

The Visionary

A Newsletter of St. Mary Magdalen Parish

HOLY WEEK Holy Week begins on Passion (Palm) Sunday when we enter into Jerusalem with Jesus, leading to the experience of the saving event of Jesus' Passover through death to life. We wave palms and greet Him with shouts of "hosannah"! Then, tragically; we stand with the same crowd and cry "crucify"! Holy Week culminates with the Triduum (the Three Days). *More on Holy Week on pg. 3.*

THE THREE DAYS

The Paschal Triduum, (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday) is the very heart of the liturgical year and contains the most solemn celebrations of the church year. Just as Sunday gives meaning to the week that follows, so the Triduum is the focal point and very center of the church's yearly cycle of feasts and seasons. The Triduum is one Liturgy celebrated over the three days.



THE EASTER VIGIL

The climax of the Triduum is the Easter Vigil when the community welcomes and initiates new members through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. At the Vigil, we will joyfully welcome through the waters of Baptism Kaycee Gillies, Riley Copenhaver, Jacob Copenhaver, Lillian Altermatt, and Penelope Altermatt. Kaycee, along with Laura Fischer, Stacy LaPlant, Michael Romkema, Jerry Sams, Rod Johnson, Guinevere Johnson, Nathan LaFontaine, Brian Duncan and Kailey Duncan, will then receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. Then these newest members of the church, along with Sophia Duncan and Elena Duncan, will then join us at the table of the Lord for the first time and receive the Holy Eucharist.



THE FIFTY DAYS

With Easter Sunday, the newly Baptized (the Neophytes), those received into the Church through the Sacraments, and all of us, enter into the fifty days after Easter known as the time of "Mystagogia", meaning, "the mysteries revealed". The fifty days of the Easter Season; from Easter to Pentecost, are one great Sunday celebration. We experience pure joy in the resurrection and we want it to last. Surely the first disciples experienced this inexpressible joy when Christ rose from the dead. We discover once more the irrevocable love of God and not only do we want to continue to celebrate, we want to explore its meaning. Our Neophytes will meet weekly in our mystagogia sessions to discover and look more closely at the gift we have received and what it means for us in our lives. This is not unique to those who were received into the Church at Easter. This time is for all of us and we do it together year after year. Mystagogia is a life-long endeavor to recognize God's presence in all of life experiences. It's the time when we experience what "resurrection" means. It's the season when we hear about the beginnings of our Church, the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the meaning of discipleship, on what joining in the Eucharist really means; what it commits us to be and to do. God eventually calls us out of the celebration and reminds us to live what we've celebrated in all the moments of our lives. A joyful Easter to all!

FROM THE PASTORAL COUNCIL

Our Pastoral Council meets on the third Wednesday of the month after the Mass of Remembering. The purpose of the council is to work with the pastor to provide pastoral care to the people of our community. They discuss policies and programs that will best serve our parish. Over the years, they have reviewed our Vision Statement regularly and created goals and strategies that will help bring that vision closer to reality.

Our last Pastoral Plan ended over a year ago, but with Fr. Dave's decision to retire at the end of June 2019, we put further planning for the future on hold until a new pastor is appointed. In the meantime, we will use this time to put together a description of our parish that will, hopefully, introduce our community to our new pastor. (His appointment should be announced by the end of February.)

Members of Pastoral Council

Fr. David F. Howell	Russ Gentner	Valerie Maravolo	David Schlueter
Terese Banas	Bruce Heatley	Bob Metz	Deanne Simpson
Sr. Maryetta Churches	Sr. Joyce Hoile	Nicole Micunek	Betty Socia
Bob Denyer	Ann Kehn	Mary Beth Potrykus	Megan Tierney, Sec.

