

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

185 St. Thomas Drive, Ojai, California 93023 805-646-4338 FAX 805-646-5928

Office Hours Monday-Friday 8:00AM-5:00PM

WEBSITE STACOJAI.ORG FACEBOOK.COM/STACOJAI FACEBOOK.COM/STACKIDS

PALM SUNDAY, March 25, 2018

Served by the Augustinian's

Pastor Father Tom Verber O.S.A.

Associate Pastor Father Fernando Lopez O.S.A. and Deacon Phil Nelson
In Residence: Father Bill Ryan O.S.A., retired and Rev. Alvin Paligutan O.S.A.



LITURGIES

Saturday

8:00AM Daily Mass

Vigils

5:00PM English & 7:30PM Spanish

Sunday

7:30AM & 9:30AM English

11:30AM Spanish

Weekdays

M-F 9:00AM Parish

Villanova 7:00AM

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

stephenpbarrack@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:30-4:30PM or
by appointment 646-4338 X105

ROSARIES

Wednesday 6:15PM ~ Spanish

Friday 9:30AM ~ Cenacles of Life

Sunday 7:00AM

ADORER CHAPEL HOURS

No Adoration Holy Week

Sign Up for Holy Thursday Adoration

After evening service to Midnight

PRAYER LINE

805-276-3799 or deaconphil@stacojai.org

WEDDINGS

Call for appointment with the Pastor

BAPTISMS

(Call for appointment)

Spanish-Father Fernando

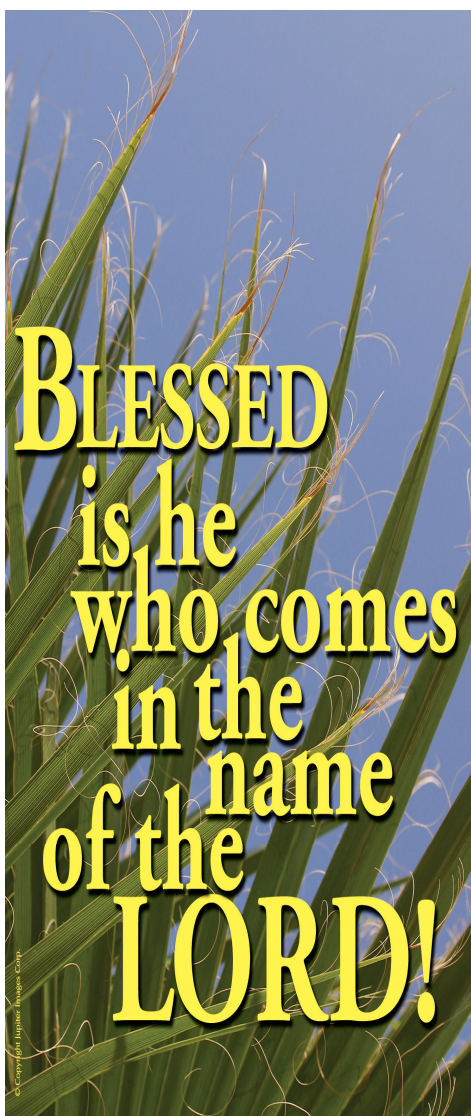
English-Deacon Phil

FUNERALS

Please call 646-4338 X101



For the complete schedule of Holy Week See Page four



Sunday: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; (procession)
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24;
Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]
Jesus, humbling himself out of love for us, did not shield his face from buffets and spitting, but offered his life on the cross. He relied on his Father's love.

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
Though he must suffer and die, the Suffering Servant will not cry out for the Lord is his refuge.

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
The Lord will show his glory to his Servant by delivering from death the one handed over by Judas.

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25
Trusting in the Lord who is his help, Jesus speaks of his betrayal which is at hand.

Thursday: HOLY THURSDAY
Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9;
Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
Anointed by the Spirit Jesus proclaims the good news that we are a royal nation a priestly people.
Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14;
Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26;
Jn 13:1-15
Before the feast of Passover, Jesus celebrates the Last Supper in which he gives us his body and blood.

Friday: GOOD FRIDAY—THE PASSION OF THE LORD
Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25;
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
Entrusting his life to the Father, Jesus bore our infirmities and obedient unto death, won for us eternal salvation.

