- What is the relevance of the Church in my life?
- How do I read the Bible in a meaningful way?
- How do I set the world on fire?

JOIN US!!!



**Tuesday mornings, 9:30-11:15am on the following dates:**  
**4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30 in the Gathering Rooms**

Visit the [parish website](#) or use the QR code to register.



### Questions?

Contact the Women's Spirituality Team at [womensspiritualitypresentation@gmail.com](mailto:womensspiritualitypresentation@gmail.com)

## Foundations in Faith

Please register on the [parish website](#).

The next session is:

**Thursday, April 11**

9:30-11:30am or 7-9pm in the Jerusalem Room

**Catholic Social Teaching: An Overview**

presented by Catzel LaVecchia

- + The final session is "The Holy Spirit" on April 25.

## LGBTQ Ministry

LGBTQ Ministry is a welcoming fellowship embracing the dignity and diversity of all Catholics by fostering a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and his people, through Word, Worship and Outreach.

**For more information or to get involved, please contact**  
**[LGBTQ@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:LGBTQ@churchofpresentation.org)**

The **CAREER MANAGEMENT GROUP** is here for those who are unemployed, under-employed, looking to enhance their career or just considering a career change. We meet in a welcoming, low-pressure setting. **Our next meeting is Monday, April 8 at 7:30pm in the Jerusalem Room (& on Zoom - email us at the address below if you need the Zoom link).** We will be continuing the series on "Actional Advice for Enhancing Your Career." All are welcome to join us - bring your questions!



If you have concerns or questions at any time about your job, a search for a job, networking, assistance with interviews, etc. simply email [presentation.cmm@gmail.com](mailto:presentation.cmm@gmail.com) with your name, email address and a brief introduction and we will be happy to assist.

## Monday Yoga Classes

at 9:45am in Gathering Room North.  
Wear loose clothing, and bring a mat, towel & water. Donations welcome.



## Caring Stitches - Tuesday, March 26

We knit, crochet & quilt for the benefit of the sick and bereaved. Patterns and yarns are available. Join us from **6:30-8:30pm** in Gathering Rm. South. We generally meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. *Contact Michele Baron with any ?s.*



## Women's Morning Group:

*Thursdays at 7:30am via Zoom*

*All women are invited to join us every Thursday morning at 7:30am for an hour. Weekly attendance not required, but you are most welcome! Email Kathleen at [kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org) for the Zoom link. Let's share the gift of faith together!*

## Parish Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Our Wedding Anniversary Celebration held here at the parish for parishioners celebrating one of the "fives" in 2024 is **Saturday, June 1**. Registration forms are in the Narthex & may be downloaded & printed from the [parish website](#). Deadline to sign up is May 14.

**Knights' Corner**  
Knights of Columbus



Presentation  
Council #6033

For those who attended our Pasta Dinner on Friday 3/15, it was a great fun event with friends and family in our Parish. Thanks go out to all the volunteers who helped make this event a success. Special thanks go out to Pam Nedelkoff and Ed Dowd for assembling and leading a top notch cooking and serving staff.

Thank-you to Jim "Seumis" McKeown for a wonderful presentation on Irish history. It was amazing learning about the Irish and all the hardships that they had to overcome as a people.

With Holy Week starting, it's a week of participation in the mystery of God's pure and perfect love for you. You can overcome anything with God's Love. As you reflect upon this, allow it to confront you. Keep it on your mind and heart throughout the week.

### Upcoming Event for our Brother Knights

#### Children with Disabilities Collection on Saturday, April 27 & Sunday, April 28

This is our annual collection to support children with intellectual disabilities. This initiative runs statewide throughout all Councils and, as we did last year, we'll be collecting donations by Uncle Giuseppe's in Ramsey and by the Stop & Shop store in Wyckoff.

If there is one thing you do, if it's the **ONLY** thing that you can do for the Knights each year, this is your chance to make two hours go a long way towards helping families.

Please join with your family members, they are welcome to help as always. We need as many people as possible so that we can cover all the shifts.

On our webpage on the parish website ([churchofpresentation.org/knights-of-columbus](http://churchofpresentation.org/knights-of-columbus)), the **Knights may sign up** to volunteer at Pasta Night and all of our upcoming events & volunteer opportunities.

**Who are the Knights?** We are men serving our parish as friends and brothers. Our order's key principals are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. We are looking for a 'few more good men to join us. If you can afford 1-2 hours once or twice a year and you are interested in giving back, you have enough time to join us and help make a difference. It might not sound like much, but your presence really makes a big contribution to our programs. Email us at [kofc6033@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:kofc6033@churchofpresentation.org) to learn more.



# PALM SUNDAY

## Promise of Life

Lord God,  
you entered Jerusalem in triumph,  
and we shouted, "Hosanna!"  
As the Lenten journey closes,  
may I continue to remember  
your sacrifice and love.

