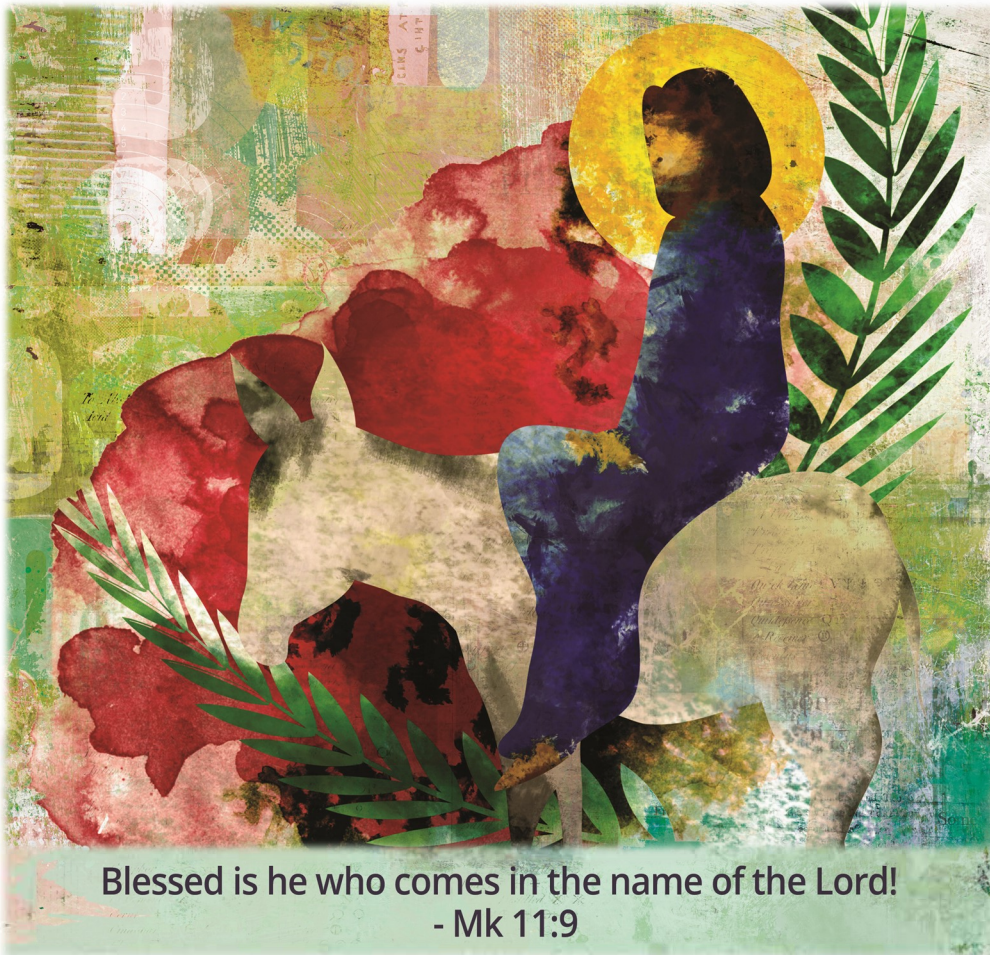


# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



912 Seventh St., Moundsville, W.VA. 26041 304-845-1593 [sfxmoundsville@comcast.net](mailto:sfxmoundsville@comcast.net)



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!  
- Mk 11:9

**MARCH 28, 2021**  
PALM SUNDAY

## CONTACT US

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**Facebook:** [facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/StFrancisXavierMoundsville)

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## MASS SCHEDULE

**Weekends:**

Sat - 4 p.m. Sun - 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

**Weekdays:**

Monday - Friday 8 a.m.

Holy Days: 8 a.m., 7 p.m.

## STAFF

**Secretary:** Robin Targosky

**Bookkeeper:** Susan Board

**Bulletin Editor:** Kathy Swift

**DRE:** Mary Helen Marling

## GOSPEL MEDITATION: INCONVENIENT TRUTHS

Many find struggle in Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent

Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. Why endure insult or injury when we can

retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We must not resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion.

How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete.