Saturday: THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT
a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22;
b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11;
c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;
d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;
e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;
f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;
g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;
h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Mk 16:1-7
Alleluia! The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone! If we have died with Christ, we shall also rise with him and pass from death to life.

Sunday: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

*Christ Jesus] humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Philippians 2:8*

Domingo: Mc 11:1-10 o Jn 12:12-16; (procesión)
Is 50:4-7; Sal 22 (21): 8-9, 17-20, 23-24;
Flp 2:6-11; Mc 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

Lunes: Is 42:1-7; Sal 27 (26):1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

Martes: Is 49:1-6; Sal 71 (70):1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Miércoles: Is 50:4-9a; Sal 69 (68):8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34;
Mt 26:14-25

Jueves: Misa del crisma: Is 61:1-3ab, 6a, 8b-9;
Sal 89 (88):21-22, 25, 27; Apo 1:5-8; Lc 4:16-21
Cena del Señor: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14;
Sal 116 (115):12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18;
1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Viernes: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Sal 31 (30):2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42

Sábado: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a];
Sal 104(103):1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; o
Sal 33 (32):4-7, 12-13, 20-22;
b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18];
Sal 16 (15): 5, 8-11;
c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;
d) Is 54:5-14; Sal 30 (29):2, 4-6, 11-13;
e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;
f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Sal 19 (18):8-11;
g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Sal 42 (41):3, 5; 43:3-4 o
Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 o Sal 51 (50):12-15, 18-19;
h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Mc 16:1-7

Domingo: Hch 10:34a, 37-43; Sal 118 (117):1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 o 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 o
Mt 28:1-10 o (en la Misa de la tarde o la noche)
Lc 24:13-35

LECTURAS DE HOY

Evangelio para la procesión de las palmas
¡Bendito el que viene en nombre del Señor!
(Marcos 11:1-10 o Juan 12:12-16)

Primera lectura No oculté el rostro a insultos y salvazos, porque sabía que no quedaría avergonzado (Isaías 50:4-7).

Salmo Dios mío, Dios mío, ¿por qué me has abandonado? (Salmó 22 [21]).

Segunda lectura Jesús se despojó totalmente y Dios lo llenó de exaltación (Filipenses 2:6-11).

Evangelio La versión de la Pasión y Muerte de Jesús que nos da Marcos (Marcos 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39])

LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES

Domingo: Domingo de Ramos “de la Pasión del Señor”
Lunes: Lunes de la Semana Santa
Martes: Martes de la Semana Santa
Miércoles: Miércoles de la Semana Santa
Jueves: Jueves Santo; el Triduo Pascual comienza
Viernes: Viernes Santo; Ayudar y Abstinencia;
La Pascua judía comienza al atardecer
Sábado: Sábado Santo; Vigilia Pascual

*Voy a poner mi ley en lo más profundo
de su mente y voy a grabarla en sus corazones.
Yo seré su Dios y ellos serán mi pueblo.
Jeremías 31:33*

Our Parish Family continues to be blessed with each and every one of you. It is a joy to come together each week at Mass, sharing our faith.

It is another joy in sharing friendship, fellowship and fun for the planning and execution of events. The below is by far NOT a complete list, but we are thankful for all you do:

HOMELESS SHELTER

From the Frist of December through March 31st we host Tuesday evenings; for appetizers, dinner, dessert, breakfast and a packed lunch. A warm place to sleep with clean linens, eve haircuts are provided. Again this year Rod Smith organized the different volunteers each week with great skill and patience. There were many people who made this a successful year. It takes someone to wash and dry the linens, not a small task; set up the bedding; groups to shop, prepare and clean up for dinner; the folks who check the clients in; then the clean up. So many were fed and cared for these months. *Thank you.*

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER & DANCE

Tony Cunningham, Oscar Melendez and all their helpers provided a wonderful evening of fun antics, song, laughter ~ an evening where we all became Irish. THANK YOU!

