

# Holy Week packs a simple power

By Father Thomas P. Mull  
Diocesan Liturgical Commission

The journey of Holy Week begins with the vibrant hail of a conquering hero. It is filled with "hosannas" and the significance of victorious palm. The focus of the day, however, is not on the branch which waves in our hand but the significance of life and death. The Passion Reading invites all who are gathered to enter deeply into a week which is filled with mystery, life and death.

Probably at no other time are the words "noble simplicity" of greater importance than during the celebration of Holy Week. The liturgies of the week burst forth with power and relevance. Quite often, in an attempt to relate the liturgy with a particular community (or a particular piety), activities, decorations, or events are added to the rituals which are different from those called for by the rites. It is of great importance that planners, presiders, musicians and liturgical ministers enter Holy Week aware of the simplicity of rites and the power of Word and Action.

The reading of the Passion on Passion Sunday and Good Friday summons the listener to participate in the dying experience of Jesus. It is not simply the presentation of a scenario that happened 2,000

years ago. It is, rather, an invitation to walk with the Lord and bring to that walk our own fears, problems, challenges, and unanswered questions. It is an opportunity to participate in such a way that our life and Jesus' life become as one.

As the community gathers on Holy Thursday, it is not to walk backwards to the upper room of the Lord's Last Supper. It is an invitation to see that that eucharistic gathering remains central to our faith experience even today. The eucharistic celebration is something we treasure in its entirety, not only because of its historical significance, but also its relevance today. The evening adoration reminds us of Jesus' request "Can you not watch with me but an hour?" But it also calls us to a renewed sense of waiting and watching as the Lord manifests himself to us in our lives today and as we look to his coming again in glory.

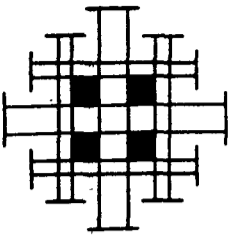
The Good Friday Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord is designed in such a way that participants are first reminded of the historical reality of that day, the death of Jesus on the cross. We bring that remembrance to universal prayer, unite with one another in venerating the sign of our salvation, the cross, and dramatically share in the power of the cross as we share Holy

Communion. The Church invites her members to enter the mystery, walk the path, feel the pain, and taste the victory. Ritually, we do this all at once.

Holy Saturday invites a sense of emptiness. It is not, however, an emptiness that is unquenchable. It is an emptiness surrounded with great expectation. For as the darkness of Holy Saturday night falls over the earth, fires are lighted by faithful people, the elect step forward into recreating baths of baptism, the faithful say "yes" once again to ancient promises, and the eucharistic table once again is set as Christians rejoice in resurrection and new life.

Easter Sunday dawns with a renewed challenge to our faith. The liturgy summons believers to the table of the Lord to share in the memorial meal, the holy sacrifice, and be transformed into the image of the Redeemer. "Alleluias" ring out as the joy of the season, the spring freshness of the air, and the fullness of life

From  
Repentance  
to Rebirth



surrounding the faithful cry out with God's eternal Presence. The renewal of baptismal vows and the sprinkling with Easter Water allow all to recommit to the Easter mysteries and the wonder of new life.

These liturgies are packed with symbolism and power. They sing with faith and hope. They are overwhelmed with the faithful who participate. They exude life and vitality in themselves. It is the people: the faithful, the elect, the candidates, the presiders, the lectors, the cantors, musicians, eucharistic ministers, ushers and servers, who cry out the vibrance of the week. In planning, it is not necessary to add to the ritual. Be faithful to what is offered. The Church celebrates her annual feast and sings with the pride of faithful people.

## Weekend retreats planned for couples

ROCHESTER — Couples interested in enriching their marriages are invited to Marriage Encounter weekends which have been scheduled throughout 1990.

Marriage Encounter weekends take place at hotels and retreat houses throughout the Rochester diocese. Three married couples and one priest lead the weekends, which are intended to create an atmosphere in which husbands and wives can focus on each other and their relationship.

Talks are given throughout the weekend, and couples are allowed time to discuss topics in private.

A non-refundable \$30 registration fee is required. Participants are also asked to make a donation at the end of the weekend, although couples will not be turned away because of a lack of funds.

Sessions and locations are planned for: April 20-22, East Avenue Inn; May 18-20,

East Avenue Inn; June 15-17, Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua; Aug. 10-12, Notre Dame; Sept. 14-16, East Avenue Inn; Oct. 12-14, East Avenue Inn; Nov. 9-11, East Avenue Inn; and Dec. 7-9, East Avenue Inn.

To register, contact Rick and Jo Ann Scheffer, 997 Parma Center Road, Hilton, N.Y., 14468, or call 716/392-3202.

