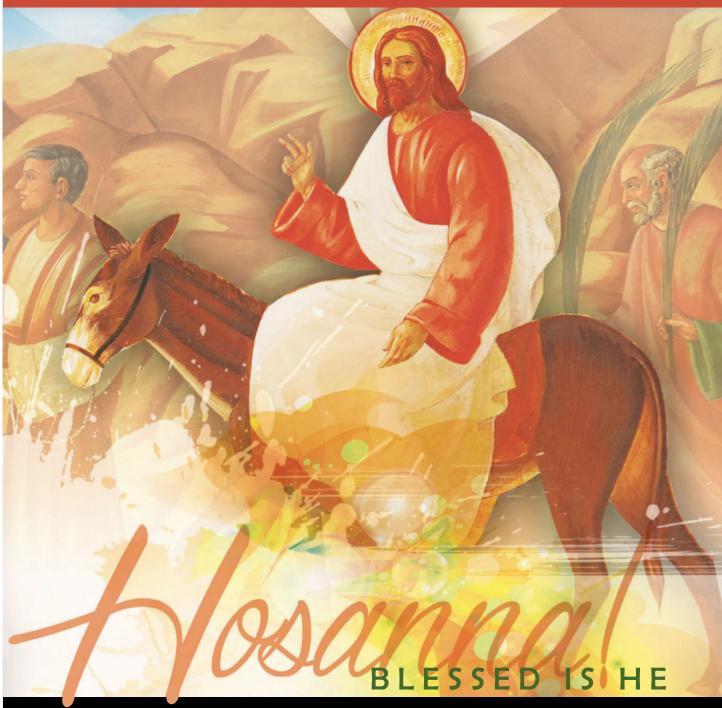
# SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



APRIL 2, 2023 • Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA - ST. LUCY CHURCH 38 NORTH AUSTIN BOULEVARD, OAK PARK DAILY MASS THIS WEEK: Wednesday at 8:30 am

ST. GILES CHURCH 1045 COLUMBIAN AVENUE, OAK PARK DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK: Monday and Wednesday at 6:30 am; Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:30 am

Please see page 3 for the full schedule of Holy Week services.

## Fr. Carl's Corner



Holy Week is upon us! From today, Passion Sunday, through the Triduum, we watch and pray for the fulfillment of our hope. It does not disappoint! The coming Easter celebration awakens us to the promise of new life.

This week reminds us of God's love for us shown in the sacrifice of God's Son on the cross. It is a reminder as well, that we who follow Christ as Risen Lord are called to put our love into action.

Every heart yearns for love, yet only God's love

can truly satisfy that yearning. The goal of our Lenten practices was to purify ourselves of whatever blocks us from God's love or closes our hearts to others.

This can include excessive social media, materialism, gossip, or sinful habits like deceit, lies or false judgement of others. Have we been able to remove from our hearts whatever keeps us from having more room for God and others?

As we enter into Holy Week, you are invited to participate in these beautiful and meaningful Triduum services which remind us to open ourselves up to love. Saint Teresa of Calcutta wrote, "Have you seen ... how Jesus looks at you with love? Have you heard the loving words he speaks to you?" Only by receiving God's love first, beginning with prayer, can we share it with others.

So this Holy Week and Easter season, let us reflect on this truth. God commands us to love as we have been loved. These are stressful times for our world, the church and our communities as we continue the process of unification with its challenges. Because we are loved, we can face these challenges together if we commit to practicing patience and the gift of listening to one another. True joy at Easter comes from loving Christ and imitating Him.

Have a Blessed Holy Week,

F. Carl

This Sunday, our Men's Society invites and welcomes all to McDonough Hall on the St. Giles campus for a pancake breakfast after the Sunday morning Masses. A free-will offering will be graciously accepted. All are welcome!

Please see page 3 of the bulletin for a complete schedule of our services – times and locations – for Holy Week and Easter. I hope that you make the time to join us for these beautiful services. Your presence at church does make a difference!

And, please see page 6 of the bulletin for more about our Renew My Church journey...