SOUP SUPPERS

All through the Friday evenings of Lent, Soup Suppers were offered allowing us a time to gather, share a simple meal (delicious ones), and participate in Stations of the Cross. Marlene Lattimer once again accepted the challenge of coordinating each Friday with one of the Ministry Groups. *Thank you.*

LITURGY

The Lenten Liturgy has been meaningful and beautiful. The environment was very nice and accented the feel of the season of Lent. The different choirs and music enhanced our experience at each Mass celebration. Choir Directors, Julie Teichert and all who were very busy all Lent on our behalf, *thank you.*

OPPORTUNITIES

The Virtual Pilgrimage was beautiful and such a nice time to participate during Lent. Our Bishop who has links for daily reflections and special Lenten Reflections. The Religious Education Congress also was another opportunity for spiritual growth. *Thank you.*

Nuestra Familia Parroquial continúa siendo bendecida con todos y cada uno de ustedes. Es una alegría reunirnos cada semana en la misa, compartiendo nuestra fe.

Es otra alegría compartir la amistad, el compañerismo y la diversión para planificar y ejecutar eventos. Lo que sigue a continuación NO es una lista completa, pero estamos agradecidos por todo lo que hace:

REFUGIO PARA INDIGENTES

Desde el Frist de diciembre hasta el 31 de marzo recibimos el martes por la noche; para aperitivos, cena, postre, desayuno y un almuerzo para llevar. Un lugar cálido para dormir con sábanas limpias, cortes de pelo de visperas. De nuevo este año, Rod Smith organizó los diferentes voluntarios cada semana con gran habilidad y paciencia. Hubo muchas personas que hicieron de este un año exitoso. Se necesita a alguien para lavar y secar la ropa, no es una tarea pequeña; configurar la ropa de cama; grupos para comprar, preparar y limpiar para la cena; las personas que controlan a los clientes; entonces la limpieza. Muchos fueron alimentados y atendidos durante estos meses. Gracias.

ST.CENA Y DANZA DEL DÍA DE PATRICK

Tony Cunningham, Oscar Meléndez y todos sus ayudantes brindaron una noche maravillosa de payasadas divertidas, canciones, risas ~ una noche en la que todos nos convertimos en irlandeses. ¡GRACIAS!

SUMINISTROS DE SOPA

Durante las noches de los viernes de la Cuaresma, se ofrecieron cenas de sopa que nos permitieron reunirnos, compartir una comida sencilla (deliciosas) y participar en las Estaciones de la Cruz. Marlene Lattimer una vez más aceptó el reto de coordinar cada viernes con uno de los Grupos de Ministerio. Gracias.

LITURGIA

La Liturgia de Cuaresma ha sido significativa y hermosa. El ambiente fue muy agradable y acentuó la sensación de la temporada de Cuaresma. Los diferentes coros y música mejoraron nuestra experiencia en cada celebración de la misa. Directores de coro, Julie Teichert y todos los que estuvieron muy ocupados durante toda la Cuaresma en nuestro nombre, gracias.

OPORTUNIDADES

La peregrinación virtual fue hermosa y un momento tan agradable para participar durante la Cuaresma. Nuestro Obispo que tiene enlaces para reflexiones diarias y Reflexiones Cuaresmales especiales. El Congreso de Educación Religiosa también fue otra oportunidad para el crecimiento espiritual. Gracias.

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday	March 25	9:30AM	PALM SUNDAY		
Monday	March 26	9:00AM	Theresa Jarmsberger †	By:	Chuck Coscarelli
Tuesday	March 27	9:00AM	Conny Kurtenbach †	By:	Mary Kazmer
Wednesday	March 28	9:00AM	George Spink †	By:	Bereavement
Thursday	March 29	9:00AM	HOLY THURSDAY		
Friday	March 30	9:00AM	GOOD FRIDAY		
Saturday	March 31	8:00AM	HOLY SATURDAY		



