

PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 29, 2026

Ash Wednesday's call to return has sounded throughout this Lenten season. Through the past five weeks, we have heard passages of Scripture that have opened our hearts to the promise of renewal, new life and challenge to recognize in our daily lives God's loving presence in the traditional disciplines of fasting, alms-giving and prayer. We chose to embark on this journey which now approaches Holy Week; the summit and foundational reality of our faith; Jesus' passion, death and resurrection!

Beginning with Palm Sunday, we commemorate Jesus' entry into the holy city of Jerusalem in humility and assurance of beginning the next stage of his life, facing the challenge of faithfulness to God's vision of salvation. We also read Matthew's version of the Passion, following Jesus to the Cross.

On Tuesday, March 31st, the Diocese is called together for the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral at 6:30pm, celebrating the call to be priests, through Baptism. The holy oils will be consecrated and distributed for use during the year. The priests will renew their commitment to the people of God.

On Thursday, April 2nd, at 6:30 pm gathering at St. Alphonse worship site, we celebrate the sacrament of the Eucharist, inaugurated by Jesus on the eve of His death. The connection between Eucharist and service is clearly made with the washing of feet, service to our sisters and brothers.

Good Friday, April 3rd, at 3:00 pm at St. Alphonse worship site, solemnly puts us before the awesome love of God in the self-sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. The starkness and vividness of Saint John's Passion version invites us to reflect ponder and celebrate the open heart of God for the world. We come to venerate and live this daily.

All of this leads to the Easter Vigil at 6:30 pm on Holy Saturday, the great vigil.

Come and celebrate this great and Holy Week.

Blessings of peace!

Fr. Don