

## Acceptance of the Passion

There is a sharp contrast between Jesus' and Peter's acceptance of Christ's passion. Both are afraid, but while Jesus faces and embraces, Peter hides and denies.

We understand Peter's gloomy darkness, and identify with the confusion and weakness leading to his failure. Like us, he tries to follow Jesus, but at a safe distance. He wants to be close, but not too close. He wants to feel he hasn't abandoned him, to be there—but remains on the fringe.

But following Jesus always leads to moments of truth. Jesus and life have a way of bringing us full circle to face our true selves. Are we in or out? How deep is our love? This time, Peter's love for Jesus fails. But like us, Jesus looks at him with understanding and gives him a chance to be honest, repent, and follow him once again.

Jesus' acceptance of his passion is our example. First, he suffers freely. He's not being forced into a fate he cannot escape. As a result, he is calm, self-possessed, in control of his heart, and patient. Second, he suffers peacefully without resentment. He isn't constantly recriminating against Judas, Peter, or John during his trial or flagellation. He doesn't seek blame or payback.

Not only is he not bitter or resentful, but he is full of compassion and focused on others: on the elderly women, his Mother, John the Apostle, forgiving his tormenters, and leading the good thief to heaven. Let's enter this holiest week following our Redeemer and imitating his example.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *The Denial of St. Peter*, circa 1620  
Artist: Pensionante del Saraceni  
Location: National Gallery, London

### *For Reflection*

*Do I value the infinite mercy of Jesus, who forgives me whenever I turn to him sincerely?*

*What do I need to accept or embrace in order to love with greater peace?*

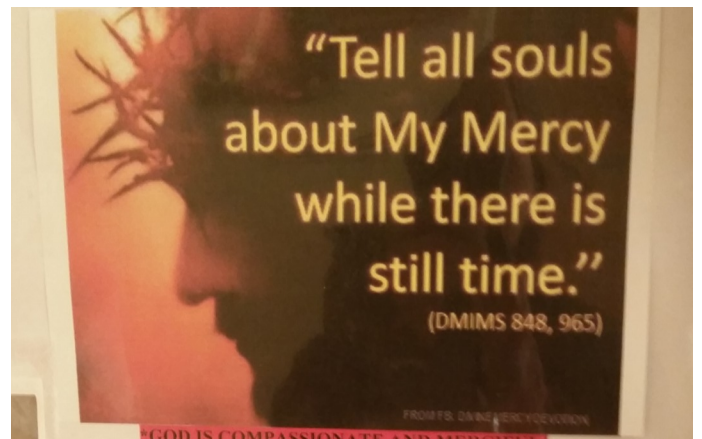
*Rather, he emptied himself...becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.*  
*Philippians 2:7–8*

## *Mass Intentions for the Week*

		<b>Intention</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Saturday, Mar. 24	5 p.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
Sunday, Mar. 25	8 a.m.	Luis Torres †	Torres Family
	9:30 a.m.	Rudy Alcala †	Alice Barce and Family
	11 a.m.	Moses Rickey Ruth-Death Anniversary	Ruth Family
	12:30 p.m.	St. Joseph Vaz	St. Joseph Vaz Community
	6 p.m.	Mass for the People	St. John Parish
Monday, Mar. 26	8 a.m.	Richard Nelson †	Karen Stevens
Tuesday, Mar. 27	8 a.m.	Mike Mercer †	Mendoza and Caruso Family
Wednesday, Mar. 28	8 a.m.	Jaime Smith †	Smith Family
Thursday, Mar. 29	7:30 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	Tom Kennedy
Friday, Mar. 30	12 p.m.	The Passion of the Lord	
Saturday, Mar. 31	8:30 p.m.	Dick, Helen, and Richard Nelson †	Karen Stevens

