



“As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.” (Luke 19:36). Consider how useless it is to spread your clothes on the ground for a donkey to walk on. The clothes get smeared with hooves, and who knows the grimy places where they’ve been? The animal may leave some unsavory presents on them. They may get stolen by a thief looking to make a buck. The thorns, thistles, rocks and muck of the road will leave stains. The clothes may never be useful again, and you’ll probably walk home shivering without your normal covering. Yet this is precisely the gesture the people employ to welcome Jesus and His donkey. Why does this detail matter? Wastefulness is an essential part of celebration. Consider the unnecessary extravagance of Christmas decorations, confetti and ticker tape parades, baseball players spraying each other with bottles of champagne after a victory, birthday gifts for kids and so on. This wastefulness signals celebration and therefore participation in higher identities, (as believers, winners, and parents, to mention the above examples). That’s what the wasted cloaks are all about. Those who donate their cloaks participate in Christ’s kingship in Jerusalem—and we savor it two thousand years later.

The lesson? Learn how to “waste” money, time, clothes, and food on Christ. We do this at Mass, but in so many other ways, too, like serving the poor, going on retreats, and doing prayerful study. When we practice this holy wastefulness, Jesus will ride into our lives and we’ll be more deeply members of His kingdom. —Fr. John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR EASTER SUNDAY
Sun. Apr. 20 @ 8:00AM @ St. Nicholas
Reader: Marce Tebbe Music: Sally Rehberger
Sun., Apr. 20 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude
Reader: Janice Korsmeyer Music: Nick Worman
Sacristan: Gail Ohren
Euch. Min.: Carole Sauls & Gail Ohren
Ushers: Bryan Rutz & Kevin Schwarz
Servers: Makayla & Alissa Korsmeyer
Sun, Apr. 20 @10:00AM @ IC
Reader: Denise Trickey
Music: Joy & Angela Winkeler
Server: Jack Williamson, Rebecca Dea, &
Seminarian Dennis Trickey
Eucharistic Minister: Cindy Knebel, Amy Gilomen
& John Dea



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday; April 17th 7:00PM at Immaculate Conception
Good Friday; April 18th Stations of the Cross Noon @ St. Nicholas
3:00PM Good Friday Liturgy at IC and 7:00PM at St. Gertrude
Easter Vigil April 19th 8:00PM @ IC
Easter Sunday, April 20th: 8AM @ STN; 8AM @STG & 10AM @IC



We congratulate the parents of and welcome
Briggs Harold Maedge,
son of Brent & Kaitlin (Kent) Maedge
who was baptized at St. Gertrude Church on Friday, April 11th, 2025.
Godparents are
Jamie & Scott Dresler

Mon. (Apr.14)
Tues. (Apr.15) 8:00am (St.G)
Wed. (Apr.16) 8:00am (IC)
Thur. (Apr.17) 7:00pm (IC)
Fri. (Apr.18) 3:00pm (IC)
Fri. (Apr.18) 7:00pm (St.G)
Sat. (Apr.19) 8:00pm (IC)
Sun. (Apr.20) 8:00am (St.N)

Sun. (Apr.20) 8:00am (St.G)

Sun. (Apr.20) 10:00am (IC)

† Mass Intentions †

No Mass
† All Souls
† Loretta Knebel — Int. of Delmar Knebel & Family
† Former Priests & Sisters who have served
Good Friday Liturgy
Good Friday Liturgy
† Roman Korte — Int. of Lloyd Rapien
† Gary Plog — Int. of Don Cureton
For the People of St. Nicholas, St. Gertrude & Immaculate Conception
† Frances & Al Luitjohan, Judy Wilke & Shirley Schwarz —Int. of Brian & Monica Klostermann
† Ken & Betty Wagner — Int. of Clara Knebel
† Dennis & Lorraine Huelskamp — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day, and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. Brayden Baer, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Sharon Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Adrian Clark, Dave Deiters, Teresa Dickman, Jean Fields, Scott Frank, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Jan Gayton, Karen Grabowski, P.J. Hereford, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Barrett Korte, Randy Korte, Ruth Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Luber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Royce Nelson, Barry Otto, Suzanne Steinbring, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill & Ruth Schroeder, Bertha Voss, Marie Weis, Ginny Werner, Bob Winet.