#### The Parish of St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles

#### Oak Park, IL 60302

#### St. Giles Campus Parish Center Office 1025 Columbian Avenue

Phone 708-383-3430 Fax 708-383-8644

E-mail: stgiles@stgilesparish.org
Website: stoilesparish.org

Business Hours:

Monday thru Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm Evening reception: Monday thru Thursday, 4:30 - 8:00 pm Lauren Locke, Sr. Sue Paweski and Sue Croke, Receptionists

#### St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Campus Rectory Office 38 North Austin Boulevard Phone 708-386-8077

E-mail: <u>parish@stcatherinestlucy.org</u> Website: <u>stcatherinestlucy.org</u> Business Hours: Saturday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm; Sunday, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm Other times by appointment. Chemetha Baker, Weekend Receptionist

Rev. Carl Morello, Pastor Fxt 422 Rev. Robert Carlton, Associate Pastor Rev. Edward P. Salmon, Resident Ext. 308 Rev. Thomas E. Unz, Resident Ext. 313 Mr. John (Lois) Henricks, Deacon Mr. Loretto J. (Carlotta) Madonia, Jr., Deacon (retired) Mr. Kevin (Marci) Morgan, Deacon Mr. William (Abbie) Pouncy, Deacon Mr. John (Barbara) Walters, Deacon Sharon Bresnahan, Accounts Administrator Fxt 420 Matthew Brophy, Director of Parish Operations Ext. 102 Carol Coleman, Business Manager Ext. 419 Sue Kaszynski, Director of Music and Liturgy Ext. 423 Marci Madary, Director of Lifelong Formation. Ext. 404 Connie Rakitan, Program Director, Faith & Fellowship Alex Ryan, Liturgy Coordinator Ext. 403 Julius White, Praise Choir Rachel Faulman, Parish Administrative Assistant and Bulletin Editor Ext. 401 ..... E-mail: stgiles@stgilesparish.org ..... parish@stcatherinestlucy.org Lifelong Faith Formation and Religious Education of Children Phone 708-383-3430.....Fax 708-383-8644 ..... E-mail: religioused@stgilesparish.org Kelly McCreary, Faith Formation Administrative Assistant Ext. 101 Peggy Plastina, Coordinator, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Ext. 408 St. Giles School 1034 Linden Avenue Phone 708-383-6279.....Fax 708-383-9952 ..... E-mail: office@stgilesschool.org ......Website: stgilesschool.org Meg Bigane, Principal.....mbigane@stgilesschool.org St. Catherine-St. Lucy School 27 Washington Boulevard Phone 708-386-5286.....Fax 708-386-7328 ...... Website: catherinelucy.org Sharon Leamy, Principal ..... sleamy@catherinelucy.org

## Spiritual Life & Worship

TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday, April 6 Morning Prayer - 8:30 am at St. Giles Church Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:00 pm\* at St. Giles Church Adoration until Midnight Night Prayer - 11:45 pm

<u>Good Friday, April 7</u> Morning Prayer - 8:30 am at St. Giles Church *Celebration of the Lord's Passion* - 3:00 pm\* at St. Giles Church *Celebration of the Lord's Passion* - 7:00 pm at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church

Living Stations of the Cross – 7:00 pm at St. Giles Church Family Mass Community Good Friday Prayer Service with Silent Passion – 7:30 pm in the St. Giles School Gym

Holy Saturday, April 8 Morning Prayer - 8:30 am at St. Giles Church Blessing of Easter Food - 11:00 am at St. Giles Church

*Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter - 7:00 pm* at St. Giles Church Initiation of New Members (<u>No</u> 4:30 pm Mass at St. Giles Church and <u>no</u> 5:00 pm Mass at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church)

> Easter Sunday, April 9 Sunrise - 6:00 am in the St. Giles Church Courtyard (Weather Permitting)

8:00 and 10:30 am\* at St. Giles Church 9:00 am at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church with the combined Celebration and St. Giles Choirs 10:00 am Family Mass Community in the St. Giles School Gym

\* Services will be livestreamed. Please see our website, <u>www.stgilesparish.org</u>, for further information.

#### New Parish Pastoral Councils Are Forming

An informational meeting will take place on **Monday**, **May 1, 7:00-8:30 pm, in McDonough Hall on the St. Giles campus** (1101 Columbian Avenue).

If you are interested in serving on the Parish Pastoral Councils (PPC) for our new unified parishes, please join us and former PPC members from across Oak Park to learn more. Rick Moreno from the Archdiocese will share the new PPC vision and qualities of a Renew My Church Council and its members. From this meeting, you can discern your own interest and future engagement.

We are very pleased to welcome the following new parishioners:

Melissa and Charles Nelson, Jennifer Layton and Keith Chiarelli, Laura and Michael Scheel, Noel Cruz and Lizeth Alemon.

Ye Pray For . . .