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**MARCH 27 SATURDAY**

**4:00 p.m.** Thomas Sullivan†  
*Starcovic Family*

**MARCH 28 PALM SUNDAY**

**8:00 a.m.** Richard Blum†  
*Kimberly Starcovic*

**10:00 a.m.** Veronica DiCola†  
*Lottie & Jerry Durbin*

**MARCH 29 MONDAY**

**8:00 a.m.** Doris Pavilkey†  
*Susan, Joe, Mike,  
and Kelly*

**MARCH 30 TUESDAY**

**8:00 a.m.** Tom Sullivan†  
*Pierogi Group*

**MARCH 31 WEDNESDAY**

**8:00 a.m.** Veronica DiCola†  
*Ellen McCormick*

**APRIL 1 HOLY THURSDAY**

**7:00 p.m.** No Morning Mass  
For the People  
*Adoration will follow*

**APRIL 2 GOOD FRIDAY**

**7:00 p.m.** No Morning Mass  
*The Lord's Passion*

**APRIL 3 HOLY SATURDAY**

**8:00 p.m.** Veronica DiCola†  
Vigil Mass  
*Targosky Family*

**APRIL 4 EASTER SUNDAY**

**8:00 a.m.** Thanks for recovery  
and return to church

**9:30 a.m.** Stephanie Phillips Eddy†  
*Mom & Dad*

**11:00 a.m.** Thanksgiving for our  
parishioners

[Sister Thea Bowman, Servant of God \(1930-1990\)](#) transcended racism to leave a lasting mark on Catholic life during the late 20th century in the U.S. She traveled the American continent and beyond proclaiming the joy of every culture's unity in Christ.



## A Call Away From Indifference

[Elie Wiesel](#), Holocaust survivor and Nobel prize-winning peace activist, wrote that,

“The opposite of love is not hate, it’s indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it’s indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it’s indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it’s indifference.” Indifference, a lack of concern or a refusal to act in the face of injustice, is at the heart of human suffering. With this in mind, [Saint Maximilian Kolbe](#) (who was executed by the Nazis on August 14, 1941, after having offered his own life to save a condemned Jewish prisoner) described indifference as “the most deadly poison of our times.”

In most cases, our indifference is born of comfort or complacency and a sense that “I shouldn’t get involved” or “it isn’t my business.” Sadly, we can all-too-easily recognize how these attitudes allow injustice, abuse, and neglect to continue and increase in too many places in the world today.

However tempting it might be to pretend otherwise, there are things worth living for, suffering for, and even dying for. This is why the question of [Cuban poet José Martí](#) — “When others are weeping blood, what right do I have to weep tears?” — calls us to an even more essential question: “What is the value of a life that is lived without anything worth dying for?”

The inconvenience, discomfort, sadness, and pain we may feel if we open our hearts and pay attention to

what is happening in and to the world around us are the only real antidote to indifference, because those feelings should call us to action. Palm Sunday and Holy Week reveal for us a God who, in Jesus, was anything but indifferent: “He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave ... he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” ([Philippians 2:7a, 8](#)).

*He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. —Philippians 2:7-8*

Although Palm Sunday’s ability to confront and confound our indifference can be startling and even frightening, the real grace of this celebration is in the opportunity it provides for us to renew our commitment to life in Christ. The days of Holy

Week challenge us to envision a life in which—rather than simply limping along from “mistake” to “mistake”—we take responsibility for our indifference, our self-preference, and our sins to become free to grow in love and our care about what we do to others, to creation, and to our own bodies, psyches, and souls.

In the end, living the mystery of the Cross leaves no room for indifference because, as [Saint Cyril of Alexandria](#) observed, “Christ’s example of courage in God’s service will be of great profit for us, for only by putting the love of God before our earthly life and being prepared when occasion demands to fight zealously for the truth, can we attain the supreme blessing of perfect union with God” (*Commentary on John*, 12.19).

*Bro. Silas Henderson, SDS*

### Prayer REQUESTS

**Recently Sick:** Joseph Grampa, Eleanor Smith, Bobby Kleinedler, Sandye Yoho, Anna Mae Veronis Holliday, Bill Fowkes, Joanna Bierce, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Mike Morris, Sami Wilson, Bob Kleinedler, Kathryn Ferrera, Chuck Taskalines, Celeste Evans, Phil Remke, Suzy Lunau, Sara Walters, Ashton Gardill, Liza Coe.

**Homebound:** Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Deanne Ferraro, Semon & Phyllis Prado.

**Nursing Homes:** Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Betty Kerns, Bill Tennant, Barb Meyer, Raymond Pennybacker, Marie Lohri.