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:

Lawrence Frank, Delmar Knebel, Ann Plocher, June Sauls, Barbara Weiss, Helen Wuebbles, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Chad Knebel, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O’Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Schuster, Joseph Schatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.
If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES.

St Gertrude’s Parish and CFL Council 60 would like to honor all high school and college graduates at a mass and breakfast on Sunday, May 18th. Please submit your graduates name to Wendy Essenpreis by May 10th. 618-530-0927 or wessen85@yahoo.com



PLEASE JOIN US

Divine Mercy SUNDAY
APRIL 27, 2025
1:30 pm Adoration
2:00 pm Confessions
3:00 pm Mass
St. Paul Parish
1411 Main Street
Highland, IL 62249

Readings for the week of April 13, 2025

Sunday:
Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/
Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/
Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49

Monday:
Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday:
Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday:
Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/
Mt 26:14-25

Thursday:
Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/
Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper:
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday:
Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/
Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday:
Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/
Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/
Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/
Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 (12a)/Rom 6:3-11/
Lk 24:1-12

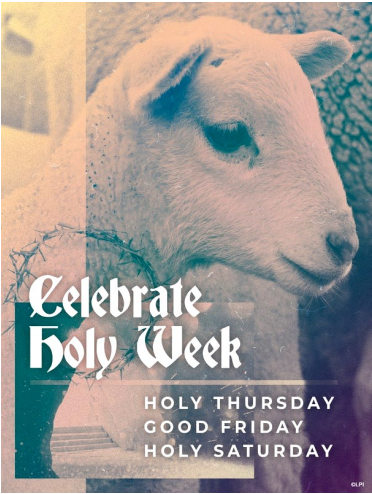
Next Sunday:
Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

Fr. Cal will hear confessions on Fridays at IC after the 8AM Mass and Adoration or by appointment.

“...I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me.” (Luke 22:34)

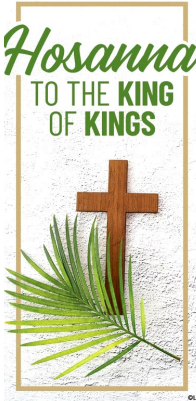
How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about God or our Catholic faith? How did you react? Do you remain quiet so not to cause a disturbance? Or, because you don’t want people to think negatively about you? Or, because you don’t think you know enough about the Catholic faith? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful conversation when the opportunity to talk about our faith arises. Joyfully share your faith with others.

The disciples followed Jesus’ careful instructions for His entry to Jerusalem, even though they did not understand His words. Today, we too, look ahead to His arrival. In obedience, let us prepare the way for the King.



LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal. Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



The next St. Gertrude Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22nd at 7:00PM

STN Collection	4/5/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,413.00
Sister Parish	\$30.00
Holy Land	\$40.00
Seminarians	\$200.00
Budget Goal	\$1,113.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	\$300.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$44,520.00
Support Actual	\$53,967.25
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$9,447.25

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

STG Collection	4/6/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,134.00
Sister Parish	\$30.00
Seminarians	\$30.00
Catholic Charities	\$10.00
Maintenance Fund	\$130.00
Budget Goal	\$ 1,409.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	\$-275.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$56,360.00
Support Actual	\$60,349.03
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$3,989.03

Observances for the week of April 13, 2025

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Tuesday: Tax Day
Thursday: Holy Thursday
Friday: Good Friday
Saturday: Holy Saturday
Next Sunday: Easter Sunday



Meet Our Seminarians



Sean Sullivan
Discipleship I
St. Meinrad Seminary

St. Nicholas Parish is looking for volunteers for Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. Please call or email the parish office if you are interested.

Special Collections:
Holy Thursday will be for the Highland Area Christian Service Ministry (HACSM)
Good Friday collection is for the Holy Land and Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday collection is for Seminarians.

One thing is have learned so far in discernment is seeing God in the ordinary day to day by recognizing Him in the present and inviting Him into everything I do.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **David Nagel**, grandfather of **Trecia Winte**, of our parish family. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to David’s family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord...

