

APRIL 2026

@ St Francis de Sales Catholic Church, Mableton, GA

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 All Masses in the church Palm Sunday No CCD 7 am Bless Palms & Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (fra) 10:30 am (frf) 1 pm Mass (frh)	30 Monday of Holy Week 6:30 am Mass (frf) 9 am Mass (frh) 1 pm staff meeting	31 Tuesday of Holy Week 6:30 am Mass (frh) 12 noon Mass (frf)	APRIL 1 Wednesday of Holy Week 6:30 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (frf)	2 Holy Thursday 10-11:15 am <i>Tenebrae</i> 7:30 pm Solemn Mass (frh, frf, dca) 9:30-10:30 pm Confessions	3 [begin Divine Mercy Novena] Good Friday 10-11:20 am Tenebrae 1-2 pm Confessions 2 pm Stations (frf) 3 pm Solemn Mass of the Presanctified (frh, frf, dca)	4 Holy Saturday 10-11:45 am <i>Tenebrae</i> 12 pm decorate church 12-2 pm churching 9:30 pm Solemn Mass (frh, frf, dca)
5 Easter Sunday No CCD 8 am low Mass (frh) 10:30 am sung Mass (frf)	6 (frf away until 4/11) Easter Monday 6:30 am Mass (frf) 9 am Mass (frh)	7 Easter Tuesday No 6:30 am Mass 12 noon Mass (frh)	8 Easter Wednesday 6:30 am Mass (frh) No 9 am Mass (frf)	9 Easter Thursday No 6:30 am Mass 12 noon Mass (frh)	10 Easter Friday No 6:30 am Mass 7 pm Mass & Holy Hour (frh) Wedding rehearsal (3 pm)	11 Easter Saturday No 7 am Mass 9 am Mass (frh) Wedding (2 pm) w/ Fr Orr
12 Spring Craft Day! Low (Divine Mercy) Sunday 7 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (frf) 9:15-10:10 am Catechism 10:30 am sung Mass (frf) 1 pm Mass (frh)	13 St Hermenegild, <i>Martyr</i> 6:30 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (frf) 1 pm staff meeting	14 St Justin Martyr 6:30 am Mass (frh) 12 noon Mass (frf)	15 Feria in Paschaltide 6:30 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (frf)	16 Feria in Paschaltide 6:30 Mass (frh) 12 noon Mass (frf) 1 pm St Gerard Guild	17 St Anicetus, <i>Pope & Martyr</i> 6:30 am Mass (frh) 7 pm Mass & Holy Hour (frf)	18 Saturday of Our Lady 7 am Mass (frh) 9 am sung Mass (frf) 10:30 am Confraternity of Christian Mothers (frh)
19 2nd (Good Shepherd) Sunday after Easter 7 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (fra) 9:15-10:10 am Catechism 10:30 am sung Mass (frf) 1 pm Mass (frh) Parish Council (3 pm)	20 Feria in Paschaltide 6:30 am Mass (frf) 9 am Mass (frh) 1 pm staff meeting	21 St Anselm, <i>Bishop, Confessor & Doctor</i> 6:30 am Mass (frf) 12 noon Mass (frh)	22 Ss Soter & Caius, <i>Popes & Martyrs</i> 6:30 am Mass (frf) 12 noon	23 St George, <i>Martyr</i> 6:30 am Mass (frf) 12 noon Mass (frh)	24 St Sigmaringen, <i>Martyr</i> 6:30 am Mass (frf) 4:30-6:45 pm FNE 7 pm Mass & Holy Hour (frh)	25 St Mark, <i>Evangelist</i> or Rogation Mass 7 am Mass (frf) 9 am Mass (frh)
26 3rd Sunday after Easter 7 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (fra) 9:15-10:10 am Catechism 10:30 am sung Mass (frf) 1 pm Mass (frh)	27 St Peter Canisius, <i>Doctor</i> 6:30 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (frf) 1 pm staff meeting	28 St Paul of the Cross, <i>Confessor</i> 6:30 am Mass (frh) 12 noon Mass (frf)	29 St Peter, <i>Martyr</i> 6:30 am Mass (frh) 9 am Mass (frf)	30 St Catherine of Siena, <i>Virgin</i> 6:30 Mass (frh) 12 noon Mass (frf) 5:30-8 pm Adoration 6-7 pm Confessions	May 1 St Joseph the Workman, Spouse of the BVM, Confessor 6:30 am Mass (frh) 7 pm Mass & Holy Hour (frf)	2 Immaculate Heart of Mary 7 am Mass & devotions (frh) 9 am Mass & devotions (frf)