Give me the strength  
to follow your cross.  
May my heart find serenity  
and joy in your promise.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Sunday, March 24, 2024

Never Alone

*Today's readings: Gospel at the procession Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16; Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47.*

Today's readings leave us much to ponder. During the Gospel at the procession, a crowd welcomes Jesus to Jerusalem, singing, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" At the end of the Gospel from Mark, Jesus was not hailed but reviled as passersby taunted, "You who would destroy the temple in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross."

In the last verses from Mark's Gospel, we witness the faith of the steadfast disciples, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of younger James and Joses, and Salome. These women had followed Jesus in Galilee, stood by until his

death, and watched where he was laid in a tomb. Apparent, too, is the faith of Joseph of Arimathea, who wrapped Jesus in linen and laid him in the tomb.

Also obvious in the Gospel is the wavering faith of those who had followed Jesus for three years. Not only did Judas betray Jesus, but Peter could not stay awake with him as he prayed in the garden, and later Peter denied him three times. The Gospel proclaimed today does not record the apostles' presence at the crucifixion.

During Holy Week, Christians have the opportunity to be with Christ as his last days are recalled. Take to heart Jesus' words to the apostles in Gethsemane: "Remain here and keep watch."

## Presentation Seniors

**Tues., April 9** meeting: A viewing of the film "**Trinity's Triumph**," co-written by Fr. Stephen Fichter (*pastor of St. Elizabeth's Church in Wyckoff*), which presents a realistic portrayal of the Catholic priesthood. Fr. Fichter is quoted in the review: "It was a 25-year labor of love and very worth the wait."

Reservations will be taken for the award winning musical "**Beautiful, The Carole King Musical**." This will be on **April 25** at the White Plains PAC. Costs have gone up, \$125, but worth it! We will have a three-course lunch at Chazz Palmintieri Italian Restaurant. Not to be missed!

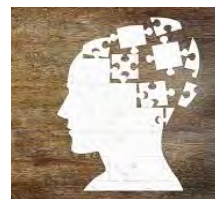
**May 15 Trip** - featuring dancing, entertainment and lunch at "**Let the Good Times Roll**" at the Brownstone. The trip down memory lane is \$95, includes transportation, lunch, beverages and entertainment. Wear your dancing shoes!

Do we want programs? We need a volunteer! Call Tom at 201-424-6095.

## Alzheimer's & Dementia Support

Our **Support Group** is virtual on the last Wednesday of each month from 6:30pm-8pm; the group meets next on **March 27**. Facilitated by Debby Montone, RN, Certified Dementia Practitioner, & Certified Dementia Support Group Facilitator from the Greater NJ Alzheimer's Assn.

To receive the Zoom link, email Michele Baron at [mbaron@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org)





## Eucharistic Exposition

Come anytime on Wednesdays from noon-6pm to spend time with our Lord in the **Nazareth Room**.



Church of the Presentation 271 West Saddle River Rd., Upper Saddle River NJ 07458

Phone: 201-327-1313 Fax: 201-760-2570

Website: [www.churchofpresentation.org](http://www.churchofpresentation.org)

Information Desk: Sun. 9am-12:45pm in the Narthex

Mass Schedule: See "Mass Intentions" on this pg.

Summer Office Hrs: (Memorial Day-Labor Day): 9:30am-4pm Mon-Thur

"Non-Summer" Office Hrs: 9:30am-5pm Mon-Fri

Confession: Mon-Sat after 9am Mass, Sat 3:30pm-4:45pm, or by appt.

**Email Addresses:** Except as otherwise noted, all of our email addresses end with: [@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:@churchofpresentation.org)

**Rev. Bob Stagg, Pastor** ext. 820 [bstagg@](mailto:bstagg@churchofpresentation.org)

Fr. Bob's asst.: Melanie Cheplic ext. 827 [mcheplic@](mailto:mcheplic@churchofpresentation.org)

**Rev. Richard Francesco** ext. 829 [rfrancesco@](mailto:rfrancesco@churchofpresentation.org)

**Pastoral Council** [pastoralcouncil@](mailto:pastoralcouncil@churchofpresentation.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bob Rooney (Accounting, Finance, Plant Management)** ext. 818 [brooney@](mailto:brooney@churchofpresentation.org)

**Catzel LaVecchia (Lifelong Learning, Junior High, Play-n-Worship)** ext. 828 [catzel@](mailto:catzel@churchofpresentation.org)

**Craig Johnson (Youth Ministry, Confirmation)** ext. 819 [cjohnson@](mailto:cjohnson@churchofpresentation.org)

**Diane Carr (RCIA, Catholic Faith Inquiry)** ext. 831 [dcarr@](mailto:dcarr@churchofpresentation.org)

**Ed Ginter (Music)** ext. 813 [eddieg717@aol.com](mailto:eddieg717@aol.com)

**Kathleen Costello (Family Faith Formation)** ext. 840 [kcostello@](mailto:kcostello@churchofpresentation.org)

**Kathleen Martorano (Parish Registration, Facebook, Protecting God's Children, LGBTQ Ministry)** ext. 835 [kmartorano@](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org)

