

March 25, 2018

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus!

During the Lenten Season, the choir at the 10:00 am Mass sings the Holy, Holy, Holy in Latin: **Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus** (as well as some of the other sung responses, including the Lamb of God, Agnus Dei before the Communion). While this has been done for many years, someone recently asked me why this is sung in Latin. There is a simple answer. Though the Second Vatican Council (held over 50 years ago) allowed, for the first time, to celebrate the Mass in languages other than Latin, it still maintained Latin as the universal language of the Church. So we can still celebrate the entire Mass in Latin (which we do at OLHOC every first Friday at 8 pm), or we may celebrate some of the parts of the Mass in Latin. We may, therefore, sing the Holy, Holy, Holy in Latin at every Mass. We have chosen to do so at the 10:00 am Mass during the Lenten Season to remind us that we are in a very **special season of the year**; a season when we do not sing (nor pray) the Gloria and never use the word Alleluia. We sing "Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of Endless Glory" instead of the usual "Alleluia" before the proclamation of the Gospel. All those changes help us to prepare for the great celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Easter when we will then sing with **great joy** our first **Gloria** and **Alleluia** at the Easter Vigil, 8:00 pm on Holy Saturday.

"Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria Tua. Hosanna in Excelsis. **Benedictus qui venit in nomine domini. Hosana in Excelsis!**" These are the words that the Church has been singing for centuries. They are sung at a central part of the Mass. These words come at the conclusion of the **preface** (the beginning of the Eucharistic Prayer) and they introduce the Epiclesis - the "Invocation upon," when the priest prays for the Father to send **the Holy Spirit to change the bread and wine into the body and blood** of our Lord Jesus Christ! This is the moment when the Altar Server rings the bells for the first time at Mass. It is **the** key moment: the meeting of **heaven and earth**. In the Eucharistic Prayer II, the priest says: "Make holy, therefore, these **gifts**, we pray by **sending down your spirit upon them**, like the dewfall, so that they can **become** for us **the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.**"

Every time we sing the Holy, Holy; the Sanctus Sanctus, we are singing it with **all the Angels and Saints in heaven!** It unites us with everyone in heaven! We are to sing it with **great joy** before the coming of the Holy Spirit during the Epiclesis (beginning of the words of Consecration). The Scriptures reveal to us that this first part of this beautiful hymn of praise is sung by the Angels in heaven forever and ever. In his book The Mass, Cardinal Wuerl writes that "this hymn is revealed not just once but twice in the Scriptures. In the Old Testament, the prophet Isaiah (6:2-3) reports a vision of heaven where the Seraphim were crying one to the other "*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts. All the earth is filled with his glory!*" In the New Testament, Saint John (Revelation 4:8) has a similar vision of heavenly creatures who day and night do not stop exclaiming: "*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and who is, and who is to come.*"

Cardinal Wuerl then adds that "In the Mass, heaven and earth join in a single act of worship...With Jesus, heaven has come to earth; and with his ascension, human nature has been elevated to glory. This part of the Mass represents the intersection of heaven and earth. We are at a glorious crossroads." In that context, I also invite you to recall Scott Hahn's book, which you received at Christmas one year ago: The Lamb's Supper. Scott Hahn based his book entirely on St. John's Book of Revelation. Not surprisingly, he also emphasized this joining of heaven and earth at Mass, and even gave to his book the subtitle "The Mass as Heaven on Earth." Yes, when we come to Mass **we join Heaven!**

In his book, A Biblical walk through the Mass, Edward Sri comments, "In the second half of the Sanctus, we repeat words which the crowds used to **greet Jesus as he processed into Jerusalem: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.** Those expressions of praise were originally in Psalm 118, a pilgrimage hymn recited on the Way to the Temple for major feasts. **Hosanna** is a transliteration of a Hebrew word meaning **save us**, which became an expression of praise in liturgical worship...On the day we know as **Palm Sunday**, the crowds used these words to **welcome Jesus as the one coming in the Lord's name.** In other words, the **one representing God and acting on His behalf.** It is fitting that we repeat this word at this moment in the Eucharistic Liturgy of the Mass. Just as the crowds in Jerusalem welcomed Jesus into the holy city with these words from Palm 118, so do we welcome **Jesus** into our churches for **He is about to become present in the Eucharist on our altars.**"

