



Holy Spirit

OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH

V Sunday of Lent

17 March 2024

www.HolySpiritOCC.org

727.754.9758

Welcome!

Are you seeking...

To belong to a community of faith
to provide you with something deeper?

A place to be oneself, warts and all?

A place to taste diversity?

A place to weep?

A place to sing? A place to weep while singing?

A place to feel the depth of life?

A place to know God?

We now welcome you home. Christ's peace be with you!



Celebrating Life and Love...

Please, be sure to stop in the parish center
to sign and send your love in our Greeting Cards!

Happy Birthday to: Dcn. Jan 03/25, Lee W. 03/27, Iris C.
03/28, Benny P. 04/03, Mthr. Sharon 04/12, Steve M. 04/25, and
Sr. Linda 04/29.

Happy Anniversary to: Gordon and Bob 04/23.

Happy St. Patrick's Day! ☘☘☘



When We Gather Next...

Sunday, 24 March 2024, 10:30am
Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Mark 11:1-10 (Procession)

Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm 22:7-8, 16-19, 22-23

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47

Presider: Bp. Steven

Homilist: Bp. Steven

Greeters: Debbie & Brian R.

Welcome: Mthr. Sharon

Acolytes: David B. & Mike H.

Intercessions: Ralph L.

Lectors: (1) Ralph L. (2) Julie E.

Bread Baker: Fr. Daniel

Ministers of the Cup: Fr. Daniel, Joanne D. & Fr. Jacques

Coffee Social Hosts: Parishioner Last Names S-W

Thank YOU for your faithful and loving service at the altar of the Lord in community. You bless us!

Lord, Hear Our Prayer!

"Always pray in the Spirit, with all your prayers and petitions.

Pray constantly and attentively for all God's holy people." (Ephesians 6:18)

✠Dennis Underwood, R.I.P. 02/19/2024, Bp. Gordan's spouse of 47 years. •Bro. Tom, cardiac health •For peace in Palestine, Ukraine and throughout our world •For our parish community, our growth and faith •Dcn. Jan, hip surgery healing •Toni S., friend of Mthr. Sharon, liver cancer •Jack, chemotherapy •Ken S., healing •For all who struggle with mental health in our community and families •For those deeply impacted by severe weather •For vocations to ministry and consecrated life from among us. ✠All victims of war. ✠For our deceased clergy and parishioners. ✠For the victims of gun violence.

The Road Ahead Together...

TWELVE STEP MEETINGS at Holy Spirit:

- Sex/Love Anonymous, Thursdays, 12PM, conference room.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Thursdays, 7PM, social hall.

MUSIC MINISTRY PRACTICE

- Thursday evenings, 7-8:30pm, chapel

WAY of the CROSS

- Fridays of Lent, March 22nd, 6:30-7pm, chapel

Retracing the steps of Jesus with the prayer of the ancient church of Jerusalem.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- Wednesday, March 20th, 7-9pm, conference room

PALM SUNDAY of the Lord's Passion, March 24th, 10:30am

An *"Italian-style Foods"* potluck will follow our celebration of the beginning of Holy Week.

HOLY THURSDAY MASS of the LORD'S SUPPER. March 28th, 6:30pm

GOOD FRIDAY of the LORD'S PASSION and DEATH,

Day of Fasting, Abstinence and Charity

March 29th, 6:30pm

SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL of LIGHT,

Holy Saturday night, March 30th, 8pm.

An *"Easter Nosh"* potluck will follow our solemn vigil celebration of the Lord's Resurrection. Bring your favorite Easter foods to share with your sisters and brothers.

Pastoral Perpenderings

to perpender, verb. *"to weigh carefully in the mind."*

Good morning, dearest Community and Friends!

In the Bible, God initiates activity. It is God who creates, gives orders, rewards, punishes, makes covenants, promises, keeps promises, and saves the people. "God has first loved us," John proclaims (1 Jn 4:19). In so many ways, the Scriptures are an elaborate invitation for the people to love God back. For God to be a tremendous lover is one thing, but there is no love affair unless we love God back.

God's mighty deeds speak convincingly of God's love. Rescue after rescue, despite the stubbornness of God's people, the *agape* quality of God's love for us is revealed time and time again. Agape means to love without hope of return. Selflessly. Loving God creates a relationship of friendship with God, which no one-sided love arrangement can produce. St. Augustine of Hippo reminds: "Love God and do as you will." Loving God is the great secret of liberation. When we love God and do as we please, we never are overcome by sin. We may fail, but sin will not prevail because it contradicts our heart's desire, which is to love God back.

