



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
April 2, 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Not this Sunday, but next, is the first day of Holy Week. If we don't plan in advance how to spend Holy Week, it will come and go and we will ask, "Where did it go?"

Today is not too early to make some plans. We will have the usual two Masses on Holy Thursday. The Church law says one Mass for all the people, unless the bishop permits otherwise. We wrote the bishop and, again, he stated that he wanted everyone who wanted to celebrate the Feast of the Eucharist to have Mass available. I reminded the bishop how much our people appreciate the Eucharist, and he came through with the permission for a 5 p.m. Mass, as well as the 7 p.m. Mass, with the washing of the feet. I am waiting for the day we so crowd the church that I must ask for three Masses, or when the church automatically allows as many Masses as the people will attend of this feast of the celebration of the Eucharist.

There is no way we can appreciate the Eucharist as much as the Lord deserves. No meal is as famous throughout the world and our Christian history as the LAST SUPPER.

First, it celebrates the offering of Jesus to the Father. When Jesus consecrated the bread and wine into His Body and Blood, with each consecration He makes reference to His Body and Blood contained in the appearance of bread and wine, to be offered up for the forgiveness of our sins.

Second, Jesus gave His Church, represented by those 12 apostles, the mandate, not the suggestion or recommendation, but the command to DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME. It is such a real commemoration of His offering of His life, that as the Book of Hebrews states, He keeps making that same offering, and as St. Paul states to the Corinthians, "...as often as you do this, you proclaim His death until He comes."

Third, we get to consume that which is offered to the Father for our sins. Yes, God is love, and if you love someone you want to touch that person. Jesus gives us so much that He touches us physically by coming into our very bodies.

Fourth, the Mass is a renewal of the covenant (contract or deal) God made with us; actually, it is the New Covenant. The Old Covenant was with Abraham and the new contract is with Jesus, the God-man.

Holy Thursday is the feast of the institution of the Eucharist, and if I were the pope, I would make it close to a Holy Day of Obligation, rather than needing to ask for a second Mass on this great feast day. When we have people standing in the back, I will ask the bishop for a third Mass on this great feast day.

As a priest, who for ten years had to offer Mass for the people in a language they did not understand (Latin), I keep rejoicing that we can have Mass in English. To understand and appreciate the Mass, we need meaningful phrases, or at least to understand some phrases. The following are examples of words or phrases we just say, but don't really understand:

- 1) Hosanna (in the highest). This word means Savior, Messiah in the highest;
- 2) "Holy, Holy, Holy". What does it mean? In Leviticus, God told Moses to tell the people, "Be holy, as I am holy." More specifically and understandingly, it means BE LOVING, AS I AM LOVING. At Mass it means, Loving, loving, loving Lord, God of hosts (hosts means "angels");
- 3) 3) "LIKE THE DEW FALL". What does that mean? We have to flip back the pages of the Bible to the Exodus, when the Israelites were hungry, and in the morning, the dew on the ground miraculously flipped into manna in the desert. So, before the consecration at the Mass, we are asking God to transform bread and wine into the

Body and Blood of Christ as instantaneously as the dew in the desert turned into manna in the desert.

Personally, I liked it when I would say to the people: "The Lord be with you," and you would answer, "And ALSO WITH YOU," rather than "AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT." I wrote to a member of the Vatican translation committee and asked why the changes. Even this ordinarily, very bright archbishop couldn't explain it to my satisfaction.

Thinking positively, I am so grateful for the English that we have, and I am endlessly grateful for the Lord leaving us a sacred offering and most sacred meal of Himself, mandating us to keep doing this.

Next Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, we will write on that paradoxical day we call "Good", Good Friday, celebrating the death of Jesus and why in the world He endured all that suffering.