FROM THE FINANCE COUNCIL

FISCAL YEAR July 2018 – June 2019

Year-to-Date 2/28/19

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>Actual Fiscal Year to Date</u>	<u>Annual Fiscal Budget</u>
Church	1,146,814	1,584,100
Witness To Hope	58,532	200,000
Religious Ed/Preschool	138,323	132,200
Total Income	1,343,669	1,916,300
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Church	764,122	1,109,100
Building Mortgage	208,370	388,100
Religious Ed/Preschool	275,648	419,100
Total Expenses	1,248,140	1,916,300
INCOME/(LOSS)	95,528	

REMAINING BALANCE 2/28/2019 - Building Mortgage - \$2,180,360

Members of Finance Council

Jill Angell	Catherine Hazen	Fr. David F. Howell	John Spalding
Dominic DiCicco	Danny Hazen	Nancy Little	Marilyn VanTiem
Jason Firek	Sharon Hazen	Matt Rolfes	Jeri Gawlowski—
John Hammang	Sue Hlavaty	Betty Socia	Bookkeeper

FROM THE TIME AND TALENT COUNCIL

Our Time & Talent Council meets generally on the last Wednesday of the month after the Mass of Anointing. We oversee two Ministry Fairs which seek to engage our parishioners in the work and ministry of the parish. In the Spring, we seek leadership for our parish. New and Renewing members sign up for the ministry teams that direct the work of our service ministry teams, including: our Pastoral & Time and Talent Councils plus our Charity & Justice, Formation, Health, Properties, Spiritual Development and Worship Teams. In the fall we seek folks to sign up for our task oriented teams, including: Ministers of Prayer, the Martha's and the Samaritans, who provide a variety to services to those with special needs, and a number of other service ministries!

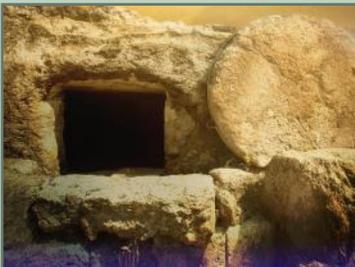
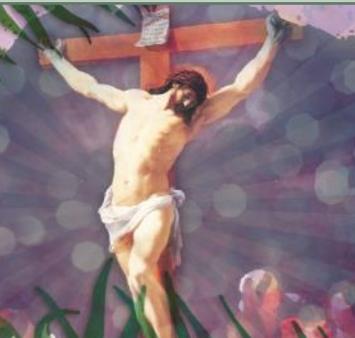
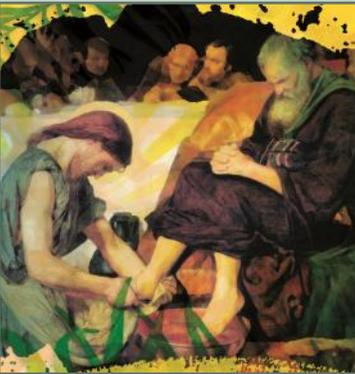
Members of time and Talent Council

Fred Goettsche	Dianne Hardy	Father David Howell	Kathleen Mitchell
Gene Golbiw	Bruce Heatley	Nancy Little	Mike Olsem
			Don Powell

HOLY WEEK

THE DAYS OF OUR SALVATION

In April we celebrate a time like no other in the Church year: Holy Week. Unlike all other days of the year, these not only celebrate, but invite us to enter into the experience of the saving event of Jesus' Passover through death to life. The whole year leads up to and away from the last three days of Holy Week, called **the Triduum**. These three days stand as the pinnacle of our life and our hope!



ALLELUIA!

On PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY we go back in time and enter Jerusalem, a city filled with expectation. We welcome Christ with shouts of "hosannah"! Then, tragically; we stand with the same crowd and cry "crucify"! The Liturgies from Monday through Wednesday recall the quiet events leading up to the Triduum. On Wednesday evening, our parish will join together for a Jewish Seder meal, the same ritual meal which was the Last Supper of the Lord. Our sharing in this meal will help us to better understand Jesus, the new Lamb of the new Passover.

Holy Week culminates with the **Triduum** (which means "three days"). It is really a single Liturgy stretched over three days and three Liturgies. The pauses between these Liturgies enable us to go home and ponder what we have witnessed.

On HOLY THURSDAY, we gather as the Lord's disciples around the table of His passover. Through the symbolic washing of feet or hands, we understand the love that led the Lord to endure such a humiliating death. Then we go with Him to the garden to watch and pray until midnight, the time of His arrest.

On GOOD FRIDAY, through the Gospel of the Lord's Passion, we walk with Jesus in His final hours and stand at the foot of the cross to mourn the death brought about by sin. In the second part of the service, the assembly is invited to come before the cross to venerate and ponder its meaning. Finally, to show that the Lord of all compassion is with us in our suffering, we conclude with a simple Communion service.

