

Lent – the TIME OF GRACE – now reaches its culmination as we enter into the Holy Week. The church calls us to have a closer walk with Jesus in his sufferings, death and resurrection. Crowned with thorns, our Lord is lifted up on the Cross, where He dies as “King of the Jews.” Jesus is called “King” so many times in today’s Gospel but with a slight twist – an attitude of scorn and mockery.

The Passion, reminds us of how, Jesus suffered this cruel and unusual violence. He is the Suffering Servant foretold by Prophet Isaiah in the 1st reading. The Word made flesh, humbly undergoes his passion for us. Jesus is beaten, His hands and feet are pierced; His enemies gamble for His clothes, wagging their heads, mocking His faith in God’s love.

We are angry and upset at the tormenters. We forget that very often, we play their role in our day to day life. We mock, scourge, inflict blows and ridicule and humiliate our brothers and sisters. In the dark noon of Calvary, the veil in Jerusalem’s temple was torn. It was a sign that by His death Jesus destroyed forever the barrier separating us from the presence of God.

He was God and yet humbled Himself to come among us; despite our repeated failures, our frailty, Jesus still humbles Himself to come to us, offering us His body and blood in the Eucharist. As we enter Holy Week, let us once more resolve to give Him dominion in our lives. Let us take up the cross He gives to us and confess with all our hearts, minds, and strength, that truly this is the Son of God.

Frv. Michael

SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 1ST (TUESDAY) 6:00PM

Annual Carmelite Dinner

TICKETS GO ON SALE IN APRIL

SVDP FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to all for your continued generous donations to the Saint Vincent dePaul food pantry. We've been asked lately what the greatest needs are – thank you for asking! Of course anything is appreciated (!) ... the biggest consistent need is for canned fruits and vegetables. They are like gold! Also, peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, mac and cheese, spaghetti sauce, and bags of potatoes or onions are very helpful. Again, our heartfelt thanks.

Your St. Peter SVDP Conference



AREA NEWS

GET CONNECTED! Join Eugene Catholic Young Adult group (ages 21-39, married or single) on Thursday evenings, **6:45pm**, at St. Mary in the Parish Center — deepen your faith thru bible study, retreats, Theology on Tap, and have fun, also! For info contact: eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com or 541-270-9329 or [facebook.com/EugeneCYA](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneCYA).. ALSO — **Theology on Tap** every 2nd Thursday at the K of C Hall.

CARMELITE AUXILIARY — The Auxiliary will meet on the 2nd Monday, **April 9th**, **10:00am**, at the Carmel of Maria Regina (87609 Green Hill Rd. Eugene), in the library. Questions? Call Luellen at 541-915-5342.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS — Regular Court meeting on **the third Thursday of the month — next is on April 19th** ... Mass at 12:15pm, followed by potluck/meeting at **1:00pm**; bring a dish to share. For info: Julia Kelso at 541-344-6851, or www.cdacourtoregon118.com

UPCOMING RETREATS:

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND — The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is **April 20-22 (2018)**, at Powell Butte Retreat Center (near Redmond, OR). Learn how to once again foster **COMPASSION AND FORGIVENESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE**. For more information call 503-853-2758, or at www.rediscoverthepark.org. Additional dates and locations are listed online.

*In the Triduum, we come together to share our story,
to say who we are in touch, bread, wine, cross, fire, word, water, and oil.*

Is “history” the central focus of celebration during the Triduum? Certainly, our creeds are anchored in the historical circumstances of Jesus’ life, suffering, and death, which took place not in some cosmic cloud of unknowing, but in a actual and remote province of the Roman Empire at a time of sociopolitical transition.

But the Triduum — this time beginning with sundown on Holy Thursday (*Maundy Thursday*) and lasting until Evening Prayer (*Vespers*) on Easter Sunday — is more, it is a celebration of mystery, not just history. The liturgies of these days (Mass of the Lord’s Supper, Celebration of the Lord’s Passion, the pinnacle of the Easter Vigil, and the Easter Morning celebration) do not “take us back” their ultimate purpose is not to retrace Jesus’ last hours or catch sight of him emerging from the tomb They celebrate not what once happened but what is *now* happening among us as a people called to conversion, gathered in faith, and gifted with the Spirit of holiness. They celebrate God’s taking possession of our hearts at their deepest core, recreating us as a new human community broken like bread for the world’s life — a community rich in compassion, steadfast in hope, and fearless in the search for justice and peace.

*Excerpt from “The Three Days of Pascha”, Nathan Mitchell, in Assembly, volume 18:1
© Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, Notre Dame, IN*