

Holy Week at a Glance:



Palm Sunday: April 14th at 10:00 am. This Sunday serves as a foreshadowing of Holy Week. We move from the ecstatic welcoming of the crowds singing Hosanna and waving palms as Jesus enters Jerusalem, to the tragic rejection and execution of Jesus. Could it be that all of our lives begin with a joyful entry into the world only to subsequently experience rejection and mortality? Could it be that the resurrected life cannot begin until we go through this first death of our innocence and naiveté? All Saints Levy Choir School will be joining us for this celebration.

Mundy Thursday: April 18th at 7:30 pm. This is a service rich in symbolism. It includes the veneration of the reserved sacrament in the chapel and concludes with the ceremonial stripping of the altar, as a sign of Jesus' being stripped of his dignity as he stands in solidarity with all victims of human violence throughout the millennia. We ask ourselves, "How do we participate in a culture of violence and scapegoating?"

Good Friday: April 19th at Noon. In this service, again, rich in archetypal imagery, we stand at the foot of the cross and ask, in the words of the old spiritual, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" Here we experience the sobering poignancy at the core of our faith, i.e. God is not found in a pristine world beyond, but rather embedded deep in the midst of our human condition.

Easter Vigil: April 20th at 9:00 pm. Taking our cue from the early church, as it ended a strict Lenten season, we celebrate the resurrection of Christ, beginning in the darkness before Easter morning. The Church, shrouded in darkness, is lit by the light of Christ, which is symbolically carried into the midst of the congregation atop the Paschal Candle. Speaking with symbol and sacrament we find a language deeper than words speaking about the apotheosis of humanity through the resurrection of the Christ. Can we manifest the power of this resurrection in our Church and in our lives?

Easter Morning: April 21st at 10:00 am. Our normal, festive celebration of Resurrection Sunday! Not a historical observance, but a celebration of signs of the resurrection in our lives. This is the central celebration of the entire year. If one has been through the discipline of Lent, then Easter serves as a sign that a new and different kind of life is available to be lived in the here and now. Can we think of a reason why we wouldn't want to share in this new life? In facing our mortality and in solidarity with the scapegoat/victim, we enter the risen life of our Lord!