**Liz Cosentino (Bulletin, Parish Website)** ext. 812 [LizC@](mailto:LizC@churchofpresentation.org)

**Marilou Tenazas (Livestreaming & Tech Support, Family Faith Formation, FFF Website)** ext. 815 [mtenazas@](mailto:mtenazas@churchofpresentation.org)

**Maureen Murphy (Outreach)** ext. 844 [mmurphy@](mailto:mmurphy@churchofpresentation.org)

**Michele Baron (Meeting Room Reservations, Scheduling, Volunteering)** ext. 847 [mbaron@](mailto:mbaron@churchofpresentation.org)

**Nancy Mierswa (Baptisms, Weddings, Worship)** ext. 839 [nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

**Patty Dodwell (First Eucharist, Family Faith Formation)** ext. 832 [pdodwell@](mailto:pdodwell@churchofpresentation.org)

**Shelby Hawks (Evangelization, Young Adult Ministry, Youth Ministry, Adult Education)** ext. 843 [shawks@](mailto:shawks@churchofpresentation.org)

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**Altar Server Training:** Nancy Mierswa, ext. 839 [nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

**Bereavement Support:** ext. 872

**Bulletin Advertising:** Bon Venture Services 800-364-0684

**Celiac Communion:** Nancy Mierswa ext. 839 [nmierswa@](mailto:nmierswa@churchofpresentation.org)

**Communion Calls:** Kyle Lippman ext. 879 [pastoralcare@](mailto:pastoralcare@churchofpresentation.org)

**Emergencies (hospital/funeral)** ext. 899

**Envelopes (Parish)** Kathleen Martorano ext. 835 [kmartorano@](mailto:kmartorano@churchofpresentation.org)

**Funerals:** ext. 899

**Knights of Columbus:** [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) [kofc6033@](mailto:kofc6033@churchofpresentation.org)

**Meeting Room Setups:** Cesar da Gama ext. 823

**Prayer Tree Ministry:** [prayertree@](mailto:prayertree@churchofpresentation.org)

Weekdays after 9am Mass, all are welcome to stay in the church to pray the Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet.

## Do You Suffer from Gluten Intolerance?

We know that those who suffer from gluten intolerance, especially celiac sprue disease, have special needs when it comes to receiving Eucharist. Please contact Nancy Mierswa in the Worship Office to find out how we can help you fully participate in the Liturgy.



## This Week's Mass Intentions

Sanctuary Light: Amilcar Prado, by the Mierswa Family

**MONDAY, MARCH 25**

9:00am Bill Molnar, by the Molnar Family

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26**

9:00am Donna & Rose D'Aquino, by Cynthia D'Aquino

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

9:00am Edward McDonald, by Ann McDonald

**HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

9:00am Morning Prayer

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

**GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

9:00am Morning Prayer

3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30**

9:00am Morning Prayer

7:30pm Easter Vigil

**EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

(See the cover for the Easter Sunday Mass schedule)

**We also pray for the following ill:** Virginia Kondrat, Seth Gopin, Frank & Desiree Esposito, Joe Schneider, Ginger McDonald, Tom Crowley, Geri Cruzen, Jim Montone, Baby Jack Stender, Cheryl Agnes, Joseph Mansfield, Joyce Moshac, Ethan Benjamin Berkowitz, Joan Sharp, Victoria Regan, MaryAnn Solazzi-Skees, Sal Solazzi, Christine Solazzi, Frank Cirillo, John Nazzaro, Marie Kaspar, Cheyanne Emmons, Pete Reilly Jr., Kathie McKinless, Tencha Guadron, Jerry Mattimore, Egil Arnoldo, Urrutia Baldizon, Kathleen Callaghan, James A. Callaghan, Judi Larkin, Joan Sharp, Rosemary Tocci, Theresa Fallon, Jere Johnson, John Rodriguez, Kim McDavitt, Ellen Hart, Cornelius Hanna, Adrienne Stephens, Karin Elliott, Gloria Zoda, Bill Brown, Marcie O'Brien, Scott M. Koenig, Lynn St. John Brew, Ken Genalo, Richard Hanna, Mary Goldberg, Larry Vanore, Christopher Noel Hanna, Steven Chakonis, Virginia Kondrat, Thomas Doorhy, Sab Caponi, Baby River Budes, Joan Borysenko

**and recently deceased:** Carl Godinho (cousin of Sue Swietkowski), Thomas Conway, Theresa Kuczynski, Matt DeSciara

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To request prayers **in the bulletin** for the ill or recently deceased, email [LizC@churchofpresentation.org](mailto:LizC@churchofpresentation.org). The deadline for a name to appear in an upcoming bulletin is Tuesday at noon. If received after noon on Tuesday, it will be printed in the following week's bulletin. If the ill person still needs prayers after their name is removed, feel free to email Liz to have their name printed again in the bulletin.

For **mass cards & mass intentions**, call or visit the parish front office, or visit the Information Desk in the narthex on Sunday mornings.

**We ask that you prayerfully consider using electronic donations through Faith Direct (if you don't already).**

Visit [membership.faithdirect.net/NJ854](http://membership.faithdirect.net/NJ854) or the parish website to enroll or make a one-time donation. Thank you for your support!



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