

SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

April 20/21, 2019

COMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

April 23 – Memorial of St. George
*Palm Sunday and Triduum celebrations
according to the posted schedule on Page 3*

May 1 – Feast of St. Joseph, the Worker
Labor Day holiday

May 3 – Feast of Ss. Philip & James, Apostles –
First Friday, Adoration following the 8:30 AM
Mass

May 11/12 – SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION

May 14 – Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle
Iftar Dinner at the Jesuit Center, hosted by Sacred Heart Parish - details to follow
Parishioners welcome, to act as hosts. Short musical show follows the dinner.

May 18 - FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AT SWEIFIEH – RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

May 24 – Our Lady of the Way

May 25 – Independence Day in Jordan

May 26 – Father John leaves for the US until July 4

May 30 – THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD - A Holy Day of Obligation

May 31 – Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

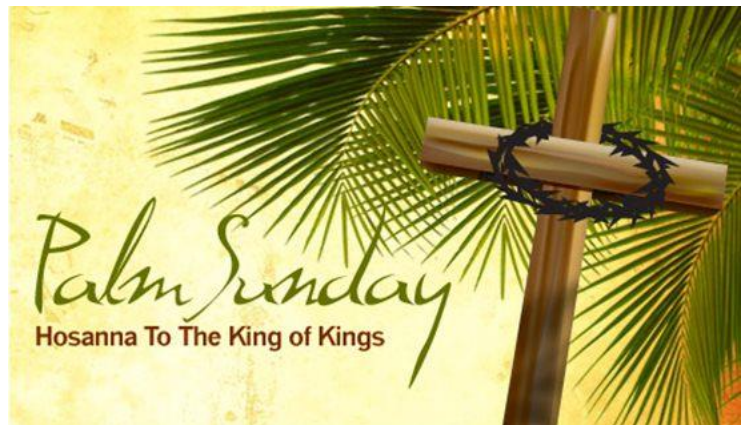
June 7 - First Friday – Adoration following the 8:30 AM Mass

June 10 – Mary, Mother of the Church

June 11 – Feast of St. Barnabas, Apostle

June 13 – St. Anthony of Padua

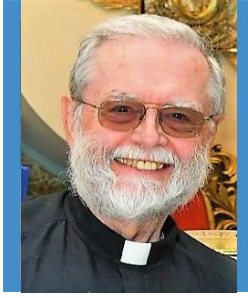
June 15/16 – **SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST**
SECOND SUNDAY COLLECTION



Pope Francis'

MONTHLY
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

**For doctors and humanitarian
collaborators in war zones,
who risk their lives
to save the lives of others.**



RAMBLINGS

OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

This week is THE week of our Catholic Faith. The liturgies of Palm/Passion Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Great Easter Vigil – these are at the very core of what we believe, and since the earliest days of the Church, these are the holiest, the most sacred, the most important of our worship services. These services are more important than a cocktail party, a reception, a request to work special hours – they are more important than an athletic event, a birthday party or a trip. If you find yourself saying, “Oh we can’t make this service or that one” I think you should challenge yourself. How truly significant in the eternal scope of things are the reasons you would do something else besides be at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper or take part in the veneration of the Cross or celebrate the great and joyful mystery of the Resurrection and the renewal of our own Baptismal promises. I admit – this is my opinion. I would hope it might be yours too.

I want to share a reflection I had the other day. When writing materials were scarce and expensive, they were not thrown out when a document was no longer useful. Whether it was papyrus or vellum, the ink would be carefully scraped off, and the document re-used, and this could be done several times.

Rather like our souls and sin. When we go to confession, in a sense, our sins are scraped off and we again become a blank page on which we get to write, using our lives and actions instead of pen and ink. When the page gets filled, God can scrape off the sins, leaving us once again cleansed and blank and open to new and hopefully more beautiful writings.

However, in our modern and scientific age, we have discovered that even when the ink was scraped off, often, with new imaging technology, experts are able to re-discover the original writing and even when there are several layers, they can re-create and re-read what was originally written.

So too with our souls. It doesn’t mean, using this same image, that our sins have not been forgiven, that we have not been cleansed. Absolutely not. But it does remind us that when we sin, sin changes us. And the absolution of sin doesn’t remedy that. We have damaged ourselves, and just as a document that has been scraped many times becomes weaker and more vulnerable, so too we, in our sin, become weaker and more susceptible to temptation. It doesn’t mean God cannot save us, or that we cannot or should not save ourselves. But we have to be aware that we have changed, that we are somehow a little different, each time we turn away from God.