HOLY WEEK

SEMANA SANTA

Sun:	3-25		PALM SUNDAY
	7:00AM		Rosary
	8:30AM		Religious Education
	10:30AM		RCIA
	4-6:00PM		Confirmation
	7:00PM		VILLANOVA SPRING MUSICAL
Mon:	3-26	3-4:30PM	Lenten Lectionary Bible Study
		7-8:30PM	Bible Study
Tue:	3-27	6:00PM	HOMELESS SHELTER LAST ONE
		7-8:30PM	English Class
		7:00PM	Choir
		7:00PM	RCIA
Wed:	3-28		FAMILY TO FAMILY
		6:15PM	Rosary-Sp
		6:30PM	Guadlupano
Thurs.	3/29		HOLY THURSDAY
			No Daily Mass No Adoration
		8:00PM	Mass of the Lord's Supper
			Adoration to Midnight
Friday	3/30		GOOD FRIDAY
			No Daily Mass No Adoration
		3:00PM	Stations of the Cross-English With service after - English
		6:00PM	No Soup Supper Stations of the Cross-Spanish
		7:00PM	With service after - Spanish
Sat	3/31		HOLY SATURDAY
			No Daily Mass No Adoration No Reconciliation
		8:00PM	Easter Vigil
Sun	4/1		EASTER SUNDAY
		7:30 & 9:30AM	Mass-English
		11:30AM	Mass-Spanish

Dom:	3-25		DOMINGO DE PALMA
		7:00AM	Rosario
		8:30AM	Educación Religiosa
		10:30AM	RCIA
		4-6:00PM	Confirmación
		7:00PM	VILLANOVA PRIMAVERA MUSICAL
Lun:	3-26	3-4:30PM	Leccionario de Cuaresma Estudio Bíblico
		7-8:30PM	Estudio Bíblico
Mart:	3-27	6:00PM	REFUGIO PARA INDIGENTES EL ÚLTIMO
		7-8:30PM	Clase de inglés
		7:00PM	Coro
		7:00PM	RCIA
Mié:	3-28		FAMILIA Y FAMILIA
		6:15PM	Rosary-Sp
		6:30PM	Guadlupano
Jueves	3/29		SANTO JUEVES
			Sin masa diaria Sin Adoration
		8:00 PM	Misa de la Cena del Señor Adoración a la medianoche
Viernes	3/30		BUEN VIERNES
			Sin masa diaria Sin adoración
		3:00PM	PM Estaciones de Cross-English Con servicio después - Inglés
		6:00 PM	Estaciones de la Cruz española
		7:00 PM	Con servicio después - Español
Sábado	3/31		SÁBADO SANTO
			Sin masa diaria Sin adoración Sin reconciliación
		8:00 PM	Vigilia Pascual
Domingo	4/1		DOMINGO DE PASCUA
		7:30 y 9:30 AM	Mass-English
		11:30 a.m.	Misa-español

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Monday:	Monday of Holy Week
Tuesday:	Tuesday of Holy Week
Wednesday:	Wednesday of Holy Week
Thursday:	Holy Thursday; The Sacred Paschal Triduum
Friday:	Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday); Fast and Abstinence; Passover begins
Saturday:	The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night; Holy Saturday



GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN!

Palm Sunday Year B

Stations of the Cross Game

- Directions:
- Get 14 index cards or pieces of paper that are about the same size.
 - Number the cards 1-14. On the back, write or draw the stations on the correct card.
 - Mix them up and put them back in order.
 - Flip them over to see how many you got right.

- Jesus is condemned to death
- Jesus bears his cross
- Jesus falls the first time
- Jesus meets his mother
- Jesus is helped by Simon
- Jesus and Veronica
- Jesus falls a second time
- Jesus speaks to the women
- Jesus falls a third time
- Jesus is stripped of His garments
- Jesus is nailed to the cross
- Jesus dies on the cross
- Jesus is taken from the cross
- Jesus is laid in the tomb

The religious leaders and the crowd told Pilate to release Barabbas. When Pilate asked what he should do with Jesus, the crowd yelled, "Crucify him!"

Is 50:4-7

Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

Phil 2:6-11

Mk 14:1-15

Directions: Draw a picture of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a mule that you heard before Mass.

DID YOU KNOW?

Abusers often encourage their victims to keep secrets from their parents or other trusted adults, and reinforce secrecy through bribes, threats or by making it seem fun and exciting to keep a secret. Parents should talk to their kids about secrets, and teach them the difference between fun secrets like a birthday surprise and bad secrets like unsafe touches. Kids should know that adults should never ask them to keep secrets from their parents, and if an adult does ask them to keep secrets, to talk to their parents immediately.

To view a kid-friendly video on this topic, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWqTzeITGLY>.

