

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**APRIL 2, 2023**

**INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**SUNDAY, April 2, 2023**

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

- 9:00 am** Missy Hoffman (l)
- 11:00 am** James Corcoran (d)
- 7:00 pm** John and Lucille Watkins

**MONDAY, April 3, 2023**

- 12:00 pm** Anna Hoang (d)

**TUESDAY, April 4, 2023**

- 12:00 pm** Jim and Marje Byrne (d)
- 12:30 pm** Confession

**WEDNESDAY, April 5, 2023**

- 12:00 pm** Pilgrims

**THURSDAY, April 6, 2023**

**HOLY THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

- 12:00 pm** Phillip and Joseph Kelly (d)
- 3:00 pm-5:00 pm** EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
- 7:00 pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper

**FRIDAY, April 7, 2023**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

- 12:00 pm** Private Meditation
- 1:00 pm** Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 5:00 pm** Stations of the Cross

**SATURDAY, April 8, 2023**

**EASTER VIGIL**

- 8:45 pm** at St. Teresa of Avila

**SUNDAY, April 9, 2023**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

- 9:00 am** Al and Rose Littner (d)
- 11:00 am** Frank and Ruth Wenstrup(d)

**SERVERS**

**April 8/9**

To Be Determined

**LECTORS**

**April 8/9**

To Be Determined

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**April 8/9**

To Be Determined

March 26, 2023

\$7,889.02

*Thank You for your Generosity!*

**Vocation View:** Our Lord identifies with our suffering and offers His for our salvation. When we unite our sufferings with His, we are bound to Him on the Cross for the salvation of our brothers and sisters.

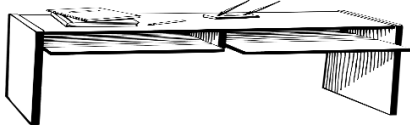
**Thought for the Day:** "Great occasions for serving God come seldom, but little ones surround us daily."

*St. Francis de Sales*

**Schroer Eye Center  
 Kenneth J. Schroer, O.D.  
 5314 Delhi Road  
 At Anderson Ferry  
 513-451-0010**



**PLEASE NOTIFY US AT THE RECTORY** when a family member is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of Penance.



## Fr. Watkins' Desk

### HOLY WEEK

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6

4:30 p.m. – 6:00p.m. – *Confessions*

7:00 p.m. - *Celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper*

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7

12:00 p.m. - *Private Meditation*

1:00 p.m. - *Celebration of the Lord's Passion Veneration of the Cross*

*Holy Communion*

*Silence and Private Prayer to 5:00 p.m.*

*(Confessions 2:00 – 3:00 pm)*

5:00 p.m. *Stations of the Cross*

*(Respectful Silence Leaving Church)*

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8

8:45 p.m. - *Easter Vigil at St. Teresa of Avila*

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. *Masses*

No 7:00 p.m. *Evening Mass*

**Divine Mercy Sunday** is April 16. And, this year at St. Lawrence we will have devotions for Divine Mercy Sunday including Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions from 2:00 to 4:00 Sunday afternoon.

### **Mercy McAuley Holds Jumpstart Night for 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>**

**Grade Families** Fifth to 7th grade parents and students are invited to get a jumpstart in exploring all that Mercy McAuley has to offer at the school's Jumpstart Night on **April 18, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.** Parents will tour the school and learn about the school's academics, focus on faith and service, and its core values. In addition, parents will choose from a variety of breakout sessions focused on: Fine Arts; Athletics & Extracurricular Activities; Women Lead Honors Program; Tuition, and Financial Aid & Scholarships. Separately, the 5th-7th graders will participate in a variety of fun hands-on activities with Mercy McAuley teachers and students in different areas of the building. There will also be giveaways and photo opportunities! Registration is required at [www.mercymcauley.org/jumpstart](http://www.mercymcauley.org/jumpstart). Any questions may be directed to Kevin Brinkman, Director of Admissions, at [brinkmank@mercymcauley.org](mailto:brinkmank@mercymcauley.org) or 681-1800 x2272.

### **Summer Camp Registration is NOW OPEN!**

Registration for Mercy McAuley High School's Summer Sports and Enrichment Camps is now open! Camp offerings include: **Sports Camps:** Basketball, Cross Country, Lacrosse, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball. **Enrichment Camps:** Art/Ceramic Gnomes & Fairy House Workshop; Art/Pinhole Photography Workshop; Art/Summer Drawing; Babysitting; Cookie & Cupcake Creations; High School Placement Test (HSPT) Prep; Musical Theatre: *101 Dalmations*; Musical Theatre: *Disney's Frozen Jr.*; Service. Visit [www.mercymcauley.org/camps](http://www.mercymcauley.org/camps) for camp details and to register. Space is limited, so register today!

**You Can Help Your Marriage** – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the April 2023 program beginning with a weekend on April 14, 15, 16 2023, call 513-486-6222 or visit the web site at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com)



*The power of Christ's blood*

If we wish to understand the power of Christ's blood, we should go back to the ancient account of its prefiguration in Egypt. *Sacrifice a lamb without blemish, commanded Moses, and sprinkle its blood on your doors.* If we were to ask him what he meant, and how the blood of an irrational beast could possibly save men endowed with reason, his answer would be that the saving power lies not in the blood itself, but in the fact that it is a sign of the Lord's blood. In those days, when the destroying angel saw the blood on the doors he did not dare to enter, so how much less will the devil approach now when he sees, not the figurative blood on the doors, but the true blood on the lips of believers, the doors of the temple of Christ.