We need food and water to sustain life. We can go for long periods without food, and shorter periods without water. When we do, our bodies change, and when we repeatedly deny our bodies the food and/or water they need, we damage the cells in ways that cannot be completely repaired. There are consequences, and no matter how much water we later drink or food we eat, we have changed. So too with our souls. While God can and will absolve us from our sins, we have changed ourselves in ways we may not always understand.

In these final days of Lent, let us take advantage of the gifts we have been given – the Sacrament of Confession, the freedom to celebrate our faith in the great acts of worship of Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum, the absolute knowledge of the love that God has for us, if we are willing to take advantage of it.

And let us continue to pray for one another as we move to the great celebration of the Resurrection.

Fr. John’s Email: pastorsh@jordanjesuits.org Facebook: Parish Group. (Ask to be admitted)

Fr. John’s Mobile: 079 013-8985 (If no answer, leave a message.) Website: Jordanjesuits.org

LENTEN ACTIVITIES – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The chapel at the Jesuit Center will be open on the following days and times for private prayer. Whenever the chapel is open, Fr. John will be available for confession. You may also schedule private confession with Fr. John or any of the other Jesuits by contacting them directly.

APRIL

22 – 3 – 5 PM

24 – 10 – 11:30 AM

25 – Holy Thursday – after the evening service until 11 PM. The Blessed Sacrament will be carried in Procession from the de LaSalle Church to the Jesuit Chapel.

26 – Good Friday - After the noon service until 6 PM

BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS AT THE EASTER VIGIL

We will once again have the blessing of Easter baskets as part of the ritual for the Easter Vigil on Saturday night. Baskets often feature eggs (both plain and decorated), salt, different kinds of meat, and bread. They can be simple or quite elaborate. At the end of the ceremony, each family or individual collects the basket they brought, and takes it home for their own celebration of Easter.

OVERNIGHT RETREAT – On May 7 and 8, the parish is sponsoring an overnight retreat. Leave Abdoun by 10 on Tuesday morning, with a picnic lunch en route to the Baptismal Site. Double rooms, each with its own bath, 3 meals included, approximately 70 JOD. We will be carpooling to help save expenses. Fr. John will celebrate Mass each day and give points for meditation. Return Wednesday afternoon. Reservations accepted on payment of fee. For more details or to reserve a space, email Sana Dababneh at Sana@dababneh.net, or call 0795656844. The space is quiet and restful, but space is limited so when the list is full, we cannot accept additional requests. At this writing we have 14 definitely going. Men and women.

CLOW VOLUNTEERS

The Children's Liturgy of the Word is proving to be very popular, both with the children and with adults. Several of our initial volunteers have left or are leaving shortly, and we need to maintain a number who are willing to teach and be with the children, so that all the adults have a chance to take part in the regular Liturgy of the Word. Please contact Ian or Karen if you would like to volunteer or simply get more information. Potential volunteers are always welcome to sit in on a session to see what it is like. Email: karenandian2407@gmail.com or Phone: 078 088-8805.

HOLY WEEK



SCHEDULE

CONFIRMED SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK

APRIL 25 – HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper at de LaSalle Church at 5 PM
Washing of Feet

Procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the Jesuit Chapel

APRIL 26 – GOOD FRIDAY

Solemn Service at 12 Noon at de LaSalle Church

(Note the change from earlier schedule listing)

APRIL 27 – HOLY SATURDAY

5 PM – Abbreviated Vigil Service at Sweifieh

8 PM – Full Vigil Service at the Jesuit Center

APRIL 28 – EASTER SUNDAY

10 AM – Mass of Easter Morning at the Jesuit Center

NOTE: There is NO Mass at 6 PM on Easter Sunday

The Donkey
By G. K. Chesterton

**When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born.**

**With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.**

**The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.**

**Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.**



Special Film Series: Inspiration from the Holy Books, and more

The Jesuit Center supports all adults seeking to grow humanly, professionally, and religiously. In 2019, the Christian "Holy Week" and the beginning of Ramadan are close together, so the Center has put together a film series which can offer inspiration to persons during the special religious times. The films are free but room is limited so once all the seats are filled no more can be admitted. Come early.

All films begin at 6 PM. Light refreshments are served. Each evening is a "Double-Feature." Spend about 3.5 hours each evening, more or less. The films are in English, and most have English subtitles also; sorry, none have Arabic subtitles.

