



**This Sunday:  
The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday  
March 24, 2024  
9:00 AM**

Join us in person for our service.

**Please continue to use the undercroft door entrance on Alton Street or the elevator in the parking lot for entry into the church.**

Or join us by going to the Parish Facebook page for the online service:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpetersport/>

The worship leaflet can be found [here](#).

There will be a coffee hour after the mass.

**This Sunday's Ministers:**

Vergers: David Savage

Eucharistic Ministers: Janene Gorham and Myrna Koonce

Crucifer: Garrett Keniston

Acolytes: Anica Hickey and Ava Keniston

Lector: Anita Chandler

Usher: Tom Ainsworth and Lenita Richard

Coffee Hour Hosts: Cindy Sherwood, Ann Bay, and Mary Franklin

**MUSIC NOTES** for this Sunday can be found at the end of Key Notes.

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Dear Friends,

I am sharing with you the information below that will also be in our worship leaflet this Sunday. I hope the notes will help all of us prepare to enter Holy Week fully engaged with all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As we recall the events of Jesus' last week, may we also become more aware of the living presence of Christ in our midst as we gather for prayer and praise.

Wishing you a faith filled Holy Week, I remain yours in Christ,

Fr. Tom

### **NOTES ABOUT THE LITURGIES OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

This coming Sunday marks our entrance into Holy Week, in which our worship commemorates the decisive last week of Jesus' life, including his arrival in Jerusalem, his last meal with his disciples, his arrest, torture and crucifixion, and ultimately our celebration of his resurrection.

On Sunday, we mark both the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, on what has come to be known as Palm Sunday, followed by the tumultuous events which began on Thursday of that week: the Lord's passion. Our service will begin as we listen to St. Mark's account of Jesus' entry into the city. Jesus and his disciples travelled from Galilee to

Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. In Jesus' day, one would go to Jerusalem if it was at all possible for the highest holy days of the Jewish year.

According to the gospels, Jesus was welcomed as the promised Messiah by many crowds on that Sunday. Some gospel accounts report that the people greeting him broke off palm branches from trees lining the road to welcome him. St. Mark simply mentions "leafy branches" gathered from the surrounding fields.

We will move from that celebration to the contemplation of Jesus' suffering. Our first and second lessons, as well as the psalm, from prepare us to hear of Jesus' rejection, arrest, torture and crucifixion. The passion narrative itself becomes the homily, and will be followed by a time of silent reflection for us to mediate on the meaning of Christ's sacrifice. Though the mood is somber, as we do every Sunday we will go on to partake in the meal that Jesus sets for us, celebrating his presence with us and his ultimate victory over death.

It is vital for us to remember as Christians that the passion narratives bear within them some of the seeds which would later grow into the sins of antisemitism for which the Church is still responsible. Jesus was crucified by the Roman authorities, and as we listen to today's Passion narrative, we must do so with the reminder that Jesus was a Jew, and that however the story has been communicated in scripture, his own people were not responsible for his death.

Later next week, I hope you can participate in the services which bring us to Easter Day: the Maundy Thursday service, the Good Friday service, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening (the last being held at St. Luke's Cathedral). In the early church, this sequence of services was actually regarded as one ongoing act of worship, and became known as the Easter *Triduum*. The Vigil ends our Lenten fasts with the first proclamation of Christ's resurrection. Then we gather



again in joyful proclamation on Easter morning.

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## **Youth Service Corps Caring for the Creation at Willard Beach**

A large group of youth and adult chaperones gathered at Willard Beach in South Portland on Sunday afternoon to pick up trash and debris along the beach. While much of the sand appeared clear of trash, the tides had washed up all kinds of plastic, styrofoam, bottles and other trash into dunes. We had an enthusiastic group who were diligent in helping to clean this small part of God's creation. Thank you to all who participated. The next monthly gathering of the group will be on Sunday, April 21.



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## **Aging With Grace Conversation Zoom Conversation Available**

The Aging With Grace Group had a fruitful discussion about Maine's Death With Dignity Law, which allows for physician assistance in dying if one has a terminal illness. The Zoom session was recorded, and if you would like to see it, please let Fr. Tom know ([stpeters.tmousin@gmail.com](mailto:stpeters.tmousin@gmail.com)).

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## **Merry Hearts Gathered for Lunch Today**

With delicious soup and biscuits to nourish us, a number of folks gathered for food and fellowship at the Merry Hearts Luncheon today. Plan to join us next month, when we meet on Thursday, April 18th at noon in the undercroft.





Thank you, Wayne Franklin, for the photograph.

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## **Join the Dramatic Reading on Palm Sunday: March 24th**

For those participating in the dramatic reading of the Passion narrative for Palm Sunday, please gather at the church for one rehearsal on Saturday March 23, at 9:30 AM.

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## **Vestry Meets on Monday, March 25th at 6:30 PM**

The March vestry meeting will be held on Zoom on Monday March 25th any 6:30 PM. All are welcome to attend. The Zoom link is [here](#).

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## **The Sense and Sensibility Book Discussion: Wednesdays at 6:30 PM on Zoom**

Join us for our last session on Wednesday, March 27th. The link for the Zoom gathering is [here](#).

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## **Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 5:30 on Zoom**

The last service of this Lenten season will be this Friday, March 22nd, at 5:30 PM. This service is on Zoom only, and the Zoom link is [here](#).

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## **Compline Link**

Join us for the Compline Prayer Service on Zoom on Wednesday, March 27th.

**Here** is the service for Compline.

The Zoom link is [here](#).

Please note: When you join for Compline during Lent, we will be finishing up reflections on our Lenten book study that meets at 6:30 PM. The link for both the book study and Compline are the same.