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Steven Acevedo, Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Jane Baker, Jori Baker, Phyllis Baker, Marissa Becker, Joe Bigliotti, Danita Bowie, Herbert Breidenbach, Phil Calabrese, Tiffany Church, Patrick Cibula, Ray Cimms, Patricia Crotty, Lucille Dalbis, Bill DeBiase, Andrea Dickson, Donald Pettis Edmond, Wanda Farmer, Mike Fenske, Katherine Fisher, Tom and Carol Frank, Mary Ellen Frank, Jim Gallagher, Earl Gallermo, Michael Gallo, Grace Gryzlo Goodmanson, Jennifer Hanna, Maggie Astacio Hedges, Deacon John Henricks, Bill Holmes, Frank Huss, Ginny Jones, Phillip Jones, Patrick King, Marie Koko, Pat Koko, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Kimberly Lester, Jim and Linda Lewis, Gabriela Machado, Jim Madden, Virginia Madden, Deacon Lorry Madonia, Mary Mamolella, Patricia McDonald, Sr. Louise Noesen, Matt O'Connell, Amelia Patterson, Cary Phillips, John Poplett, Bob Quane, Patricia Reardon, Dennis Rusin, Maureen Sansone, Mary and Paul Schleitwiler, Colleen Rowley Schramm, Carole Sheehan, Renee Smith-Quinn, Sr. Carol Spiegel, Nina Stanley, Sarah Such, Cheryl Sullivan, Joann Taylor, Julie Troost, LaNedra Vaughn, Shirley Venerable, Meg Welch, Nancy Wesclitz.

(Names will be periodically removed from this listing in the bulletin and also from the list of recurring intersessions spoken at weekend Masses. Others have received a Prayer Shawl representing the prayers for healing by the Parish community. Please contact the parish office to include someone on this prayer list or to request inclusion in the weekend Mass intercessions, or to request a Prayer Shawl.)

And for those of our family members and parishioners who have died, especially Michelangelo Balderi, father of Lisa Capicchioni, Katherine Williams, and Ron Rakowski, brother of Diane Zimmerman.

### Signs of Lent

#### Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, we travel from joyous acclamation to suffering and betrayal. Our palms are raised in celebration and blessed – we can take them home and weave them into a cross as a reminder of Christ's journey to the cross. Today the priest wears red to symbolize God's love and Christ's martyrdom through his suffering and shedding of blood during his Passion and Death. Red is worn again later this week on Good Friday.



## The Triduum

This week we enter a holy time. We come together from all our varied worship communities to walk with Christ as one family of faith.

### Holy Thursday, 7:00 pm: St Giles Church



Tonight, after hearing the scriptures, we wash each other's feet. We respond to Christ's command: Love One Another. As we participate in or witness the footwashing, we are reminded of the great love of Christ, and his call to us in this **profound act of love and service**. Then, united ever more firmly in love, we are called to the Table. "Do this in memory of me." **Finally, we are called to the garden—we process with Christ in the Eucharist to the altar of repose.** We place our candles beside the altar. "Stay with me, remain here with me."

### Good Friday: Multiple Opportunities for Prayer and Adoration (see the full schedule)

Good Friday dawns, and the cross becomes the central figure. We hear the story of the Passion, and we respond in trust by lifting up the needs of the world in the ancient form of the intercessions dating back to the early church. Then, we adore the cross—no longer a symbol of pain but a symbol of amazing, astounding love. On Good Friday, we have multiple ways at all the worship sites that we can spend time with Christ remembering his Passion and Death, including Living Stations with the teens.



### Easter Vigil, 7:00 pm: St Giles Church

All day Saturday, we wait. We now come to the Easter Vigil with great expectation. *This is the night* we gather outside as the light of the new fire is blessed, the fire that will shine for us throughout the Easter



Season and at every baptism and funeral. *This is the night* that we hear and sing the Exsultet that proclaims our redemption and calls us to recognize the power of this night. *This is the night* that we listen to the scriptures that tell our salvation history—from creation to resurrection. *This is the night* we ask all the saints to stand with us as we bless the baptismal waters. *This is the night* that we initiate new members into our church. *This is the night* that we celebrate the great Easter Eucharist.

These nights of the Triduum are profound and like no other time of our liturgical year. **Come in person with your whole family. Children will be mesmerized by the sights and sounds of these liturgies!** If you cannot be at the liturgies in person, celebrate on the livestream and with our home activities found on the website. May we all draw closer to the Risen Christ through our participation in these liturgies—renewed, strengthened, and inspired.