As we celebrate **Palm Sunday** today, at the beginning of this Holy Week, to recall His triumphal entrance into Jerusalem with everyone crying out: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!" (Mark 11:10, ending of Gospel proclaimed in the Narthex before beginning our solemn entrance with palms into the Church). This year, I invite everyone to meditate on the beautiful hymn of the **Holy, Holy; the Sanctus, Sanctus.** Every time we come to Mass, we celebrate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ; His triumphal entrance into our church, His coming on our altars: **His Most Holy Body and Blood!** May we all have a most Blessed Palm Sunday, and a most Blessed **Holy Week!** Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will assist all of us in opening our hearts to the Joy of the Resurrection at Easter!

One in Christ, Fr. Alain

Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord

CCD Class Schedule

April 1/2: Easter – No CCD

April 4/5: CCD Class

April 11/12: CCD Class

Contact **Therese Thiedeman** at 301-645-7112 or dre@olhoc.org

FIAT: Elementary school Faith in Action Team (meets monthly)

Edge: Middle school youth ministry (meets monthly)

Life Teen: High school youth ministry

Attention Edge & Life Teen

Holy Thursday Pilgrimage March 29th after the 7 PM Mass

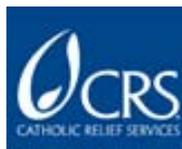
On Holy Thursday, after the Mass of the Lord's Supper, many churches remain open for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament so that people can pray until midnight. This is a reenactment of the actions of the apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane, whom Jesus told, "Remain here and keep watch with me!" Our pilgrimage will include stops at St. Mary's Bryantown, St. Peter's in Waldorf, Sacred Heart in La Plata, and end at OLHOC. Please sign up online.

**** Youth Summer Retreat ****

Rising 9th graders-seniors, join us for **Camp Veritas** August 12th-18th at Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY. It will be an amazing week of outdoor fun, prayer, time with friends, and growing in your faith.

For more information and youth opportunities, please visit www.olhoc.com/ym or contact **Marlen Coles** at marlen@olhoc.org.

RICE BOWL RETURN – April 7 & 8 During all Masses



Throughout the Lenten Season, the children in CCD have been encouraged to make sacrifices and put money saved or earned into their Rice Bowls to assist Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in providing aid to those in need. Grades 3-6 have been learning about Global Solidarity while discovering some of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. They've seen video stories about lives in Iraq, Nicaragua, and Burkina Faso as they've learned about "Life and Dignity of the Human Person", "Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers", and "Care for God's Creation". **This year the children will carry their Rice Bowls to the celebrant during the Offertory Procession at all Masses the weekend of April 7 & 8 - Divine Mercy Sunday!** Please mark your calendars and have your children bring their Rice Bowls to Mass with them April 7/8.

OUR LADY'S LITTLE CHRISTIANS

<http://www.olhoc.org/preschool.html>

Now Open – Registration for Fall 2018

For more information, send an email to preschool@olhoc.org or call the office and ask for Nieda, Preschool Director.

Community Outreach

Many thanks to Joy and Steve Fisher, March Menu coordinators, and all those who worked so hard on our March Shepherd's Table dinner. Fifty-five people enjoyed a delicious hot meal and fellowship sponsored by OLHOC. We also want to thank Margot and Russell Savoy for their continued efforts in putting together great snack bags for all those in attendance.

The next **Shepherd's Table Dinner** will be held on **Thursday, April 19, 2018 at Good Shepherd Church**. We need menu planners for May.

Our next Outreach Committee Meeting is **April 4** at 7PM in the Social Hall. All are welcome!