## Cardinal to celebrate Mass after national rally for life

WASHINGTON, D.C. — John Cardinal O'Connor, archbishop of New York and chairman of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, will be the principal celebrant and homilist of a Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, April 28.

The liturgy will take place at 5:15 p.m., following the national Right to Life rally.

Groups from across the nation are expected to converge on Washington for the rally. Organizers are hoping that it will be the largest anti-abortion march in the nation's history.

Call 202-526-8300 for information.

**LENTEN SPECIAL**  
served every evening

**FISH FRY**  
**\$5.25**

served with french fries and cole slaw  
60 N. Main St., Pittsford • 586-1644



*The Shadee Lady*  
"The Most Unique Lamp and Shade Shop in Rochester."

**LAMPS...  
LAMPS...  
LAMPS!**

NEW ARRIVALS  
FOR SPRING DECORATING  
*Casual to Elegant Styles*

SPRING SPECIALS ON  
SELECTED MERCHANDISE  
THRU APRIL

Lampshades • Gifts • Lamp Repair  
(716) 385-7559

Northfield Commons      Tues.-Fri. 10-4  
Pittsford, N.Y.              Sat. 10-2

**WHISPERING WINDS  
BUS TOURS**

April 24	<b>BECK'S GROVE</b>	<b>\$3800</b>
Neil Simon's, "I Ought To Be In Pictures"; Dinner buffet and theater.		
May 1-2	<b>SHAW FESTIVAL</b>	<b>\$13950</b>
"Night Must Fall" and "Misalliance"; 2 theaters, 2 meals plus hotel.		
June 3-8	<b>CAPE COD</b>	<b>\$39800</b>
Martha's Vineyard/Whale Watch/Plymouth Plantation/9 meals, plus.		
June 20	<b>BECK'S GROVE</b>	<b>\$3800</b>
20's Musical Review "I Want To Be Happy" Buffet and theater.		

Chartered Buses & Customized Tours  
GROUP SPECIALISTS  
435 Trabold Rd., Rochester, NY 14624  
(716) 247-3213



**SAVE**

Your Trading Stamps and Soup Labels... can help provide for the education of needy Sioux Indian children at St. Joseph's Indian School.

TRADING STAMPS: S&H Green, Top Value, Blue Chip, Plaid, Gold Bond, Red Holden, Big Bonus, Greenbox, etc LMC & BW coupons. OSCAR MAYER (POP: Proof of Purchase) & Campbell labels (Front Panel only). Please Send to:  
St. Joseph's Indian School,  
BOX 01F0 Chamberlain, SD 57326

OVER 45 YEARS

**TROPHIES • PLAQUES**



ONE OF  
AMERICA'S LARGEST AND MOST  
COMPLETE TROPHY SERVICES



**546-5143**

TROPHY & AWARD SPECIALISTS  
• GIFT ITEMS • MEDALS • NOVELTIES  
Dependable/Prompt Service  
All work done on premises by expert professionals  
222 SOUTH AVE. — ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF RUNDLELL LIBRARY  
ROCHESTER FREE PARKING IN REAR

**V.H. LANG TROPHIES, INC.**

**Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580)**  
Vol. 102 No. 13 April 4, 1990

Published weekly except week after July 4 and Christmas.  
Subscription rates: single copy, 50¢; one-year subscription in U.S., \$15; Canada and foreign \$15 plus postage.  
Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340.  
Second-class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

**Irish Easter Baskets  
are full of...**

-  Fancy Jams, Biscuits, Candies & Tea
-  Ladies/Gents Linen Hankies
-  Celtic Jewelry for all the family
-  China, Crystal and...



**vigren**  
**o'shaughnessy**  
IRISH IMPORTS

248-8346 • 39 S. Main St., Pittsford  
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10-5

**Neptune's**

**SEAFOOD FAMILY RESTAURANT**

*"Where the Food's Out of This World"*

Lent Special:  
Fish Fry, Tues.-Sat.  
**\$5.95**

**Alaskan Snow Crab**  
All-You Can Eat, Weds. and Sat.  
**\$9.95**

CHILDREN'S \$1.49 MENU	EARLY BIRD MENU 4 to 6p.m. Tues.-Fri. \$4.99
------------------------	--

**10% SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT**  
4653 LAKE AVE.  
Charlotte 865-4315

**EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH**

**11:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.**

Champagne, Dessert and Beverage Included \$14.95 per person plus tax and gratuity

\$13.95 per person without champagne  
Children 6-12 \$6.50  
Children 5 & under are FREE



Free Parking in the Midtown Garage

**For Reservations  
Call 546-2490**



**Top of the Plaza Restaurant**  
1400 Midtown Tower