IC Collection	4/6/25
Envelopes/Loose	\$2,585.00
Sister Parish	\$45.00
Easter Flowers	\$20.00
Holy Land	\$25.00
Seminarians	\$55.00
Building Fund	\$60.00
Candles	\$105.00
Budget Goal	\$2,381.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	\$204.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$95,240.00
Support Actual	\$99,813.01
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$4,573.01

April 12 & 13, 2025



St. Gertrude's Chicken Dinner preparations are underway along with our raffle. If anyone would like to contribute towards the success of the raffle, please place your donation in the offertory basket marking the envelope as "Raffle Donation", contact Dianne Leitschuh or Sonya at the parish office with any questions.

St. Gertrude Hall Cleaning will be on May 15th at 5PM. Bring buckets & rags.

St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church Altar Society is having a Spring Vendor Fair on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Vendor Fair will be held in the parish hall located at 120 N. Windmill, Marine, IL. Free entry; food will be available.



FASTING

Devotions, Explained!

Fasting was practiced by righteous men and women of the Old Testament and later by Christ himself. It remains an important part of the Christian devotional life today, being most strongly associated with the penitential season of Lent.

Prayer of Christian Life

Dear Jesus,
Help me to pray for and bless everyone I encounter, whether that be easy or hard. Help me to act in the mercy I have known through you. Help me to demonstrate generosity, as you have given so much to me. Amen.

©LPI

Catholic Fraternal Life
(CFL Council #60, Grantfork)

PLANT SALE

Sat. May 10 9am-3pm

Bloomers Landscaping
& Badass Botanicals
4603 Hill Road, Grantfork, IL

10% of all sales will go to our organization. Thank you.

St. Felicitas, Beaver Prairie, Spring Chicken Dinner. Sunday, April 13. Serving 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drive-thru only. All dinners include half fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, dressing, slaw and applesauce. \$15 per dinner. 13322 Church Rd., Carlyle, IL.

The United for Others group has a bake sale today, April 13th at the Grantfork UCC breezeway at 9AM.

There will be a community Easter Egg Hunt on April 19th at 1PM at the Grantfork UCC sponsored by the UFO & Grantfork Firemen's Auxiliary. Games, prizes and snacks will be provided. The Easter Bunny will also be there!

Devotions, Explained! Fasting

The practice of fasting predates Christianity. The Old Testament is full of examples of righteous men and women mortifying their flesh for the purpose of making atonement or simply to grow closer to God. Jesus himself fasted for forty days and forty nights in preparation for the beginning of his public ministry, and we see his disciples following his example in the Acts of the Apostles.

Fasting continues to be an important part of Christian devotional life today. Many people feel the practice of fasting enhances their prayer and helps them fulfill St. Paul's advice to "put to death the deeds of the body" (Romans 8:13) to grow in the Spirit. Most Catholics will associate fasting with the liturgical season of Lent, which begins and ends with obligatory fasting for all members of the Latin Catholic Church between ages 18 and 59.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Via Crucis

IC after the 8AM Mass on Wednesdays
STN after the 8AM Mass on Thursdays.

STG Wednesdays at 6:30PM
And at IC on the following Wednesdays at 6:30PM: April 16th



CALLED TO SHARE BREAD FOR LIFE

Holy Week, a sacred time in the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through his Passion, Death and Resurrection. As we witness the Last Supper and Jesus' gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sisters and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and the joy of the resurrection to the world. Visit crsricebowl.org/holy-week to learn more.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR APRIL 17 -19