In our culture we are both conditioned and tempted to ask: What's in it for me to love God back? as we do for investments or professional relationships. Instead I would better suggest that, maybe if we follow Jesus on his journey of love to death and resurrection, we will want to see such agape, such a capacity to love without hope of return. And not because of what's in it for us, but simply because we are grateful.



This holy season is truly “life-giving” in profound and simple ways of faith and life, **we thank everyone** who has supported and given life to Holy Spirit Old Catholic Church with their gifts of time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the days ahead.

If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift during the these holy days of Lent and Easter, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Please, contact our parish treasurer, Steve M., or Mike H., our stewardship ministry leader, for more information about your desires and intention.

Speaking of gifts, our community needs the gift of your time and skills, particularly in our worship together each Sunday and other special days on occasion. Think about how you may step forward to make a difference. Our greeters warmly welcome and assist our guests and parishioners to feel at spiritual home. Our lectors boldly proclaim the living word of God to us that we may grasp and live it, our acolytes bring grace and a sense of reverence to our liturgies with their service. Our musicians and singers literally lift our hearts and spirits with the gift and delight music in song. Our bread bakers remind us to taste and see how good the Lord is as we are one in holy communion. So many beautiful ways to serve the Lord and all God’s people with these simple but vital ways. Please, let me know if the Spirit is nudging you to service.



Way of the Cross

Last Friday of Lent, March 22nd, 6:30PM

Retrace the steps of Jesus with this prayer of the ancient church of Jerusalem.

Lenten Giving Boxes

Cultivate your giving heart through simple contributions of your own choosing that encourage you to feed your deepest hungers this Lent. Our giving together will benefit our parish's care for each other and others in need who come to our door.

Daily Devotional: "The Season for Healing Hearts"

Identify and commit to time each day for reflective reading using our Daily Devotional booklet. It's amazing to watch your own garden grow!

Fasting and Abstinence: Feed Your Hungers

Through the ancient practices of both fasting and abstaining throughout Lent we can curb our appetites and truly feed the deep hungers of our longings. It is a laudable practice of our Faith to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent and to fast on Good Friday and Holy Saturday by abstaining from meat and consuming lesser meals without eating in between meals.

A Prayer for Holy Week

**God,
as we prepare to walk through Holy Week
toward the Cross,
may we remember the wonder of who You are.**

**Beyond sin,
 Your love is inexhaustible.
Beyond brokenness,
 Your forgiveness is incomprehensible.
Beyond betrayal,
 Your grace is poured out eternally.
Beyond death,
 Your life is unimaginable.
Beyond human understanding,
 Your ways are always higher than ours.**



This Morning's Sacred Liturgy

Today's Intention: *For those challenged by cancer.*

Prelude: How Beautiful

Choir

Welcome and Announcements

Steve M.

Gathering Song: Lord, Who Throughout

GC2 416

Introductory Rite & Kyrie Litany

Opening Prayer

Mthr. Sharon

Reading I: *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

Mary M.

Response: Psalm 51: Create in Me

GC2 37

Reading II: *Hebrews 5:7-9*

Steve M.

**Gospel Acclamation: ✠ Praise to you, glory and praise,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

Holy Gospel: *John 12:20-33*

Mthr. Sharon

Homily

Mthr. Sharon

Profession of Faith: **Alternative Creed** (*cf. inside back cover hymnal*)

Intercessions: ✠ God ever faithful, renew us!

Mary M.

Kiss of Peace

Preparation of the Gifts: Unless a Grain of Wheat GC2 699

Eucharistic Prayer: Mass of Remembrance GC2 214-219

Lord's Prayer: Our Father GC2 15

Lamb of God Litany: Mass of Remembrance GC2 220

Invitation to Holy Communion Mthr. Sharon

Cup Ministers: Fr. Daniel, Fr. Jacques & Joanne D.

Communion Procession: Seed, Scattered and Sown GC2 830

Song of Praise: The Servant Song GC2 661

Prayer after Communion

Mthr. Sharon

Blessing and Sending

Sending Song: Go Make a Difference GC2 664

Coffee Social Hosts:

Parishioner Last Names S-W