## **PALM SUNDAY:** JOURNEY TO THE CROSS



### Reflection

On Palm Sunday, we experience so many emotions in the space of one liturgy: Celebration and joy as we welcome Jesus into Jerusalem; love and friendship as Jesus interacts with his disciples; fear, abandonment and betrayal as the very same crowds that acclaim Jesus call for his crucifixion and death; pain and despair on the cross. As the cry of Hosanna turns to the call for crucifixion, we might be tempted to skip straight to the Easter joy we know is coming. But we have a God who walks headfirst into suffering, and, in great love, suffers with us. And so, no matter what path we must walk in our own lives, we remember with the Prophet Isaiah: "the Lord God is my help, I shall not be put to shame."

### Questions

As we enter into Holy Week, reflect:

What emotions or characters do you most resonate with in the stories we hear on Palm Sunday?

How have you felt the immeasurable love of God? How have you responded - and how will you respond now, at this point in your life?

You are invited this week to spend time in prayer and reflection pondering the Scripture readings and discerning how God is at work within you, in your life and relationships. What are you being invited to consider? How are you being invited to grow?

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Matthew 21:1-11 Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66

In our busy lives, let us try to schedule time this week to attend the Holy Week liturgies. Also check the website for prayer, song and video playlists, and ideas for home.

## Spiritual Life & Worship

#### **Our Renew My Church Journey**

In the midst of Lent and Easter, our mission to Renew My Church (RMC) continues. Yes, at times we find this can be daunting and unpredictable for us all. During a recent interview with Pope Francis on the occasion of his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary he said, "Being the pope is not an easy job. Nobody has studied before doing this," recalling how St. Peter also "fell" when he denied Christ. "But, after the resurrection, Jesus chose [Peter] again," Pope Francis explained. "That is the mercy of the Lord towards us." We too, your pastors along with the priests of the diocese, had no training nor was anything remotely like "RMC" ever envisioned during our formal formation as priests. We rely on the collaborative support of YOU, our parishioners, and the significant support of the diocese to help guide us on this journey.

This past week, we continued the challenging work of the organizational transition of our parishes, and began orientation for the next phase of renewal, Building the New Reality (BNR). It was a very informative and exciting session comprised of key leaders from the community and diocese to begin this important phase of RMC. The discussion was open and valuable for us and all present. Some key learnings from this for us were the hunger for improved communication, the struggle we all have with understanding what "renewal and mission" means, the building of trusted relationships, and unfortunately some pain and sporadic "disengagement." All wonderful sharing and learnings! We express our heartfelt thanks to all present and are now working with our BNR team to craft the next steps. We will be sharing those steps with you as we move forward, and we welcome your input.

We want to stress our continued gratitude and prayers to the Catholic community of Oak Park and to all those whom we serve. We ask each of you, as Pope Francis instructed in his recent interview, *"Pay attention to God's will and put it into practice: it's necessary to attune yourself with the Lord, not with the world."* Not the church we know, but the church we are called to build for the present and our future. We need everyone to approach this renewal with openness as we grow together in understanding what it means to be a church that moves from maintenance to mission.

In Christ, we thank you for your patience, faith, and prayers.

#### Fr. Carl Morello and Fr. Rex Pillai

Pastors of St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish and Ascension and St. Edmund Parish

### **Music to Save the World**

Save the date Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 2:00 pm

> Organ, piano and flute music by Cesar Franck, Frederic Chopin and others

featuring Jean Bacom-Detmer, Flutist

Michael Surratt, Organist

Jeffrey Wagner, Pianist

St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy Church Washington Blvd. and Austin Blvd. Oak Park, Illinois

to benefit

The Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality, Oak Park, Illinois



Since 1993 furthering the cause of world peace through understanding, respect and friendship among the world's religions. https://shemcenter.org

Volunteers are needed to welcome our guests and help make the occasion an enjoyable and successful one. Please call Br. Joseph Kilikevice, OP 708-848-1095

#### Our Parish Weekly Stewardship For Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

3/26/2023							
		Total		YTD			
Envelopes	\$	9,019.00	\$	644,182.78			
Loose	\$	2,139.26					
Electronic*	\$	6,791.00	\$	438,142.00			
Total Giving	\$	17,949.26	\$1	,082,324.78			
*3/22/23-3/26/23							

Thank you to all who continue to support St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish. Those wishing to make their donations online through GiveCentral can find the link and easy-to-follow instructions on the church websites:

www.stgilesparish.org OR www.stcatherinestlucy.org.

Contact Sharon at the Parish Center, 708-383-3430 Ext. 420, with any questions or for assistance. We could not be here without you!

