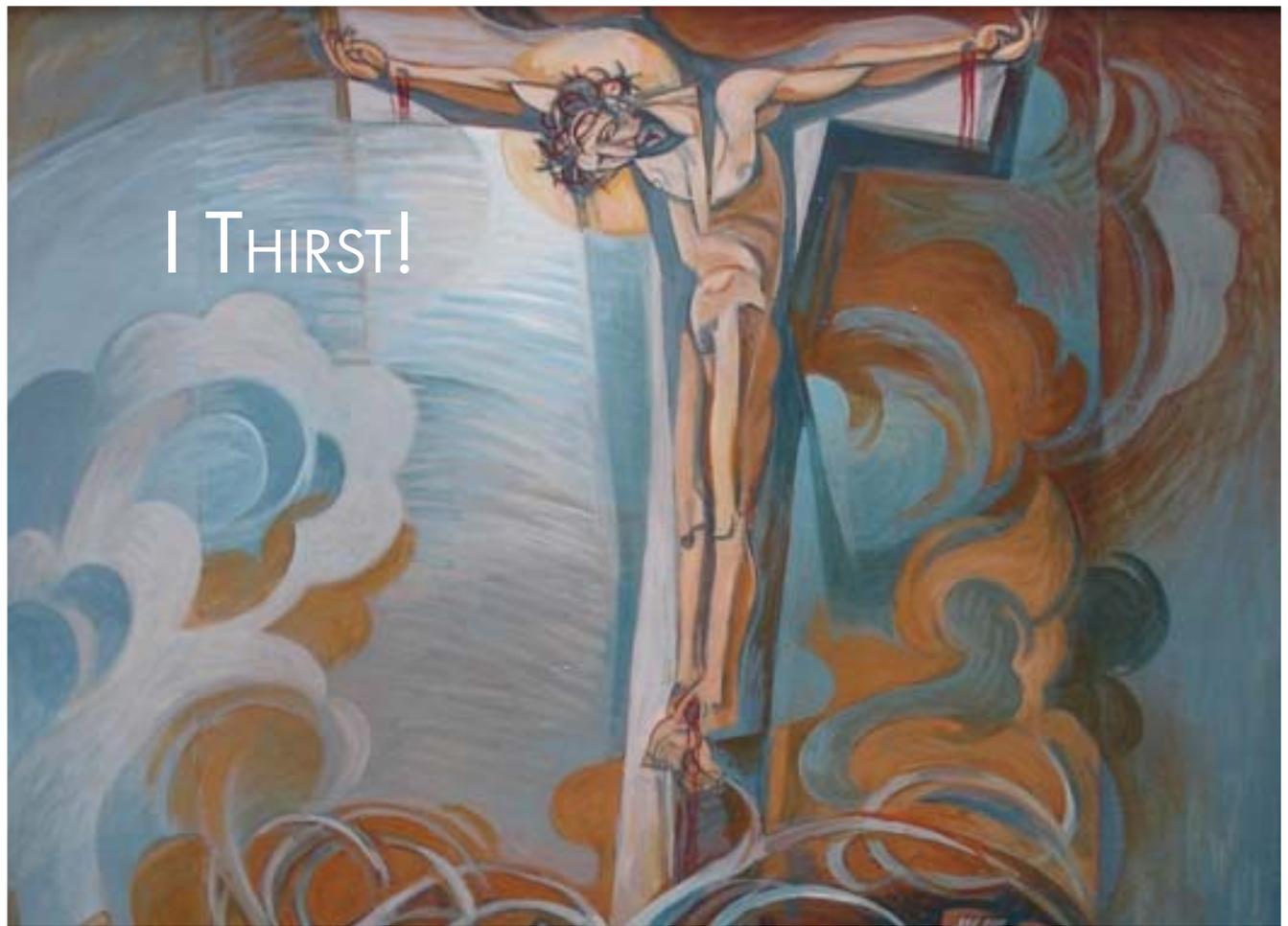


PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

MARCH 25, 2018



'I ai soif' ("I am Thirsty") by Sassandra

"He thirsts for you.

He loves you always, even when you don't feel worthy.

When not accepted by others, even by yourself sometimes—He is the one who always accepts you. My children, you don't have to be different for

Jesus to love you. Only believe—You are precious to Him.

Bring all you are suffering to His feet—only open your heart

to be loved by Him as you are. He will do the rest."

—SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

PARISH & SCHOOL

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Bakersfield, CA 93305

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Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School

Preschool, Transitional
Kindergarten (TK),
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To our Parish and School Family of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

With a sad heart, we share the news that Fr. Bert Mello passed away in his sleep this Wednesday morning. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all of you and your families during this time. We invite you to keep Fr. Bert in your prayers, that the Lord may grant him the most beautiful reward of all: to be face to face with the Lord for eternity in heaven.

As we mourn this unexpected loss, we invite you to take the time and say a prayer of thanksgiving for the life of Fr. Bert. We raise our hearts in gratitude to our heavenly Father for allowing us to know Fr. Bert; to be loved and served by him; and for having celebrated so many wonderful moments with him, most specially our Sunday Eucharist and the Sacraments.



We are a parish family, and we remain united in prayer and presence to one another during this time. With the help of God and under the guidance of our Bishop, we will continue to walk forward and find renewed strength for the journey which lies ahead. One of our biggest signs of respect and remembrance for Fr. Bert is to live our lives the way he always taught us: with joy, laughter, and love, and to "grow in ever-deepening intimacy with each of the three Divine Persons of the Blessed Trinity through the Sacraments." We will miss him dearly, but he remains in our midst through our memories and actions.

May the Lord grant him eternal rest.

And may the soul of Fr. Bert, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Why Do We Cover Crucifixes and Statues during Lent?



It seems strange that during the most sacred time of year we cover everything that is beautiful in our churches, even the crucifix. Shouldn't we be looking at the painful scene at Calvary while we listen to the Passion narrative on Palm Sunday?

Why do we cover up images that are designed to raise our hearts and minds toward heaven?

1 First of all, we use veils to **alert us of the special time that we are in.**

When we walk into church and notice everything is covered, we immediately know that something is different. These last weeks of Lent are meant to be a time of immediate preparation for the Sacred Triduum and these veils are a forceful reminder to get ready.

2 Secondly, the veils **focus our attention on the words being said at Mass.** When we listen to the

Passion narrative, our senses are allowed to focus on the striking words from the Gospel and truly enter into the scene.

3 Third, the Church uses veils to **produce a heightened sense of anticipation for Easter Sunday.** You don't want them to be there because they are hiding some very beautiful images.

And therein lies the whole point: the veils are not meant to be there forever. The images need to be unveiled; it is unnatural for them to be covered.

The unveiling before the Easter Vigil is a great reminder of our own life on earth. We live in a "veiled" world, in exile from our true home. It is only through our own death that the veil is lifted and we are finally able to see the beauty of everything in our lives.

—Excerpts of an article by Philip Kosloski on www.aleteia.org

Sacraments

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM, 12:00 noon, 5:30 PM
Daily Mass: 6:30 AM
(Communion Service on Thursday)
Confession: Friday 6 PM until all are heard; Saturday 3:00-4:30 PM
Anointing of the Sick: Immediately following every weekend Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Weekdays 7-9AM, Fridays 6 PM, Saturdays 3 PM



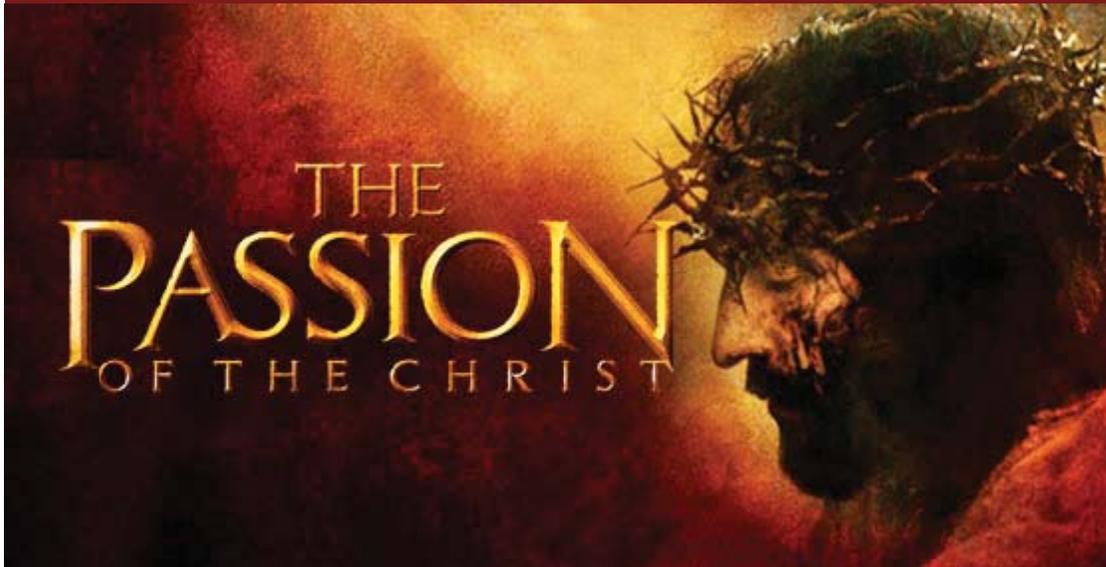
Sacrament of Confession:

In addition to the normal schedule, **Confessions will be heard on March 27, 28, and 30 at 6 PM.**

Mass Intentions

MARCH 24 5:00 PM Rosemary's Creamery
MARCH 25 7:30 AM Dalia Family
(J.P. & Loli Dalia)
9:00 AM Rosa's Italian Restaurant
10:30 AM Herchell Zimmerman
(Carolyn Zimmerman & Family)
12:00 PM Philip Dhanens and all Holy Souls in Purgatory
(Paul & Diane Dhanens)
5:30 PM Missa Pro Populo
MARCH 26 6:30 AM Communion Service
MARCH 27 6:30 AM Warren Haupt
(Haupt Family)
MARCH 28 6:30 AM Carpet Outlet Plus
MARCH 29 **HOLY THURSDAY**
7:00 PM For all souls within Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish & School
MARCH 30 **GOOD FRIDAY**
3:00 PM Liturgy (No Mass)

Join us on Wednesday of Holy Week, March 28th,
in the parish hall. DINNER 5PM • FILM 5:30PM



"The Passion of the Christ" is an incredible movie that depicts
the final twelve hours of Jesus Christ during His crucifixion.
Rated R; the film is not suitable for children.

Enter into the mysteries of the
SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM
MARCH 29-31

the holiest "Three Days" of the Church's year!

HOLY THURSDAY:

All are invited to the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** at 7 PM. Following Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be transferred to the Altar of Repose; all are encouraged to stay and adore.

GOOD FRIDAY:

The **Liturgy of the Passion** is at 3 PM; **Stations of the Cross** will be at 5 PM. The collection on Good Friday is a Pontifical Collection to support Christians in the Holy Land.

EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT:

Mass will begin at 8 PM. Confessions are canceled and the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 PM will not be celebrated.

Sacrament of Confession:

In addition to the normal schedule, Confessions will be heard on March 27, 28, and 30 at 6 PM.

Good Friday Fasting:

There will be no Fish Fry on Good Friday, March 30th, as it is an *obligatory day of fast and abstinence*.

The norms on **fasting** are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

The norms concerning **abstinence** from meat are binding from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more deeply in his resurrection.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY—April 8

The **Divine Mercy Novena** begins on Good Friday, March 30th!
Pick up your copies of the Novena prayers at the entrance of our church!

What is the Feast of Divine Mercy?

According to Saint Faustina's diary, Jesus Christ made a special promise, which she was to communicate to the whole world:

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.

In her diary, Saint Faustina records a promise from Our Lord of specific, extraordinary graces He will make available through the devout reception of Holy Communion on this Feast Day; truly a "whole ocean of graces" is contained in these promises:

I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy (1109).

The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (699).



What must I do to receive these special graces?

To fittingly observe the Feast of Mercy, we should:

1. Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter;
2. Sincerely repent of all our sins;
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus;
4. Go to Confession, preferably before that Sunday (Extra opportunities for the Sacrament of Confession are offered during Holy Week! See the second page of bulletin for details.);
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast;
6. Venerate the Image of The Divine Mercy;
7. Be merciful to others, through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

Join us on Sunday, April 8th at 3 PM in the church to venerate the Divine Mercy as a parish family. The Divine Mercy chaplet will be prayed together, followed by brief meditations from Saint Faustina's diary about Jesus' mercy. All are welcome!



New to our parish? Welcome!

We are grateful you've joined us! Please complete this form and place it in the collection basket so we can better serve you. Please call or stop by the church office to share the ways we can help you and your family!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

- YES! Would you like a phone call to discuss Sacraments needed for you or a family member? Would you like to learn more about our religious education programs for your children?

Join us in the hall for
FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
hosted by the
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



**THE
NUT
JOB
2**

**DINNER
6:30 PM**

**MOVIE
7:00 PM**

FREE!

FRIDAY, APRIL 13