### Let Us Pray for the Sick

Rodolfo Abesamis, Virginia Alday, Gera Assefa  
 Evelyn Baker, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste  
 Paul Batist, Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Richard Calapini,  
 Evelyn Canepa, Jeff Chavez, Brenna Clark  
 Jennette Cleadenger, Betty Cooper  
 Linda Crittendon, Cora Dongon  
 Joann Douglas, Pablo de la Vega, Mary Dong,  
 Tami Duncan, Juanita Estrellas  
 Eric Ewen, Filomena Giese, Mike Giovannini,  
 Joseph Golinveau  
 Domingos deGregorio, Andy Gutierrez  
 James Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Maydelle Halligan  
 Joanne, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry Highlander  
 Tamaya Hunt, Ann Jones, Tom Kennedy, Robin Laws  
 Maria Impang Lozada, Bernice Luckett, Marian &  
 Michael Luoma, Nancy McVey, Francis Mondragon  
 Ester Oppus Judith Padilla, Theresa Parella, Angelina  
 Patacsil, Pam Paun, Victoria Payless, Fely Sabares Jovita  
 Santos, Linda Schneider, Salvador Tejero, Rose Texara  
 Pat Tilley, Joseph Vidal, Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle  
 Jan Williamson



### Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT, March 18, 2017	\$ 5,286
Loose Donations	\$ 1,299
Second Collection: Easter Flowers	\$270

*Thank you for your generosity.*



Gerald Hicks

### Your Alms to Rice Bowl Due Apr. 1

Burkina Faso, a slight larger than Colorado with 18.9 million population, a dry and dusty climate have 80% of its workers rely on agriculture. CRS help improve their livelihood and provide an opportunity to Catholics in the US help our poor and vulnerable neighbors.  
[helpinghands.crs.org](http://helpinghands.crs.org)

### Senior Center Event

Mar. 27, Tuesday: Birthday Sing Along at 11:30am /Lunch at 12:30pm. 6500 Gladys Ave / 237-3808.

**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

Good stewards strive to conform their lives to that of Christ - emptying themselves of all pride and putting themselves at the service of others.

**This Week's Service Schedule**

**Sunday Readings: Palm Sunday.** Mk 11:1-10. Or Jn 12:12-16. Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Mk 14:1-15:47 Or 15:1-39

**Monday Readings:** Is 42:1-7, Jn 12:1-11.

**Tuesday Readings:** Is 49:1-6, Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday Readings:** Is 50:4-9a, Mt 26:14-25.

**Thursday Readings: At Chrism Mass, 7:30pm.** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14, 1Cor 11:23-26, Jn 13:1-15

**Friday Readings: Good Friday, Noon.** Is 52:13-53:12, Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9, Jn 18:1-19:42.

**Saturday Readings: At Easter Vigil, 8:30pm.** Gen 1:1-2:2 Or 1:1, 26-31a, Gen 22:1-18 Or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18, Ex 14:15-15:1, Is 54:5-14, Is 55:1-11, Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4, Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28, Rom 6:3-11, Mk 16:1-7

**Liturgy of the Hours, Mon.- Fri.** at 7:40am.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena, Wed.,** 8:30am at the Church and 6pm at the Chapel.

**Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Mon.- Sat.,** 8:30am at Church; Daily, 3pm, 9pm, and 10pm (Spanish) and Wed., 7:30pm (Spanish), Chapel.

**Holy Infant of Prague Novena, Thu.** at 8:30am at Church.

**Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,** Fri., 6pm at the Chapel.

**Confession,** At an appointed time.

**2018 Bishop's Appeal**

Every member of the faith community of our local Church is also asked to participate in whatever way possible by making a gift. All gifts to the 2018 Bishop's Appeal are equally important. As responsible stewards of our faith and the many gifts that God has generously bestowed on each of us, we are asked to make a sacrificial, proportionate and thoughtful gift. Those who are blessed with more are challenged to give more, but everyone is asked to respond. Imagine what can be done in the name of our local faith community if every parishioner were inspired by Lighting the Way and participated in our annual Bishop's Appeal. -Bishop Michael Barber

**Pontifical Good Friday Collection**

During Holy Week, the Gospel readings come to life in a special way as we gather to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The readings remind us of our special connection to the land where this great story unfolded.

Supporting the church in the Holy Land is an historic mission. Since the time of St. Paul, who urged his missionary Churches not to forget the needs of the Church in Jerusalem, Christians worldwide have understood the responsibility to support the land where Jesus walked.

It has never been easy to be a Christian in the Holy Land. In these challenging times in the Middle East, Christians are experiencing unique hardships. We have an opportunity to help them through the Pontifical Good Friday Collection.

Christians in the Holy Land face special challenges – many of which we hear about in the daily news. The political, religious and military challenges in the Holy Land are more complex than ever. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. Supporting the Pontifical Good Friday Collection offers hope to the Holy Land Christians.