Monday, 22 April: Part 1, "Jerusalem, Center of the World;" "The Ten Commandments"
Tuesday, 23 April: Part 2, "Jerusalem, Center of the World;" "The Greatest Story Ever Told"
Wednesday, 24 April: Part 3, "Jerusalem, Center of the World;" "The Passion of the Christ" (no children)

Monday, 29 April: Part 1, a video lecture, "The Life of Muhammad;" "Quo Vadis"
Tuesday, 30 April: Part 2, a video lecture, "The Life of Muhammad;" "The Robe"
Wednesday, 1 May: Part 3, a video lecture, "The Life of Muhammad;" "Ben Hur"

IFTAR DINNER HOSTED BY SACRED HEART PARISH

As we did last year, the Parish will again be hosting an Iftar dinner, on Tuesday May 14. The meal will begin at around 7:30 following the call to prayer. The guests will be predominantly refugee families, and members of the parish are invited to come as hosts. Most of the guests have some Arabic, and are always eager to practice but Arabic speakers are always helpful as well. A donation of 5 JOD is appreciated but not required but you must notify Fr. John in advance, so we don't get so many parishioners that we swamp the guests. Parishioners should plan on arriving by 7 PM. After dinner, there will be a free show of dance and music in the garden theatre for about 40 minutes.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The PAC met on Tuesday night, April 16. After a brief review of the quarterly report from Fr. John, the major discussion of the evening was about a proposal for increasing the number of parish events, both local trips and international. The idea is to help parishioners both experience more of the local and regional sites and get to know one another better.

Among the specifics proposed were:

Local One-Day trips, like the invitation to the opening of the restored shrine of Our Lady in Anjara (see the following page)

Regional trips – including a weekend pilgrimage to Lebanon, with an option for extending the trip (tentatively scheduled for next November), and a Tuesday to Saturday pilgrimage to Malta (tentatively scheduled for September 17-21).

Mission trips – a possible trip to Thailand, where participants would help to build shelters, and local trips to help with refurbishing local schools or planting lemon trees and other fruit trees for poor families. More information will be provided shortly, but Individuals interested are encouraged to **PLEASE** contact Karim Mubarak (karimmubarak@hotmail.com) to indicate interest. No commitment, but we need to have some sense of what level of interest there might be.

Community Events – The idea of a Progressive Dinner was introduced, with three or four stations in private homes. One course in each home, and a bus to take participants from one venue to another. It has been done in the parish in the past, very successfully, and raised money for work with the poor. October was suggested as a time, and anyone interested should let us know, as either as a volunteer to help organize this or as a possible guest participant (Buy a ticket and eat!).

Possible sporting events, regular after Mass receptions and educational workshops were also discussed.


“ 48 For he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed. 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name. Luke 1:48-49 (NIV) ”

Under the Patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Al-Hussein
The Vicariate of the Latin Patriarchate of Jordan, Represented by His Excellency Bishop William Al-Shomali

Request the pleasure of your presence at
THE OPENING OF THE LADY OF THE MOUNT SHRINE TO CELEBRATE THE COMPLETION OF THE MAINTENANCE AND RENOVATION WORK.

Saturday, May 4th, 2019
At the Church of Our Lady of the Mountain in Anjara at **11:00AM followed by lunch at 1:30PM**
A festive mass will be held on this occasion at **3:30PM**

Your attendance honors us



RSVP before May 1st, 2019
by calling at this number
0772628202

If anyone is interested in being a part of this very special event, a bus and a meal can be arranged. You must indicate your interest soon, in order to make arrangements – cost 10 JOD per person. Contact Sana Dababneh for reservations and more information, Sana@dababneh.net, or call 0795656844.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EVENTS

On the one hand, a number of people have asked about some kind of an adult group that could explore more learning and discussion about the faith. Call it Bible Study, Adult Ed or a fancy title – the idea is that as adults, we need to pursue our knowledge of the faith, and many feel a desire to share elements of their faith life, and to hear that from others. There is a Tuesday morning group that meets each week, and averages 10-15 at each meeting. We are currently going through the Gospel of John, and the topics vary greatly, depending on the interest of the group. We meet at Sana Dababneh's house from 11 to 12:30, and all are welcome.

But many cannot come during the day and so several weeks ago we offered a Tuesday night group and asked if anyone were interested. One person responded. One. Someone said that perhaps Tuesday was not a good night. Fair enough (although voicing that would have been a help). So we make the same offer – if there are people interested in being part of a similar group on a regular basis on Monday night – let Father John know about that. Or if another night is better and what your own interests might be.

The idea is that people come when they can – the group determines where the discussion and presentations go – Father John is available as a resource, sometimes as a teacher but members also can lead and discussion becomes a key part of the gathering.

Please share your ideas. Because silence does not help create anything.