****First Annual Easter Egg Hunt****

"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14

Have your children (ages 1 to 10 yrs.) come celebrate new life at our first annual Easter egg hunt outdoors Easter Sunday after the 11:30 Mass - Bring a basket!



2018 Annual Jubilarian Mass

Cardinal Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years on Monday, June 17, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please call or email the parish office to register by Monday, April 16.

Prayer Requests *

We are asked to pray for: Patricia Trefry, Allen Young, John Keller, Gregory Marciano, Johnné Webster, Dionne Gause, Dorian Webster, Alfred Brown, Doris Chesley, James Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dunham, Tom Casey, Connie Miller, Windsor Family, Jessica Holt, Sue Holt, Wilbur Etbauer, R. Todd Iddings, Michael Proctor, Nellie Lynch, Edmund Madden, Abigail Poole, Sarah Parker, Dennis Forgash, David DeMarr, Joseph Mason Proctor, Larry McGraw, Cecilia Spinks, Sonia Knapp, Lynn & Ronald Henrion, Ebony Jenkins, Tina Gallagher-Detwiler, Judy Studds, Vincent Argiro, Sr., Pearl Green, Fr. Robert Pittman, and all our military and civilians serving in harm's way.



*Names will remain on our list for 3 months. Please call the parish office to re-request a name after 3 months or to remove a name when the person has regained health.

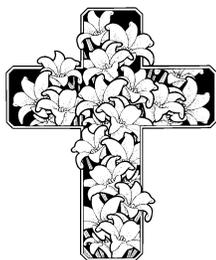
Mass Intentions this Week

- Saturday, March 24, 9:00 AM: Tonye Joseph (+)
- Saturday, March 24, 5:00 PM: Lucrecia Mary Lagman
- Sunday, March 25, 8:30 AM: OLHOC Parishioners
- Sunday, March 25, 10:00 AM: Bernard Jumes McKenna (+)
- Sunday, March 25, 11:30 AM: Lloyd Cordner (+)
- Sunday, March 25, 1:00 PM: Moussi Family
- Monday, March 26, 9:00 AM: Lee Hackett (+)
- Tuesday, March 27, 9:00 AM: Dominic Andrews
- Wednesday, March 28, 9:00 AM: Fr. Thomas Crowley (+)
- Wednesday, March 28, 7:00 PM: Daphne Lemke
- Saturday, March 31, 8:00 PM: Peter Nikolai (+)

The Light is on for You!

This Wednesday, March 28
6:00-6:45 PM & 7:45-8:30 PM

Saturdays 4:00 PM & Sundays 6:30 PM



Altar Guild Easter Flowers
In Memory of, or in Honor of, a
Loved One

Pick up a floral offering envelope
in the Narthex and return it next
week-March 25 with names to list
at Easter and your kind
contribution.

Lenten Food Drive

Thank you for returning
filled grocery bags to the
social hall.



Mass Readings for April 1, 2018

Easter Sunday

First Reading * Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43

Second Reading * Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel * John 20:1-9

"Mary's Helping Hands" Bake Sale

Sunday, April 8

Mary's Helping Hands will hold a bake sale
and raffle ticket sale in the Narthex on April 8.
Support Catholic causes by purchasing
delicious baked goods and/or raffle tickets to
win a white-gold cross necklace set with 25
diamonds valued at
\$1,200.





March 29 - HOLY THURSDAY: No morning Mass

7:00 PM - *Institution of the Priesthood and the Eucharist*

Solemn Service followed by Procession & Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament (Bilingual)

March 30 - GOOD FRIDAY: No morning Mass

2:30 PM Stations of the Cross

5:00 PM Solemn Service of the Passion (Spanish)

7:00 PM Solemn Service of the Passion (English)

March 31 - HOLY SATURDAY: No morning Mass

No 4:00 PM Confessions; No 5:00 PM Mass

11:00 AM Blessing of the Food

8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass (Bilingual)

April 1 - EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD:

8:30 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass

11:30 AM Mass

7:00 PM Mass (Spanish)