Who are these Christians? Christians living in the Holy Land today are descendants of those who first believed and lived the Christian faith. It is important that Christians continue to live, work and pray in the Holy Land.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection offers all Catholics an opportunity to express their solidarity with Christians in the Holy Land. A donation to the Holy Father's annual appeal is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of those caught up in war, violence and instability in this region.

What has been accomplished? Last year's Pontifical Good Friday Collection:

- Supported 29 parishes, four homes for orphans, three academic institutions
- Helped keep schools open for over 10,000 pre-K through grade 12 students
- Supported 120 men preparing to be priests or brothers
- Helped rehabilitate 80 homes for Christian families
- Provided senior care facilities in Bethlehem and Nazareth
- Created 1,500 jobs in the Holy Land for Christians
- Preserved 54 shrines connected with the life of Jesus and the prophets

Thank you for supporting the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, as encouraged by Pope Francis.

Through the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace in a troubled land.

**2017/2018 Financial Report  
St. John the Baptist Parish – El Cerrito**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Plate Collections	\$320,381	\$321,000
Facility Use and Rental Income	\$100,451	\$107,800
Donations and Bequests	\$61,158	\$51,400
Interest, Rebates, Other Income	\$35,629	\$23,400
Fundraising	\$24,280	\$20,000
Ministries and Sacraments	\$29,776	\$15,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$571,675</b>	<b>\$539,100</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Administration	\$132,267	\$149,100
Buildings, Grounds, Utilities, Taxes	\$118,491	\$124,700
Clergy	\$114,565	\$120,500
Catholic Voice and Diocesan Assessment	\$68,208	\$63,800
Music	\$36,180	\$41,400
Faith Ministries, Sacraments and Stewardship	\$25,751	\$32,200
Liturgy	\$13,287	\$14,100
Fundraising	\$3,793	\$5,800
Parish Tithing	\$1,824	\$2,000
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$514,366</b>	<b>\$553,600</b>
<b>Income - Expenses</b>	<b>\$57,309</b>	<b>&lt;\$14,500&gt;</b>
Capital Improvements	\$15,316	\$20,000
Depreciation	\$60,080	\$61,000
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>&lt;\$18,087&gt;</b>	<b>&lt;\$95,500&gt;</b>

Each year, the St. John the Baptist Finance Committee reports to the parish on the previous year's parish financial status and the upcoming year's budget.

**Thank you so much for you support in 2017.** That support is so critical in keeping our community alive and healthy for the foreseeable future.

In 2017, thanks to the continuing generosity of our parishioners, our income exceeded our operating expenses by \$52,649. However, with capital improvements and depreciation added in, we ended the year with a net loss of \$23,347.

In addition to our normal collections, our parishioners donated \$16,500 in our planned diocesan second collections, \$9,100 to the school development fund, and \$1,800 to the GRIP SouperKitchen. The Parish's Annual Bishop's Appeal Campaign totaled \$27,200 for the Diocese (**119% of our goal**). Also, our successful fundraisers included:

Parish Festival	\$18,473
English Tea Party	\$2,310

The following major maintenance or capital projects were completed in 2017:

- Replacing the roof over the conference room
- Improvements to the Church sound system (this is still a work in progress)

The 2018 budget forecasts lower overall income as a result of a continuing decrease in the plate collection due to the low mass attendance. The budget also forecasts higher expenses primarily as a result of increases in salaries and benefits dictated by the Diocese.

Additionally, keep in mind that we have an aging facility requiring ongoing maintenance work. In line with our 5 Year-Plan, in 2018, we have budgeted \$20,000 for general repairs throughout the facility, including:

- Miscellaneous repairs and painting in the Divine Mercy Chapel;
- Exterior painting and gutter repairs for the Convent, replacement of hallway carpet, and replacement of courtyard back door;
- Miscellaneous repairs and appliance replacement in the Community Center kitchen

As a result, the 2018 budget shows a **deficit of \$14,500** for the year, excluding capital improvements and depreciation. This will come directly out of our savings.

Clearly, **we continue to need your generous support!!** As always, we will do everything in our power to control costs, but, by itself, cost control will not balance the budget without additional income.