Father, Forgive Them for They know not What They Do (a meditation by Bishop Fulton Sheen)

It seems to be a fact of human psychology that when death approaches, the human heart speaks its words of love to those whom it holds closest and dearest. There is no reason to suspect that it is otherwise in the case of the Heart of hearts. If He spoke in a graduated order to those whom He loved most, then we may expect to find in His first three words the order of His love and affection.

His first words went out to enemies: "Father, forgive Them," His second to sinners: "This day thou shalt be with Me in Paradise," and His third to saints, "Woman, behold thy son." Enemies, sinners, and saints – such is the order of Divine Love and Thoughtfulness.

The congregation anxiously awaited His first word. The executioners expected Him to cry, for everyone pinned on the gibbet of the Cross had done it before Him. Seneca tells us that those who were crucified cursed the day of their birth, the executioners, their mothers, and even spat on those who looked upon them. Cicero tells us that at times it was necessary to cut out the tongues of those who were crucified, to stop their terrible blasphemies. Hence the executioners expected a cry but not the kind of cry that they heard.

The Scribes and Pharisees expected a cry, too, and they were quite sure that He who had preached "Love your enemies," and "Do good to them that hate you," would now forget that Gospel with the piercing of feet and hands. They felt that the excruciating and agonizing pains would scatter to the winds any resolution He might have taken to keep up appearances. Everyone expected a cry, but no one with the exception of the three at the foot of the Cross, expected the cry they did hear. Like some fragrant trees which bathe in perfume the very axe which gnashes on them, the great Heart on the Tree of Love poured out from its depths something less a cry than a prayer, the soft, sweet, low prayer of pardon and forgiveness: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Forgive whom? Forgive enemies?

The soldier in the courtroom of Caiaphas who struck Him with mailed fist; Pilate, the politician, who condemned a God to retain the friendship of Caesar; Herod, who robed Wisdom in the garment of a fool; the soldiers who swung the King of Kings on a tree between heaven and earth – forgive them? Forgive them, why? Because they know what they do? No, because they know not what they do.

If they knew what they were doing and still went on doing it; if they knew what a terrible crime they were committing by sentencing Life to death; if they knew what a perversion of justice it was to choose Barabbas to Christ; if they knew what cruelty it was to take the feet that trod everlasting hills and pinion them to the limb of a tree; if they knew what they were doing and still went on doing it, unmindful of the fact that the very blood which they shed was capable of redeeming them, they would never be saved!

Why, they would be damned if it were not for the fact that they were ignorant of the terrible thing they did when they crucified Christ! It was only the ignorance of their great sin that brought them within the pale of the hearing of that cry from the Cross. It is not wisdom that saves: it is ignorance!

There is no redemption for the fallen angels. Those great spirits headed by the Bearer of Light, Lucifer, endowed with an intelligence compared with which ours is but that of a child, saw the consequences of each of their decisions just as clearly as we see that two and two make four. Having made a decision, they made it irrevocably; there was no taking it back, and hence there was no future redemption. It is because they knew what they were doing that they were excluded from the hearing of that cry that went forth from the Cross. It is not wisdom that saves: it is ignorance!

Father, Sin Is Terrible. Help Me Forgive Enemies

In like manner, if we knew what a terrible thing sin was and went on sinning; if we knew how much love there was in the Incarnation and still refused to nourish ourselves with the Bread of Life; if we knew how much sacrificial love there was in the Sacrifice of the Cross and still refused to fill the chalice of our heart with that love; if we knew how much mercy there was in the Sacrament of Penance, and still refused to bend a humble knee to a hand that had the power to loose both in heaven and on earth; if we knew how much life there was in the Eucharist and still refused to take of the Bread which makes life everlasting and still refused to drink of that Wine that produces and enriches virgins; if we knew of all the truth there is in the Church as the mystical body of Christ and still turned our backs to it like other Pilates; if we knew all these things and still stayed away from Christ and His Church, we should be lost! It is not wisdom that saves; it is ignorance! It is only our ignorance of how good God is that excuses us for not being saints!