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## **Looking Ahead**

**Stations of the Cross: Friday March 22 at 5:30 PM on Zoom.**

**Sense and Sensibility Conversation on Zoom: Wednesday March 27th at 6:30 PM followed by Compline**

**Vestry Meeting: Monday, March 25th at 6:30 PM.**

## **Holy Week and Easter Services**

**Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**

Mass on Sunday March 24th at 9:00 AM

The service will include the distribution of palms and the reading of the Passion Gospel from St. Mark.

## **Compline**

Wednesday March 27th at 7:00 PM on Zoom. the Zoom link is [here](#).

## **Maundy Thursday Mass**

Mass on Thursday March 28th at 7:00 PM

We recall the institution of Holy Communion by Jesus at the Last Supper.

## **Good Friday Service**

Friday, March 29th at 7:00 PM

The Prayer Book Service for Good Friday, including the Passion Gospel from St. John

## **Easter Vigil Service**

at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St. Portland

Saturday, March 30 at 7:00 PM

## **Easter Day**

Festival Mass on Sunday, March 31st at 9:00 AM

We celebrate the resurrection, including special music, incense, and a celebratory coffee hour after the service.

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## **Last Call for Easter Flowers**

For a donation of any amount, you can give flowers in honor of loved ones or in memory of those who have died.

Information needs to be provided by this coming Sunday in order to be listed in the Easter worship leaflets.

You will find offering envelopes at church if you wish to make donations for Easter flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones. You can also list your donations at the flower donation page on our website [here](#).

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## **Sunday Minister Rota for March**

### **March 24 Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**

Eucharistic Ministers: Janene Gorham and Myrna Koonce

Verger: David Savage

Crucifer: Garrett Keniston

Acolytes: Ava Keniston and Anica Hickey

Lector: Anita Chandler



Usher: Tom Ainsworth and Cindy Sherwood

Coffee Hour Hosts: Cindy Sherwood, Ann Bay, and Mary Franklin

### **March 31 Easter**

Eucharistic Minister: Myrna Koonce

Verger: David Savage

Acolytes: Clayton Hickey and Marya Hickey

Thurifer: Ava Keniston

Boatbearer: Meredith Keniston

Crucifer: Tom Ainsworth

Lector: Wayne Franklin

Usher: Bob Simmons

Coffee Hour Hosts: Parishioners are invited to bring sweets and savories.

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## **Weekly Prayer List**

### **Prayers For Parishioners, Families, and Friends**

**Ann Marie Cady**

**Allison Schroth**

**Francisco Andreu**

**Steve Secord**

**Diane Dalton**

**Dino Rice**

**Robert Stillings**

**Fred Fowler**

**Jonathan McCormick**

**Lenita Richard**

**Peter Haskell**, *friend of Allison Schroth*

**Martha and Steve Gagliardi**, *friends of Fr. Tom*

**Tommy Valente**, *friend of Don and Ann Marie Cady*

**Jane Reiha**, *friend of Judy Howes*

**Brenda Pappalardo**, *friend of Judy Howes*

**Stephen and Rebecca Seraniche**, *friends of Dino Rice*

**Marge Devine**, *family member of Allison Schroth*

**Jimmy Devine**, *family member of Allison Schroth*

**Sharon Bay**, *family member of Ann Bay*  
**Fuji Sprott**, *friend of David and Dino Rice*  
**Steve Garnett**, *friend of Cindy Sherwood*  
**Pam**, *friend of Cindy Sherwood*  
**Sally**, *friend of Cindy Sherwood*  
**David Turner**, *cousin of Craig Mousin*  
**Tammy**, *friend of Craig Mousin*  
**Beth**, *friend of Lee Walters*  
**Pam**, *friend of Anita Chandler*  
**The Kutasi Family**, *friends of Allison Schroth*  
**Luca Esposito**, *friend of Allison Schroth*

If you wish to add or return persons to the prayer list, please contact our Prayer Ministry Coordinators:

Allison Schroth, at: 207-807-1315  
ASchroth@maine.rr.com

or

Emma Bond at: 207-619-3662  
emma.e.bond@gmail.com

### **A Prayer for Those We Love**

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*From The Book of Common Prayer*

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## **MUSIC NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY**

Brahms' organ chorale *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen* ("O World, I now must leave thee") is the very last work from his pen. This chorale does not represent, as one critic assumed, a lachrymose "lament over our transience." Rather, Brahms' composition was stimulated by the image presented in the last two lines, that body and life are placed in God's gracious hand:

Oh world, I have to leave you,  
Continue on my pathway

To the eternal fatherland.  
I willingly give my spirit  
And lay my life and body  
In God's all-gracious hand.

St. Theodulph of Orleans (c.750-821) was one of Charlemagne's most favored theologians, and at his sovereign's request, translated many sacred texts from classical Hebrew and Greek. Theodulph didn't fare as well under the rule of Charlemagne's somewhat paranoid son, Louis the Pious, and he may have written the original Latin text for "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" while imprisoned on a trumped-up charge of treason. The English translation in use today is by the Anglican priest John Mason Neale (1818-66).

Henry Milman (1791-1868) wrote the text for "Ride On, Ride On In Majesty" while he was Professor of Poetry at Oxford. He later became Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. The well-known tune which we're using this week, *Winchester New*, was included in a volume of German hymns of 1690, but came into its English form in a collection edited by the founder of Methodism, John Wesley.

Gordon Young (1919-1998) studied at the famed Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and returned to Michigan where he served as organist of the First Presbyterian Church in Detroit. A prolific composer, at one point he had over a thousand works in print. ~HT

**Our resident soloist Mary Sullivan will join us next Sunday for our Easter Mass.**

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