We encourage you to use collection envelopes and to consider signing up with Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) in order to better support our church

**Diocesan Capital Campaign**

To date, we have \$311,852 in donations and pledges from the parishioners. Of this amount, \$226,573 has actually been collected (72% of the total pledges). It is important for all of us to complete our commitments to the Diocese.

*St. John the Baptist Finance Committee:*

*Jay Clark, Linda Crittondon, Eddy DeLima, Bruce Hartman, Dick Mank, Deacon Thom McGowan, Jan Saner.*

# April 2018

CC – Community Center CC2 – Community Center Upstairs CH – Church CR – Conference Room DR – Dining Room MR – Music Room DM – Divine Mercy

**Sun**      **Mon**      **Tue**      **Wed**      **Thu**      **Fri**      **Sat**

<b>1</b> <i>Easter Sunday</i> 9:30a CRE 10:30a Hospitality-CR	<b>2</b> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 7:30p Prayer Service (Brazilian)-CC2	<b>3</b> <i>St. Richard of Chichester</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 9a Senior Program-CC	<b>4</b> <i>St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 12n Women's Covenant-CC 6p Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena-DM	<b>5</b> <i>St. Vincent Ferrer</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 7p Youth/Confirmation-CC	<b>6</b> <i>St. Celestine, Pope</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass/Adoration/Rosary 6p Sacred Heart Novena -DM	<b>7</b> <i>St. John Baptist de la Salle</i> 8a Mass /Anointing of the Sick 9:30a Pastoral Meeting 10a St Vincent Pantry 4p Confessions 5p Vigil Mass
<b>8</b> <i>Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday</i> 9:30a CRE 10:30a Baptism Class-Rectory 10:30a Hospitality-CR	<b>9</b> <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 7:30p Prayer Service (Brazilian)-CC2	<b>10</b> <i>St. Macarius</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 9a Senior Program-CC	<b>11</b> <i>St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr</i> 7:40a Morning Prayer 8a Mass /Rosary 12n Women's Covenant-CC 6p Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena-DM	<b>12</b> <i>St. Julius I, Pope</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass /Rosary 10a EC Royale Mass 7p Youth/Confirmation-CC	<b>13</b> <i>St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass 8:30a Rosary 6p Sacred Heart Novena -DM	<b>14</b> <i>St. Maximus, Martyr</i> 8a Mass 9:30a Liturgy Meeting 4p Confessions 5p Vigil Mass 7p Charismatic Service
<b>15</b> <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> 9:30a CRE 10:30a Baptism Class-Rectory Parish Hospitality-CR 12:30p Lay Discalced Carmelites	<b>16</b> <i>St. Bernadette Soubirous</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 7:30p Prayer Service (Brazilian)-CC2	<b>17</b> <i>St. Stephen Harding</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 9a Senior Program-CC	<b>18</b> <i>Bl. Marie-Anne Blondin</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a, 7:30p Mass/ Rosary 12n Women's Covenant-CC 6p Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena-DM	<b>19</b> <i>Leo IX, Pope</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass /Rosary 7p Youth/Confirmation-CC	<b>20</b> <i>St. Marcellinus, Bishop</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass 8:30a Rosary 6p Sacred Heart Novena -DM	<b>21</b> <i>St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor</i> 8a Mass 9a Opus Dei-DM 9:30a Finance Meeting 10a St Vincent Pantry 4p Confession 5p Vigil Mass
<b>22</b> <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> 9:30a CRE 10:30a Parish Hospitality-CR	<b>23</b> <i>St. George, Martyr</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 7:30p Prayer Service (Brazilian)-CC2	<b>24</b> <i>St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 9a Senior Program-CC	<b>25</b> <i>St. Mark, Evangelist</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass /Perpetual Help Novena /Rosary 12n Women's Covenant-CC 6p Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena-DM	<b>26</b> <i>St. Cletus</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass 8:30a Rosary 7p Youth/Confirmation-CC	<b>27</b> <i>St. Zita</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass / Rosary 6p Sacred Heart Novena -DM	<b>28</b> <i>St. Peter Chanel, Martyr</i> 8a Mass 4p Confessions 5p Vigil Mass
<b>29</b> <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> 9:30a CRE 10:30a Parish Hospitality-CR	<b>30</b> <i>St. Pius V, Pope</i> 7:40a Liturgy of the Hours 8a Mass/Rosary/ 7:30p Prayer Service (Brazilian)-CC2					