## Lifelong Formation

#### News from Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The season of Lent began for the **Level 1** children in the <u>Catechesis of the</u> <u>Good Shepherd</u> with the careful placing of the purple cloth on the prayer table, followed by special prayers and songs. The following week the children listened to the story of *The Cenacle*, where Jesus had a last meal with his friends. The next week the children took the roles of the disciples at that dinner during the *Last Supper Reenactment*.

In **Level 2** the children began the month in *The City of Jerusalem*. On a raised-surface map of the city they followed the journey of Jesus from dinner with his friends, to his arrest, trials, crucifixion, death and Resurrection. The following week focused more deeply on the event that took place at the dinner in *The Cenacle*. The children heard how Jesus recited the well-known Passover prayers but added new words: "Take and eat, this is My Body. Take and drink, this is My Blood." They pondered the gift that Jesus gave to the disciples, and to



all people, for all times. In the last presentation of the month the children portrayed the disciples in *The Last Supper Reenactment*. They heard Jesus' words again and responded as the questioning disciples, listening again to the promise of Jesus to be with them always in the Bread and in the Wine.

The moral parable of *The Ten Bridesmaids* began the month for the





**Level 3** children. In the next two sessions the children meditated on the last days of Jesus' earthly life as they also traveled to Jerusalem to walk the city streets and ponder the events of *The Passion*. While contemplating *The Last Supper* they wondered how the disciples must have felt at this last gathering with Jesus, when the bread and wine of the Passover meal took on a different meaning for all time.

Photos of children working in the Level 2 atrium.

#### Faith & Fellowship



#### Were You There?

Faith & Fellowship will hold a Good Friday Prayer Service at Central Plaza, a large "Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facility" in Austin where many of our Partners live. This service, a long-standing tradition, will begin at 1:30 pm and last 30 to 45 minutes. We will read portions of the Passion, offer songs and prayers, and venerate the cross in love for the sacrifice of Jesus. If you would like to join us, email

faith\_fellowship@hotmail.com or call 708-383-9276 for details.

You may or may not have been there when they crucified my Lord, but if you are asked "Were you at Central Plaza when we prayed?" your answer can be a grateful, *Yes, I was*.

#### Stay tuned for more Survey results...

Survey Results regarding the center for Spiritual Growth and Development will resume in the April 14 bulletin. We are working to provide transparent results and look forward to sharing them after Easter. Praying for a blessed Holy Week and Easter for all.

### The Senior Corner



Join us for a special treat after Easter Sunday as we will present a guided tour of St. Giles Church given by Denise Hartney and Russ Parker. Learn about the intricate details of our exquisite architecture, several historic symbols within the church, our altar, the beautiful

stained glass windows, as well as the storied history of how this all came to be. Our get-together will be held on Tuesday, April 18, at 11:30 am inside St. Giles Church. Following this program, we will move over to McDonough Hall for a Brown-bag lunch. Beverages will be provided. All are invited to attend this special presentation on the history of St. Giles Church!

## Parish Life



## **COMMEMORATIVE EASTER FLOWERS**

### Honor deceased loved ones Decorate our churches for the Easter Season Support the St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles ASP Trip

Our Appalachian Service Project (ASP) 2023 Team is accepting donations for Easter Flowers in remembrance of those who have gone before us into eternal life. Each plant is \$25. The flower plants purchased in memory of deceased loved ones will decorate our churches during the Easter

season. The donations will assist our ASP Team in meeting our fundraising goals for teens to attend our week-long service trip this summer! The names of those honored will be published in the parish bulletin after Easter.

Please enter the name of the person(s) you wish to honor in the space provided. *Please print legibly!* 



The cost is \$25 per plant. Please make checks payable to *St. Giles ASP.* Donations can also be made through GiveCentral. The link is on the parish website, or you can scan the QR Code here.

I would like to donate \_\_\_\_\_ plants (# of Easter flower plants) in honor of:

Enclosed is my total donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_(\$25 per plant).

Name and address of donor (for receipt purposes):

Please return order forms and donations to the Parish Center marked "Commemorative Easter Flowers" by Friday, April 7.

## Parish Life



## Annual Men's Society Pancake Breakfast

### THIS SUNDAY!

When:	Sunday, April 2 after the morning Masses
Where:	McDonough Hall on the St. Giles Campus
Who:	All parishioners
What:	Pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, fruit, and more
Cost:	NOTHING— the men's gift to all of you!