*Names of those recently sick will appear for two months. Please resubmit requests for those who still need our healing prayers.*

**CALENDAR**

<b>Final K of C Lenten Fish Fry</b> 11 a.m. — 5 p.m. 304-845-7080 to order	
<b>Good Friday</b> April 2	<b>Stations of the Cross</b> 3 p.m. in the church
<b>Tuesday</b> March 30	<b>Chrism Mass at 4 p.m.</b> Cathedral of St. Joseph
<b>Sunday</b> March 28	<b>Deadline for Names in bulletin/Easter Flowers</b>
<b>Join K of C — first-year FREE</b> <a href="http://KOFC.ORG/JOINUS">KOFC.ORG/JOINUS</a>	
<b>Jesus: The Way, The Truth, The Life</b> Wednesdays 9 a.m. /Thursdays 6:30 p.m. Church Hall	

**LECTORS**

Holy Thursday	<b>April 1</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>D. Evans</b>
Good Friday	<b>April 2</b>	7:00 p.m.	<b>T. Andrews</b>
Holy Saturday	<b>April 3</b>	8:00 p.m.	<b>A. Wise</b> <b>C. McDonald</b>
Easter Sunday	<b>April 4</b>	8:00 a.m.	<b>C. Frame</b>
		9:30 a.m.	<b>D. Prado</b>
		11:00 a.m.	<b>M. Britt</b>
	<b>April 10</b>	4:00 p.m.	<b>B. Blake</b>
	<b>April 11</b>	8:00 a.m.	<b>R. Scherich</b>
		10:00 a.m.	<b>L. Niemiec</b>

**OFFERING MARCH 14, 2021**

Envelopes	\$3,403.00
Loose Offering	\$265.00
Church Repair	\$837.00
Xavier Hall	\$100.00
Priest Retirement	\$50.00
Catholic Relief	\$273.00

**OTHER COLLECTIONS:**

Easter Flowers	\$545.00
Memorial	\$230.00
Candles - St. Joseph	\$170.00
Online Giving	\$275.40
Attendance	157

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)  
**THANK YOU**

Report suspected child sexual abuse to law enforcement or Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. Report suspected cases by Diocese personnel at 888-434-6237.

**Hello To St. Francis**

St. Francis Xavier Church welcomed another new soul into our parish family in time for Easter! Grace Whitelatch received the Sacrament of Baptism Saturday, March 20, from Fr. That Son in the church. Parents are Bill and Latrisha, and Godparents are Jerry and Lottie Durbin, who are Grace's maternal grandparents. Mike and Kathy Whitelatch are paternal grandparents. Congratulations to everyone, and blessings for them all!



Grace Kathryn Whitelatch

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS** this week are for [Pontifical Good Friday](#) on April 2 and [Education of Seminarians](#) on April 4.

*The Good Friday collection* supports the work of Franciscan friars in the Middle East. Contributions help parishes, schools, orphans, refugees, and the homeless. Giving also helps care for the Holy Places that give work to the local community. *Giving to the Education of Seminarians* supports their training and formation. This is especially important during a time when up-building of vocations is critical to our church.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):**

Sat. 3:30 p.m. or upon request.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):**

Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Grades 1-12.

**HOLY WEEK INFORMATION**



ALL MASSES ARE IN THE CHURCH:

- HOLY THURSDAY - April 1**  
7 p.m.  
(Adoration following)
- GOOD FRIDAY - April 2**  
7 p.m.
- HOLY SATURDAY - April 3**  
8 p.m. Vigil
- EASTER DAY - April 4**  
8 a.m./ 9:30 a.m./ 11 a.m.

**PLEASE NOTIFY FATHER** as soon as possible if you cannot use your reserved seats for any of the four Easter Masses. (Mass reservations cannot be switched.)

**A REMEMBRANCE BOOK** for the names of deceased family and loved ones will be open for anyone to sign in the church vestibule on Good Friday from 8 a.m. until Mass at 7 p.m.

**WASHING OF THE FEET** will still be offered on Holy Thursday but those participating must bring their own towels and dry their own feet.

**KISSING OF THE CROSS** will not be permitted as part of the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday. Instead, we may adore the cross in the same manner as for the distribution for Holy Communion. Once there, worshipers may either genuflect or make a profound bow before the cross. Also, a container to hold single-stem flowers will be near the cross for those who would like to remember family or friends affected by Covid-19.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

**REGISTRATION, CHURCH SUPPORT:**

Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office. Please be sure to update your information when you move or change phone numbers.



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