With prayers and blessings,
Fr. Muller



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| Monday, April 3 | Special Intention Najla Costa Constainio Carol Seiler |
| Tuesday, April 4 | Rev. Andy Kennedy Sp. Int. Catherine & Jeff Hahn & family Tracy Fitzgibbons |
| Wednesday, April 5 | Sam McDavid Sp. Int. Allison Millette Anthony Ross |
| Thursday, April 6 | Special Intention Sp. Int. Joe & Stephanie Bryson Zee Antoon |
| Friday, April 7 | Special Intention Sp. Int. Glenn Bryson Zee Antoon |
| Saturday, April 8 | Donors to OLS School Foundation Sp. Int. Kristin Britt Howard & Reba Criswell |
| Sunday, April 9 | People of the Parish Sp. Int. Jeff & Catherine Hahn John Milazzo |



Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday of Lent at 7 p.m.

First Friday Devotions will be held on Friday, April 7, at 6:00 a.m.



Vivian Bonamy, Jeanne Wright,
Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie,
Melanie Gilchrist, Charlie Kai
Wadsworth

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Monday at 9 AM (With Partner)

Tuesday at 1 PM (With Partner)

Saturday at 11:00 AM (With Partner)

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each hour. These are the hours needed, but do select an hour that best fits your schedule.

Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at 871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.

"A Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament is worth more than a thousand years of human glory." St. Padre Pio (1887-1968)

V.I.P. will be held on Tuesday, April 4. Mass begins at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by lunch and bingo. Come join your friends and neighbors for faith, fellowship and fun.

Everyone is welcome to attend Adult Education: Encounter and Evangelize on Sunday April 9. Our speaker will be Rev. Wilfred Emeh. His topic is *The Church in Africa*. The gathering begins in the Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments. The class begins at 10 a.m.

Adult Ed. is looking for volunteers to help with healthy refreshments, set up and clean up for our weekly gatherings. Your cost will be reimbursed, with receipts. If interested,

please contact Frances Smith at frances.smith88@gmail.com.

Attention Parishioners: If you would like to receive funeral notifications, please submit your name and email address to ols@ourladyofsorrows.com. Please contact Fran Robertson at 822-1142 with any questions.



The Knights of Columbus invite all parishioners to a Parish Fish Fry on Friday, April 7, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The Madonna and Child Guild will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 6, at 7 p.m. in the 3rd floor Youth Room of the Family Life Center, and on Friday, April 7, at 9 a.m. in the Sodality Room. Nursery is available for the April 7, meeting by sending a reservation to epenhersiart@charter.net. For additional information please contact Becky at rcplaczek@gmail.com.

Our Lady of Peace Guild will meet in the Sodality Room after the 12 noon Mass on Monday, April 3. We will be collecting personal care items for the First Light Women's Shelter. Remember to bring your sandwich; drinks and dessert will be provided.

St. Ann's Guild will meet on Wednesday, April 5, at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. We will begin with a Lenten Brunch, followed by our meeting and Mass at 12 noon in the Church. Please RSVP with Paula Gasser at 807-6072. All are welcome!

The St. Joseph Altar Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the annual celebration of the Feast Day of St. Joseph. A special thank you to Nabeel's, who donated the bread that was served. The

donations collected will be given to the Catholic Center of Concern, and all food that remained was taken to Brother Bryan Mission. They were very grateful for this donation of food for the less fortunate.

Here's the Scoop on EDGE Youth Group!

April 2: Edge will resume on April 9! Hope you had a great spring break!

Camp Hidden Lake: All participants are required to make regular deposits until camp balances are paid off. Paperwork is due April 30.

What's Goin on In High School Youth Group?

April 2: No Faith Formation or Life Night today – hope you have had a safe and blessed Spring Break. We'll see you April 9. Have a great Spring Break!