Thurs. Apr. 17 @ 7:00PM @ IC

Reader: John Dea

Music: Joy & Angela Winkeler

Euch. Min: Ruth & Rick Zurliene & Kristin Potthast

Servers: Kendyl & Dylen Potthast

Fri., Apr. 18 @ 3:00PM @ IC

Reader: Mary Bergman & Tim Schuette

Music: Joy & Angela Winkeler

Euch.Min: Erica Knebel, Mary Korte &

Denise Wellen

Servers: Parker & Mabry Munie

Fri, Apr. 18 @7:00PM @ STG

Reader: Brenda Knackstedt & Barbie Weis

Music: Nick Worman

Sacristan: Brenda Knackstedt

Euch. Min.: Terry & Sue Dickman

Ushers: Karen & Nathaniel Straube

Servers: Nevin Straube & Katie Schwarz

Sat. Apr. 19 @ 8:00PM @ IC

Reader: Jane Dapkus, Mark Williams, Lowell & Denise Wellen

Music: Joy & Angela Winkeler

Euch. Min: Denise Wellen & Seminarian Dennis Trickey

Servers: Seminarian Dennis Trickey

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD APRIL 12 & 13, 2025



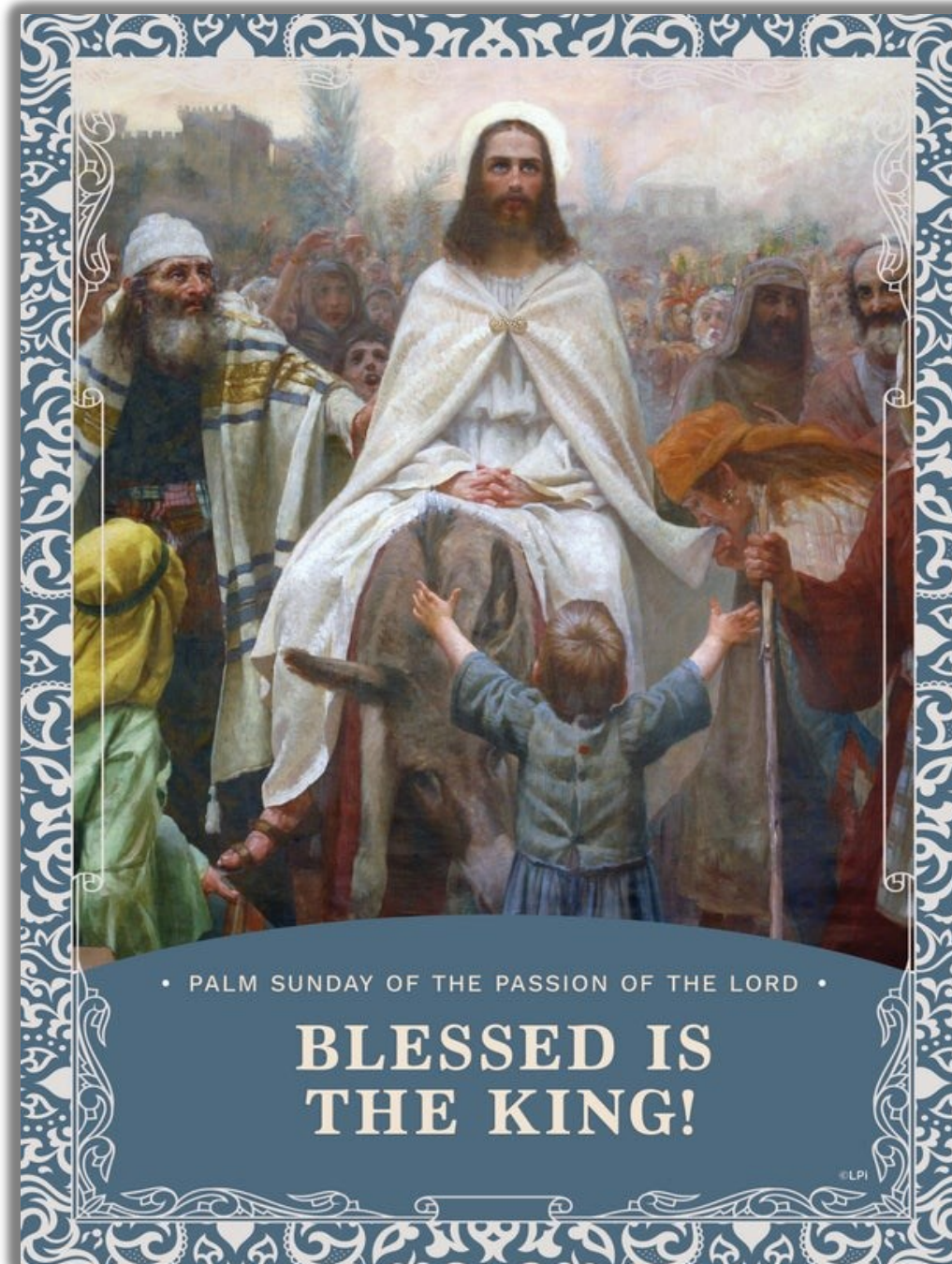
Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS



REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

SONYA CURRY
SECRETARY

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401 E State Street,
Pocahontas
Office Hours:
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

Mass Times
Immaculate Conception
Wed. & Fri. —8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas
Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am