On HOLY SATURDAY, we celebrate the greatest of all Liturgies, the Great Mass of the Resurrection. In our darkened worship area which was stripped the day before as it became the tomb, now we light a new fire to symbolize Christ's victory over sin and darkness. Then through a series of readings we recount how God saved us through the promise and gift of His Son. After this extended Liturgy of the Word, we receive adults and youths into the Church and finally we share with them our most sacred gift, the Bread of Eternal Life.

EASTER SUNDAY

We continue the celebration from the evening before. The Masses include the renewal of Baptismal promises as we strive to live the new life Christ has given us through His death and resurrection.

OF FAITH AND SERVICE

Adult Confirmation Classes

Any Adult or High School Student who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, June 9 at the 11am Mass is invited to attend 6 preparatory classes. They will be at St. Mary Magdalen, Tuesday evenings, April 30 – June 4 from 7-9pm. High School Students must have permission from their Pastor. Please contact Sr. Maryetta or Deacon Dave Scharf if interested.

CHARITY AND JUSTICE *from Ken Kuna*

Charity is the response to an immediate need; justice seeks to end the need.

So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:17

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the Severe Weather Network in March. Lisa Klein did a great job of coordinating all the volunteers and working with Love INC and the center who hosted the homeless. The volunteers provided overnight supervision, intake and meals for these clients.

We continue to offer the opportunity to help seniors in our community with our Senior Tree of Life. Clients at Livingston County Catholic Charities, the Senior Centers in Brighton, Hartland and Howell, and Medilodge of Howell receive some needed items. If you haven't already, please take a tag or two.

- We encourage all parishioners to support our upcoming projects.
- We will help work on controlling invasive plants in Kensington Metro Park again this year.
- On the Rise Bakery will be back, benefitting the Capuchin projects in Detroit.
- Carnations will be sold again on Mother's Day to support Pregnancy Help Line.
- Our St. Vincent de Paul spring clothing drive will be held in May.
- Information will be published on a project for veterans at the Ann Arbor VA hospital.

Finally, we ask you to consider enrolling in the community support programs at Kroger and Amazon. A small portion of every purchase you make will be sent to the parish and deposited in the Alms account to provide short term support for local people in need. Instructions for enrolling are available on the Charity and Justice table in the Gathering Area and on the Parish Website.

NEW MEMBERS — MARCH

Al and Pat Coppersmith
Milford

Martin Halloran
Brighton

Scott and Diane Smith
Howell

Rick and Laura Elder
Brighton

Adam and Nichole
Moore
Gabriel, Isabelle,
Sophia, Logan
Brighton

Welcome

Holy Week, the Holiest Week of the Year!

What is different about this week than the rest of the weeks of the year? What are you doing differently this week? The entire liturgical year lays out the life of Jesus for us. Holy Week is sort of the climax of the liturgical year. Here, we commemorate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. This is the Paschal Mystery. We celebrate this in a sort of way every Mass because at the sacrifice of the Mass, we celebrate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, but the difference in Holy Week is that we are entering into these events in our Salvation history in a more solemn way.

We recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. In the Paschal Triduum, we commemorate the last supper, the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood, the passion of Christ, and last but certainly not least, Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

Please mark your calendar and be present with us as we celebrate the following Holy Week services. Palm Sunday regular Mass times. We begin the Paschal triduum or "three days" in Latin on Holy Thursday as we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 pm. On Good Friday, Stations of the Cross at 1 pm and Liturgy at 7:30 pm. On Holy Saturday the Easter Vigil is at 8:30 pm. If you have never attended the Easter Vigil, it is a must! Some say it is long so be prepared, but it is one of the most amazing Liturgies you will ever attend for sure, and by the way it counts for Easter Mass so you do not need to get up early... Our Easter Sunday Liturgies are at 9 and 11 am.

Journey with Jesus our Vacation Bible School

We have created a core team for Journey with Jesus and will host this awesome week, however we will have to stick to a deadline for registration and it will be necessary to have a limit on the number of participants and helpers. We must follow the diocese guidelines for Safe Environment in all activities we do with children. We still need 10 adult chaperones who are not in charge of anything but being with another adult in charge and a group of children from 8:45-11:45 am each day July 29– August 2. If you are able to help all week or a few days please contact me right away so that you can receive the necessary training.