¿SABÍA USTED?

Los abusadores suelen alentar a sus víctimas a guardar secretos de sus padres u otros adultos de confianza, y refuerzan la secretividad a través de sobornos, amenazas o haciendo que parezca divertido y emocionante mantener un secreto. Los padres de familia deben hablar con sus hijos sobre secretos y enseñarles la diferencia entre secretos divertidos como una sorpresa de cumpleaños y malos secretos como caricias inseguras. Los niños deben saber que los adultos nunca deben pedirles que guarden secretos de sus padres, y si un adulto les pide que guarden secretos, deben hablar con sus padres inmediatamente. Para ver un video para niños sobre este tema, visite <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWqTzeITGLY>.

PARISH FESTIVAL

Saturday May 5th and Sunday May 6th

This will be a weekend of community, music, games and food.

- ⇒ **We need:**
 ⇒ Volunteers
 ⇒ Plants
 ⇒ auction items
 ⇒ Books
 ⇒ rummage sale items.

Please contact **Marti Reid** with questions or ideas to make it even more fun.

805-798-2888 or reidmarti4@gmail.com.

SPONSORS WANTED

If you would like to have the name of your business prominently displayed all weekend at the Festival please call **Franceen Fallet 646-5848**

FESTIVAL PARROQUIAL

Sábado 5 de mayo y domingo 6 de mayo

Este será un fin de semana de comunidad, música, juegos y comida.

- ⇒ **Necesitamos:**
 ⇒ Voluntarios
 ⇒ Plantas
 ⇒ artículos de subasta
 ⇒ Libros
 ⇒ artículos de venta de artículos usados.

Por favor, póngase en contacto con **Marti Reid** con preguntas o ideas para hacerlo aún más divertido: 805-798-2888 o reidmarti4@gmail.com.

PATROCINADORES QUERIDOS

Si desea que el nombre de su empresa aparezca de manera destacada durante todo el fin de semana en el Festival, llame a **Franceen Fallet 646-5848**.

M
A
Y

5TH

&

6TH

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

"Beginning Experience" is part of an international ministry for those men or women who have experienced the loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation. A "Beginning Experience" weekend will be held on April 13-15, 2018, at Holy Spirit Retreat Center in Encino, CA. This weekend helps a person move from the darkness of grief into the light of a new beginning with renewed hope. "Beginning Experience" is recognized by the Office of Family Life for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. To register for this weekend or obtain more information, contact:

Peg at (818) 767-1007 or

Brenda at (818) 352-5265 or

Maria (Spanish) at (310) 365-0186

Questions can also be sent by email to: beginningexp.losangeles@gmail.com

PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday 3/28 Santa Clara, Oxnard 6:30PM

SOUP SUPPER

After Easter the final monetary count will be posted reflecting the donations to OPEN PANTRY and HOGAR ORPHANAGE.

Thank You

Folk Choir for preparing the last Soup Supper

COMIENZO DE LA EXPERIENCIA

"Beginning Experience" es parte de un ministerio internacional para aquellos hombres o mujeres que han experimentado la pérdida de un cónyuge a través de la muerte, el divorcio o la separación. El fin de semana de "Experiencia Inicial" se llevará a cabo del 13 al 15 de abril de 2018 en el Holy Spirit Retreat Center en Encino, California. Este fin de semana ayuda a una persona a pasar de la oscuridad del dolor a la luz de un nuevo comienzo con renovada esperanza. La "Oficina de Vida Familiar" de la Arquidiócesis de Los Ángeles reconoce la "Experiencia Inicial". Para registrarse para este fin de semana u obtener más información, comuníquese con:

Peg at (818) 767-1007 o

Brenda al (818) 352-5265 o

Maria (español) al (310) 365-0186

Las preguntas también se pueden enviar por correo electrónico a: beginningexp.losangeles@gmail.com

SERVICIO DE PENITENCIA

Miércoles 3/28 Santa Clara, Oxnard 6:30 p.m.

SOPA DE SOPA

Después de Pascua, se publicará el conteo monetario final que refleja las donaciones a OPEN PANTRY y HOGAR ORPHANAGE.

