



Weekly Email from Father Paul Wharton

April 1, 2023

The holiest week of the Church’s Liturgical Year begins with Palm or Passion Sunday. Whenever Passover is devoutly celebrated, one of the youngest children present will ask, “Why is this night different from other nights?” The differences are explained and celebrated. I want to take this opportunity to explore what we do differently this week. Palm Sunday has two gospels, a blessing of and procession with palms, and the reading of the Passion according to Matthew with different parts and speakers, including the congregation. Mass this weekend begins in the Parish Hall.

Holy Thursday commemorates the Lord’s Supper in which Jesus humbled himself to wash the feet of his disciples and give himself to us in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. The Holy Oils to be used in sacramental celebrations are presented. Fr. John will wash the feet of twelve parishioners of all ages and sexes. After we receive holy communion, the priest and ministers process with the Eucharist to the Chapel of Reservation. Please sign up for a time to spend with Jesus present in this Blessed Sacrament. We begin at 6pm.

On Good Friday at noon we have Stations of the Cross in the Church. The Good Friday Liturgy features Passion according to John with different parts and speakers, including the congregation. There are the Solemn Intercessions, Veneration of the Cross, and a Holy Communion Service with hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday.

My letter next weekend will focus on the beauty and solemnity of Easter Vigil and why everyone of us who was fully initiated into the Catholic Church during a previous Easter Vigil ought to make every effort to be here on April 8 at 8:30 pm.

Phone: Office (304) 744-5523	Cell: (304) 433-7472	Email: pjw424@gmail.com
Parish website	https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org	
This Sunday’s Readings	https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040223.cfm	
Faith in West Virginia	https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/	
This Sunday’s Bulletin		

Noteworthy News

Easter Egg Hunt begins at 11am on Saturday April 1 at 11am. The Dismas Club will cook hotdogs for children and adults alike.

You are encouraged to **DRESS IN RED CLOTHING** at Mass this weekend.

Extraordinarily Ministers of Holy Communion new and old are asked to meet at the altar for 10-15 minutes after Mass either this weekend unless they did so last weekend. We will review procedures as well as answer questions. Communion from the Cup will be offered again beginning on Holy Thursday April 6.

Choosing a Logo for Our Parish. To say that Fr. Paul, was truly and genuinely shocked by the kerfuffle kicked off by the possibility of a new parish logo is an understatement to say the least. The logo was not being used. Some people had no idea there was a parish logo or thought it was what is at the top of the Blessed Sacrament Website. Hardly anyone knew its origin much less could explain what it means. Consultation was sought and received about three possible designs. As promised, you have the opportunity to stop by the super secret ballot box in our gathering area and tell us about your choice of logo for our parish. The choice is between the old logo and a new one. Three easy steps:

- 1) Pick a ballot with the logo of your choice.
- 2) Tell us what the logo says to you.
- 3) Tell us what you think the logo would say to a stranger/someone new to our parish. or you can use the Survey Monkey Poll on the Parish Webpage.

Holy Weeks Words

Be watchful, brethren, lest the mysteries of this season pass you by
without your gaining from them their due fruit.

Abundant is the blessing; you must bring clean vessels to receive it,
and offer loving souls and watchful senses, sober affections and
pure consciences for such great gifts of grace. . .

All Christians practice more than usual devotion in these seven days
and try to be more humble and more serious than is their wont,
so that in some sort they may share Christ's sufferings.

And rightly so.

For the Passion of the Lord is here in truth,
shaking the earth, rending the rocks and opening the tombs;
and His Resurrection also is at hand.

— Saint Bernard of Clairvaux 1090-1153

CARBONATED GRACE ***

Top 10 Reasons to Celebrate Easter

10. You absolutely love the movie, "The Ten Commandments."
9. You look really, really good in yellow.
8. You just went on a low cholesterol diet and didn't want to waste all those eggs in the fridge.
7. You figure any Holiday that starts with a "Good Friday" can't be all bad.
6. You love to bite the heads off chocolate bunnies.
5. It's a good time to check out your neighborhood church and not be noticed.
4. You have this bunny suit you love to wear, but are too insecure to wear it

- without a reason.
3. Even though you don't know what it is, you really like the sound of going to a "Passion Play."
 2. You figured since Jesus went to all THAT trouble to make it to the first Easter, you'd give it a shot.
 1. As a Christian you celebrate the resurrection every other day, why not Easter too?

*** Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*.

●●●●●● **PLEASE KNOW** ●●●●●●

I will **NEVER** ask anyone to buy gift cards for me to give away.

I will **NEVER** be stuck in a foreign country since I have no Passport.

I will **ONLY** send you an email from pjw424@gmail.com

I will **ONLY** text you from my cell phone 304 433 7472

NO Blessed Sacrament Staff member will **EVER** ask you to buy a gift card for them.
Only do so, if he or she puts the cash in your hand!

I gratefully accept invitations to breakfast, lunch, and dinner in people's homes or at restaurants By the way, I have no food allergies or special dietary needs.