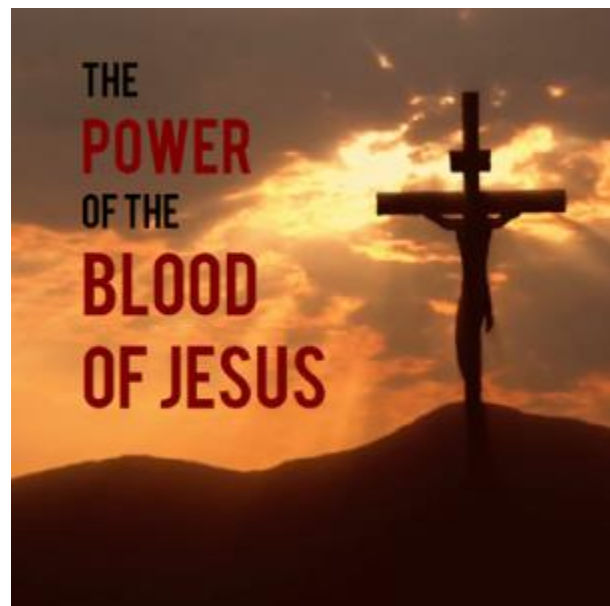
If you desire further proof of the power of this blood, remember where it came from, how it ran down from the cross, flowing from the Master's side. The gospel records that when Christ was dead, but still hung on the cross, a soldier came and pierced his side with a lance and immediately there poured out water and blood. Now the water was a symbol of baptism and the blood, of the holy Eucharist. The soldier pierced the Lord's side, he breached the wall of the sacred temple, and I have found the treasure and made it my own. So also with the lamb: the Jews sacrificed the victim and I have been saved by it.

*There flowed from his side water and blood.* Beloved, do not pass over this mystery without thought; it has yet another hidden meaning, which I will explain to you. I said that water and blood symbolized baptism and the holy eucharist. From these two sacraments the Church is born: from baptism, *the cleansing water that gives rebirth and renewal through the Holy Spirit*, and from the holy eucharist. Since the symbols of baptism and the eucharist flowed from his side, it was from his side that Christ fashioned the Church, as he had fashioned Eve from the side of Adam.

Moses gives a hint of this when he tells the story of the first man and makes him exclaim: *Bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh!* As God then took a rib from Adam's side to fashion a woman, so Christ has given us blood and water from his side to fashion the Church. God took the rib when Adam was in a deep sleep, and in the same way Christ gave us the blood and water after his own death.

Do you understand, then, how Christ has united his bride to himself and what food he gives us all to eat? By one and the same food we are both brought into being and nourished. As a woman nourishes her child with her own blood and milk, so does Christ increasingly nourish with his own blood those to whom he himself has given life.

*From the Catecheses by St. John Chrysostom, Bishop*



## The Laurentian

*From an ancient homily on Holy Saturday*

Something strange is happening—there is a great silence on earth today, a great silence and stillness. The whole earth keeps silence because the King is asleep. The earth trembled and is still because God has fallen asleep in the flesh and he has raised up all who have slept ever since the world began. God has died in the flesh and hell trembles with fear.

He has gone to search for our first parent, as for a lost sheep. Greatly desiring to visit those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death, he has gone to free from sorrow the captives Adam and Eve, he who is both God and the son of Eve. The Lord approached them bearing the cross, the weapon that had won home the victory. At the sight of him, Adam, the first man he had created, struck his breast in terror and cried out to everyone: “My Lord be with you all.” Christ answered him: “And with your spirit.” He took him by the hand and raised him up, saying: “Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.”

I am your God, who for your sake have become your son. Out of love for you and for your descendants, I now by my own authority command all who are held in bondage to come forth, all who are in darkness to be enlightened, all who are sleeping to arise. I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be held a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead. Rise up, work of my hands, you who were created in my image. Rise, let us leave this place, for you are in me and I am in you; together we form only one person and we cannot be separated.

For your sake I, your God, became your son; I, the Lord, took the form of a slave; I, whose home is above the heavens, descended to the earth and beneath the earth. For your sake, for the sake of man, I became like a man without help, free among the dead. For the sake of you, who left a garden, I was betrayed to the Jews in a garden, and I was crucified in a garden.

See on my face the spittle I received in order to restore to you the life I once breathed into you. See there the marks of the blows I received in order to refashion your warped nature in my image. On my back, see the marks of the scourging I endured to remove the burden of sin that weighs upon your back. See my hands, nailed firmly to a tree, for you who once wickedly stretched out your hand to a tree.

I slept on the cross and a sword pierced my side for you who slept in paradise and brought forth Eve from your side. My side has healed the pain in yours. My sleep will rouse you from your sleep in hell. The sword that pierced me has sheathed the word that was turned against you.

Rise, let us leave this place. The enemy led you out of the earthly paradise. I will not restore you to that paradise, but I will enthrone you in heaven. I forbade you the tree that was only a symbol of life, but see, I whom life itself am now one with you. I appointed cherubim to guard you as slaves are guarded, but now I make them worship you as God. The throne formed by cherubim awaits you, its bearers swift and eager. The bridal chamber is adorned, the banquet is ready the eternal swelling places are prepared, the treasure houses of all good things lie open. The kingdom of heaven has been prepared for you from all eternity.