Religious Formation Program Project

The Wednesday and Thursday classes end of the year project, "Mysteries of the Rosary", will be on display the second week of April. Each of our Wednesday and Thursday classes have been given a mystery and a list of art mediums to choose from. Each class has spent time learning about the mystery assigned to them and some have explored the details of each mystery. Each student should be able to share that the mysteries of the Rosary are story and prayer of Mary and Jesus. It has been a great experience watching the art pieces come together and it will be fun to share them with the parish. I encourage all members of the parish to check out this beautiful exhibit. Watch for information in the bulletin weekly.

Religious Formation Registration for next Fall

We have begun our 2019-2020 registration for the Religious Formation program. It is very important that you register your children entering grades 1-9 next fall as soon as possible. We do the early registration for several reasons, with the primary ones being accurate numbers for textbook orders. Our publishers cover the shipping costs if we have our books shipped by June. This is a substantial savings that can remain in the budget which will help with our "Financial Freedom." The other main reason is to recruit and train new catechists. It is very difficult to put a volunteer in a classroom with minimal training. It is so much better if we can recruit now and train over the summer.

“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

Happy Easter from Preschool. At this point we are more than half way through our school year. The Students have enjoyed all their snow and cold days. We had our VIP night. Each student brought one very important adult to school with them. We made crafts, learned new songs, heard stories and learned through play. The Children are so excited for spring time. They are looking forward to receiving caterpillars which they will get the chance to witness their life change into a butterfly. The children will then release the butterflies outside into the wild. The students are anxiously waiting for Easter. The excitement has begun, they have been working on their Easter crafts, and work. They have been practicing for their Easter Egg Hunts and spring cleaning. The children have been focusing on the reason we celebrate Easter. They have made Resurrection Bread to help them understand when Jesus resurrected from the dead. Happy Easter.

HAPPY



EASTER

KNIGHTS CORNER from Ryan Bosn,
St. Mary Magdalen Council 12295
gk12295@mikofc.org



I would like to extend an immense “thank you” to the parish for a very successful Spaghetti Dinner on February 23rd. This was the best-attended spaghetti dinner we’ve had since I’ve been in the council, and ranks right up there for “best ever” in the council’s 20 years of putting these on. It truly made me proud as a Knight and parishioner to see a full kitchen of volunteers, a full community room of parishioners, and empty pots of food after all had eaten. These are the kind of events that build community as a parish and make Saint Mary Magdalen so attractive to new parishioners. A special thanks goes to the Boy Scouts and the Youth Group for helping us out and lightening the load with cleanup. Thank you all. Let’s do this again!

I would also like to bring attention to a raffle fundraiser we are starting up in April. The Pregnancy Help Clinic here in Brighton is doing vital work in the community. One of the key tools they use to carry out their mission is an ultrasound machine. This machine is how expectant mothers and fathers are in-

roduced to God’s beautiful creation taking shape in the womb. As with all things technology, an ultrasound machine has a finite life expectancy before replacement is needed. After 7 years, The Pregnancy Help Clinic is due for a new machine. Our council, along with several other councils in the area and the national KofC organization, will be purchasing that machine. The raffle will help us raise the money needed for the cause. The fantastic raffle prize is perfect for spring; something every family would love to have in the backyard for those warm summer meals. Stay tuned for details!

Here are the council events we will be hosting in support of Faith, Family, Life, and Community in the season of Easter this year:

- Pancake Breakfast 3/24/19
- 5th Sunday of the Month “Family Rosary” 3/31/19
- Raffle Kickoff (Drawing 6/8/19) 4/01/19
- Annual Tootsie Roll Drive for Mentally Impaired 4/12 - 4/14/19
- Pancake Breakfast 4/28/19
- Pancake Breakfast 5/19/19
- Mom to Mom Sale 4/14/18
- Pancake Breakfast (w/Blood Drive) 4/15/18

HOLY WEEK 2019

PASSION SUNDAY APRIL 13/14

Liturgies: 4:30 pm, 9 am & 11 am

YOU WILL WANT TO ARRIVE EARLY !

PLEASE USE THE ACTIVITIES ENTRANCE instead of the main doors.