Bread for the World Sunday is April 9. OLS will conduct its annual letter campaign to our Congressional members on behalf of Bread for the World. This year there will be two methods by which you can participate. We will be set up in the Parish Hall after every Mass so people can write their letters to Congress. The other option, for the first time, is a new digital option. Using your laptop, notebook, or smart phone insert: **bread.org/eol** into the browser of your device. After you input your name, address and ZIP code, add a line or two to personalize your email and the message will automatically be sent to both your Senators and Representative. The message can be as simple as "We urge Congress to make funding decisions that put our country and the world on track to end hunger by 2030", or "Please make allocation dollars a priority to fund anti-hunger programs such as SNAP, WIC or global nutrition and PFDA". If you use this method, please call our Church Office so

we can track the number of letters sent to our congressional members.

**Many thanks to everyone for the prayers, cards and well wishes during my recent illness. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. God bless you all.
Catherine Taylor**

Her Choice Birmingham Women's Center will host the **14th Annual GOLF FORE LIFE** golf tournament on Friday, May 12, at Highland Golf Course. Lunch begins at 12 noon, with a SHOTGUN START at 1 p.m. The cost is \$250 (\$125 tax deductible) per individual golfer. We are also asking for hole sponsors (\$500) and half Hole Sponsors (\$250). Please support this event and contact Her Choice at 205-447-8796 or www.golf4life@herchoice Birmingham.org.

John Carroll Catholic High School will host the **13th Annual Carrollights Celebration** on Saturday, April 22. Parents, alumni and friends are welcome to join in the celebration at Our Lady of the Valley Social Hall. Tickets are \$60 per person and include dinner, live and silent auction, along with music from Goodfellas. For more information, please visit our website at www.carrollights.org, or contact Michelle Scholtz at carrollights2017@gmail.com.

REBUILDING: A Divorce and Grief Recovery Group will begin the new 10 week session on Tuesday, April 11. Meetings are held in the Family Life Center from 6-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 for the session. No pre-registration is required. This is a group designed to assist in grief recovery for the divorced, widowed and separated of this community. REBUILDING is an interdenominational program and all are welcome. For more information call 205-969-0062. Leave a message and we will return your call. Visit our website at www.ourrebuilding.org.

Register now for Vacation Bible School
www.ourladyofsorrowsspr.com



The best week of the summer!

June 12-16th, 2017

9 am- 12 pm Monday-Friday

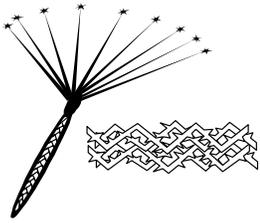
Rising 4K-4th grade

We need volunteers too! Register www.ourladyofsorrowsspr.com

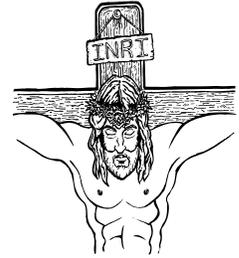


PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Jesus calls us forth from our graves of apathy and passivity. How will your new life make a difference? Consider ministry in the Church. (John 11:1-45)
For all our ministers of care with the sick and dying and their families.



Holy Week
Our Lady of Sorrows Church



Holy Thursday

April 13th

Mass of the Lord's Supper

5:00 P.M. & 7:00 P.M. In

The Church (NURSERY PROVIDED)

Good Friday***

April 14th

Meditations on the Seven Last Words

12:00 –2:20 P.M.

Stations of the Cross –2:30-3:00 P.M.

*Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 7:00 P.M.
in the Church. (NURSERY PROVIDED)*

Holy Saturday

April 15th

EASTER VIGIL

8:00 P.M. (NURSERY PROVIDED)

Easter Sunday

April 16th

7:00 A.M.

8:30 A.M. (Nursery Provided)

10:00 A.M. - 2 MASSES (CHURCH AND
PARISH HALL) (Nursery Provided)

11:30 A.M.

6:00 P.M.

*** On Good Friday, Father Muller will begin the reflections on the **Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross** at 12:00 p.m. and will conclude at 2:20 p.m. The Stations of the Cross will begin at 2:30 p.m. and end at 3:00 p.m., the hour of our Lord's death, the Hour of Divine Mercy. You may come for any part of the services, **but please, out of respect, remain in the vestibule until Father has completed his meditation and then enter the church.**