#### News from the Prayer Shawl Ministry

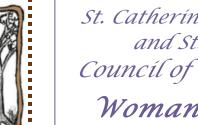
During the months of January and February, the Prayer Shawl Ministry distributed at least two dozen prayer shawls and lap blankets to those needing prayers. In addition, individual members distributed some directly to recipients. This month we partnered with the Prayer Shawl Ministry at Ascension and

St. Edmund Parish to provide shawls and blankets for their *Healing Prayer, Healing Song* service. We will continue to partner with them for these upcoming services in April and May.

If you have yarn that you are not using, please consider donating it to this ministry.

To receive a shawl or a lap blanket, call the Parish Center office at 708-383-3430, or come to the office location on the St. Giles campus at 1025 Columbian Avenue during business hours. All articles are lovingly made and intended to provide warmth and an embrace to the recipient through the prayers of a loving St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish and the presence of a loving God.

May you feel the warmth of God's love, Margie Rudnik, for the Prayer Shawl Ministry



St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish Council of Catholic Women

### Woman of the Year Nomínatíons

Do you know a female parishioner who deserves to be recognized for her contributions to our parish community? If so, please nominate her for the

#### CCW Woman of the Year Award.

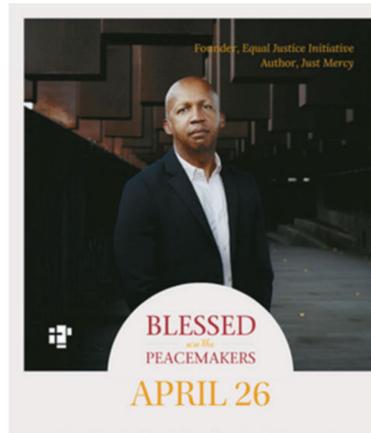
Please submit her name and a brief description of her contributions to the CCW mailbox at the Parish Center or send your nomination by email to Peggy Connerty-Lau at

#### mac03chi@yahoo.com.

Please submit your nomination by April 15. Thank you.

Please join us as we announce the 2022-2023 Woman of the Year at St. Giles Church at the 10:30 am Mass on April 30 with a reception to follow in the church courtyard (McDonough Hall in the event of rain).

## Parish Life



Join Catholic Theological Union in

### honoring

# BRYAN STEVENSON

Tickets at: ctu.edu/peacemakers2023

#### But wait! There's more!

Want to know <u>ALL</u> the latest parish news? Sign up for the <u>weekly</u> <u>parish e-news</u> via our broadcast email program, *flocknote*! To sign up, just scan the QR Code here, or go to this URL in your browser: <u>https://stgilesparish.flocknote.com/ENews</u>, and the information you need will be right in your inbox!

#### Food For Thought Where Faith Begins

"God of the lost, at times it is hard to know your presence, when life overwhelms and shadows hide your face. In those times, hear our cries: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Help us know you are always with us, abiding in patient support, gentle love, and everlasting life." (Prayer: Living Liturgy, p85)

Palm Sunday liturgy reminds us Jesus' death was not accidental or blind fate. It was a deadly destiny that he faced with conscious freedom. Isaiah's Servant Song focuses on the servant's (Jesus') austere awareness of God's presence in the midst of his Son's bestially rough suffering.

Isaiah summarizes his entire approach to life: *"Morning after morning, he opens my ear that I may hear; And I have not turned back." (Isaiah 50:4-7)* Paul elaborates in the hymn he quotes: *"...Found human in appearance, he humbled himself, observing obedience to the point of death, even death on a cross."* 

Paul's Song continues: "...God greatly exalted him...that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend...and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord..." (Philippians 2:6-11) Jesus did not grasp for majesty, but honored his vocation to be the image of God through pacifism. As God's Son, he faced his life's dualism.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, he confronted those aligned against him, with details revealing who he was. He rode in on a common animal. As the prophet Zechariah wrote, his day began on the Mount of Olives. The people waved branches and each laid out his cloak, signaling awareness he was Chosen King.

The Passion by Matt reveals Jesus' confronting evil, not as victim, but as protagonist. At the supper, he inaugurated the new covenant; To his betrayers, he showed compassion. At his trial, he refused to argue. In the end, he shouted in desolation: "My God! My God! Why have you abandoned me?"

The last gasp of one who believed in God more than in his own expectations; Even feeling deserted, he turned to God. Sunday leaves us there, in death and desperation. During Tridium, we watch and wait, and realize this is where faith begins.

> Tom Lynch. tgl7714@gmail.com. 4/2/23 Source: NCR, M. McGlone, 4/2/23



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