Gracias

Coro popular para preparar la última cena de sopa

PARISH DIRECTORY

Pastor, Father Tom Verber, O.S.A.	646-4338 X105	frtom@stacojai.org
Associate Pastor, Fernando Lopez, O.S.A.	646-4338 X103	bflcosa@yahoo.com
Deacon Phil Nelson	276-3799	deaconphil@stacojai.org
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Facilities & Grounds, Ernesto Pineda	646-4338	office@stacojai.org
Aquinas Center & Facility Rental, Brian Campos	646-4338 X102	brianc@stacojai.org
STA THRIFT STORE, Fitzgerald Plaza	646-9256	423E. Ojai Ave. #102
Communion to the Sick	Steve Barrack	stephenbarrack@gmail.com
SOUP SUPPER, Marlene Lattimer	640-0403	
LENT WITH BISHOP BARRON		WORDONFIRE.ORG

March 25, 2018**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

Jesus' last days are an experience of contrasts. The man Isaiah describes is courageous in the face of buffets and beatings. Jesus will not be disgraced or put to shame. Everything the priests, elders, soldiers, and friends do is intended to disgrace and shame Jesus. But they fail. Jesus is not without anguish and sorrow. He knows what it feels like to be abandoned and he expresses that in the garden and on the Cross. Yet still Philip insists that Jesus will be exalted even though humbled and obedient to the point of death. Mark takes Jesus and us back and forth between strength and fear, between courage and humiliation, between obedience and anguish. What are we to make of these contrasts?

**RECOGNITION**

Only a centurion, who with the women looking on from a distance sees Jesus breathe his last, knows what we are to make of this. We are to understand, even before the Resurrection, that "this man was the Son of God." How did the centurion know? The centurion knew because he stood facing Jesus, watching him, looking into his face as he died. Though everything was done to strip Jesus of his sense of self, never, ever did he give up his complete and total commitment to God his Father. Even in his anguish and abandonment, he cries out to God. We are left to imagine how his Father answered him, but whatever Jesus heard in his last moments, it left on his face and in his last breath so clear a sign of God's love that one of his crucifiers recognized who he was. The only thing left to Jesus when he died was the abiding certainty of his Father's love. That is a certainty that Jesus took with him to his grave and to his resurrection.

Today's Readings: Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

25 de marzo de 2018**Domingo de Ramos****(de la Pasión del Señor)**

Los últimos días de Jesús son una experiencia de contrastes. El hombre que Isaías describe es valiente enfrentando las cachetadas y los golpes. Jesús no será deshonrado ni avergonzado. Todo lo que los sacerdotes, ancianos, soldados y amigos hacen, tiene la intención de deshonrar y avergonzar a Jesús. Pero ellos fallan. Jesús no está sin angustia o tristeza. Él conoce lo que es sentirse abandonado, así como lo manifestó en el jardín de los olivos y en la Cruz. Aun así, la carta a los filipenses insiste en que Jesús será exaltado, aunque humillado y obediente hasta la muerte. Marcos lleva tanto a Jesús como a nosotros de un lugar a otro, entre la fuerza y el temor, entre el valor y la humillación, entre la obediencia y la angustia. ¿Qué es lo que vamos a hacer de estos contrastes?

RECONOCIMIENTO

Solo un centurión, quien con las mujeres observando desde lejos, notan el último aliento de Jesús, y sabe lo que debe hacerse. Debemos entender, aún antes de la Resurrección, que "este hombre era el Hijo de Dios". ¿Cómo lo supo el centurión? El centurión lo supo porque estaba parado viendo de frente a Jesús, observándolo, mirando hacia su cara en el momento de su muerte. Aunque se hizo todo para despojar a Jesús de su sentido de ser; nunca, nunca renunció a su total compromiso con Dios su Padre. Aún en su angustia y abandono, él clama a Dios. Nos quedamos imaginando cómo le respondió su Padre, pero aquello que Jesús escuchara en sus últimos momentos, dejó en su rostro y en su último aliento muy claro un signo del amor de Dios que uno de sus verdugos reconoce quién era. Lo único que le queda a Jesús cuando muere es la certeza permanente del amor de su Padre. Esa es una certeza que Jesús se llevó a su tumba y a su resurrección