Monday, APRIL 15

9:00 am Liturgy of the Eucharist

7:00 pm Communal Penance Service

Tuesday, APRIL 16

9:00am Liturgy of the Eucharist

Wednesday, APRIL 17

9:00am Liturgy of the Eucharist

6:30pm Seder Meal (By Reservation)

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 18

8:00 am Morning Prayer

7:30 pm ++ Mass of the Lord's Supper

9:00 pm The Night Watch

11:30 pm Tenebrae

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19

9:00 am Morning Prayer

1:00 pm Stations of the Cross

7:30 pm ++ Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20

9:00 am Morning Prayer

12 Noon Easter Egg Hunt

2:00 pm Blessing of Easter Food

8:30 pm The Easter Vigil,
The Solemn Celebration of
Easter



EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 21

Liturgies will be celebrated at 9 & 11:00 am

EASTER BLESSINGS

THE DEACONS

SERVANT OF MANY *from Gary Prise*

This coming Easter will be my 10th as a deacon. I have kept virtually all of my past Visionary articles. I was looking back at them, especially the ones related to this holy day and season. To think our Lord was raised up by the Father and became something new, something that caught his closest disciples by surprise so much so they didn't, or couldn't, recognize him. Resurrection conveys a relational meaning between Jesus and God, and not a self-generated "I can do this." God appears to be resurrecting everything all the time and everywhere. It is not something to "believe in" as much as it is something to observe and be taught by. That statement shocks me! As I recite the Apostles' Creed, typically mouthing the words quickly, I unconsciously affirm "yes I believe" he was raised on the third day. Beyond believing he was raised, and believing all who are believers will be raised, and hoping for the same experience for myself, I have not thought much about the belief. I ought to observe and be taught each day as God reveals resurrection after resurrection each hour, each minute, each second. Because of the promise of the resurrection of our Lord, we realistically can believe that tomorrow **can** be a better day than today. Here's to seeing it hidden in the ordinary and living it each day!

THE OTHER BENCH *from Jim Chevalier*

At Mass, during Lent, we hear the Penitential Rite: Forgive me for what I have done, and what I have failed to do. But what is our understanding of Sin; Leviticus speaks of sinful acts: stealing, lying, hating, slandering; while Jesus tells us that we will also be judged on the works of mercy we have done or not done. He speaks to us in a direct and straightforward way. What Jesus preaches is so needed in today's world because sin can seem, even if we follow the law, to have no sense of responsibility for helping the suffering of others. "Let someone else do it." As our feasting fills us with gratitude so may our fasting and abstinence hollow out in us a place for deeper desires and an attentiveness to hear the cry of the poor. May our self-denial turn our hearts to you, Lord, and give us a new freedom for generous service to others. Lent is a time to think about sin: about immoral words, thoughts and deeds we have committed, and about ways we have failed to help our neighbor in need. Lent is a time to confess those sins and make a good Act of Contrition, and amend our lives to focus on the will of God. We need to think about every moment we live through as being like an Ambassador who declares the will of God to all we meet today, and every day! So when we see Jesus face to face, will He put us with the Sheep or the Goats?

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



MARKING THE CALENDAR

April 15 (Monday) COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE -- 7pm

April 17 (Wednesday) SEDER MEAL -- 6:30pm Seating is limited! Sign up in the gathering area!

April 18 (Holy Thursday) MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER -- 7:30pm

Our celebration of Holy Thursday will begin with Morning Prayer at 8 AM. In the evening, after the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we will watch and pray with the Lord in Holy Cross Chapel from 9 pm until Tenebrae at 11:30. The night watch will end at midnight.

April 19 (Good Friday) LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION -- 7:30 pm

9 am Our celebration of Good Friday will begin with Morning Prayer.

1:00 pm A special Way of the Cross will commemorate the Lord's Passion and Death.

7:30 pm The traditional Good Friday Service, with the Passion Narrative and Veneration of the Cross.

April 20 (Holy Saturday) SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF EASTER -- 8:30 pm

Our celebration of Holy Saturday will begin with Morning Prayer at 9 AM. In the evening we will celebrate the most important Liturgy of the year and the completion of the Lord's Passover through death to life! It is a Celebration of the Resurrection, rich in ancient symbolism. During the Liturgy new members are initiated into the Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. We who have made the journey of Lent renew our Baptismal commitment as we strive to live the new life Christ has given us through His death and resurrection.

April 21 (Easter Sunday) LITURGIES -- 9 & 11am