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**April 13, 2025**

**Palm Sunday**

**Sunday Masses**

10am & 8:00pm

**Confessions**

Sunday, 7:30pm

**Pastor:**

Father Derek Wiechmann

fatherderek17@gmail.com

**Sacramental Minister:**

Father JohnPaul Igbokwe

igbokwejohnpaul7@gmail.com

\*In case of immediate need, call your parish office to reach a priest directly.

This Week's Happenings

**Monday (4/14)**

7:00pm Music Rehearsal

**Tuesday (4/15)**

5:30pm Bible Studies (Wil's Place)

**Wednesday (4/16)**

All Day CHS Retreat

5:45pm SEND

7:00pm Peace & Social Justice Mtg.  
via Zoom

**Thursday (4/17)**

5:30pm Holy Thursday Mass

**Friday (4/18)**

Office Closed

12:00pm Good Friday Service

**Saturday (4/19)**

8:00pm Easter Vigil

Dear brothers and sisters,

We have now entered the holiest days of the year. Let us pray for one another in this time – that we may have a renewed commitment to Christ and his love!

**Friday: Preparation Day, the Passover**

The disciples arranged for the Passover meal, which took place after sundown on Thursday. We might call it Friday Eve, because by Jewish reckoning, the day begins with the previous sunset. That's why we call 24 December "Christmas Eve." Jesus and the disciples ate the Passover in the upper room. They ate it early, which was not uncommon. In that era, most Passover Seders did not include lamb, because most Jews lived too far away from the Temple to obtain a lamb that was kosher for Passover. Therefore the disciples, who were from Galilee, would have been accustomed to a Passover Seder without lamb. Judas left during the meal. Jesus and the remaining disciples adjourned to the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed and the disciples kept falling asleep. Judas arrived to betray Jesus, who spent the rest of the night being tried by the Sanhedrin and by Pilate. The following morning, which was still the same day by Jewish reckoning, the Crucifixion significantly took place just as the Passover lambs were being slaughtered in the Temple. Matthew 27:62, Mark 15:42, Luke 23:55-56, and John 19:31 all inform us that this took place on Preparation Day, which is the Jewish name for Friday. Mark and John explain that the next day was the Sabbath. Later the disciples realized that in giving them the bread and pronouncing it His body, Jesus Himself had been the Passover lamb at the Last Supper. Thus Jesus, our Passover lamb, was sacrificed for our sins on Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7), and His blood protects us from the angel of death. Jesus died on the cross and was buried before sunset. So Friday was first day that Jesus lay in the tomb.

**Saturday: the Jewish Sabbath**

Jesus rested in the tomb on the Sabbath. According to Matthew 28:1, Mark 16:1-3, and Luke 23:56-24:3, the day before the Resurrection was a Sabbath. This is the second day that Jesus lay in the tomb.

**Sunday: the first day of the week, the Festival of First Fruits**

On the third day, Jesus rose from the grave. It was the first day of the week and the day after the Sabbath, according to Matthew 28:1, Mark 16:1-3, Luke 23:56-24:3. John 20:1 says the Resurrection took place on the first day of the week. He does not explicitly say that the previous day was the Sabbath, but there is no room in his narrative for any intervening days. The first day of the week is the Jewish name for Sunday. Sunday is also the eighth day after the creation in Genesis, so Paul describes Jesus' Resurrection as the first fruits of the new creation in 1 Corinthians 15:20-23.

Peace,  
Fr. Derek

**Attention Saints and sinners of all ages and everyone in between!**

The Newman Community Focus Group is willing to help you fulfill some Lenten service resolutions or obligation time! All you have to do is check out the bulletin boards in the gathering spaces and sign up to help with any or all of the following opportunities!

**CHAPEL DECORATING!** Again, come in with a willing heart and we will show you how to help as we prepare our chapel for the wonderful Easter Season Masses! This happens **SATURDAY, APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> from 9:30-11:30am** or until the work is completed.

**EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION SET UP!** It is Newman Center's turn to host the combined Holy Spirit Church and Christ Church Easter Vigil Mass! Combined choirs and congregations who will pray and praise together in our beautiful chapel (that you helped decorate) and then celebrate together in our terrace, we need your help!! Please use some of that Lenten service time to help us clean, set up and decorate the terrace on **FRIDAY APRIL 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am** just before our **Good Friday Noon service**. Many hands make light fast work!

**EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION HELP!** This is a really fun one! Please consider signing up to help us put on a great Easter celebration in our terrace. We need a lot of help with food set-up before Mass, food donations, hosts during the party, bartenders, and as always clean up help! Take a look at the sheets on the boards in the gathering spaces and join the fun!

**DON'T MISS THIS FINE CELEBRATION!**

**Come and Join us for the SPRING MISSION RALLY**

**Wednesday, April 23rd**  
**from 7:30am-1:00pm at St. Mary's Church in Alexandria.**

It's a day filled with a Liturgy with Bishop Patrick Neary C.S.C.; Missioners active and retired; Fellowship and wonderful food;

Fair Trade sales; Mission Group items;

Mission Office connections.

Registration is \$10/person- Hope to see you there!\*

**Parish Prayers**

†Bob Trisko  
†Mary Morton  
† Millie Moran Sister of Jay Schroeder  
† Sam Skoien  
† Mark Haberman  
† Betty Strobel

**Tenebrae - A Tradition at St. Mary's Cathedral**

Everyone is welcome at St. Mary's Cathedral in St. Cloud on Good Friday, April 18, at 8:00 pm for Tenebrae, which is Latin for shadows or darkness. At this event, participants will experience the gradual extinction of all lights in the church, symbolizing the temporary triumph of the prince of darkness over the Light of the World, and loud noises created at the end of the service by the assembly and ministers, suggesting the earthquake described in the Passion Narratives. This is a family event and all are welcome.

**28th Annual Way of the Cross**

Sponsored by Communion and Liberation

Good Friday, April 18, 2025, 3:00 p.m. St. Mary's Cathedral

Please join us as we reflect on the passion of Jesus through the Scripture, hymns and silent reflection. Procession begins at St. Mary's Cathedral and proceeds to Lake George and concludes back at St. Mary's. All are welcome and should come dressed for that day's weather.

For more information about the Communion and Liberation Group and this event, please contact

John Steichen at [jsteichen@aol.com](mailto:jsteichen@aol.com) or call 320/492-7063.

**Youth Group Calendar for April:**

**April 13th:** Topic Night

**April 20th:** No Youth Group (Happy Easter)

**April 27th:** Activity Night (Line Dancing)

**ACC Faith Formation Reminders**

**SEND:** April 16, 5:45pm

**Pastor:** Fr. Derek Wiechmann [fatherderek17@gmail.com](mailto:fatherderek17@gmail.com)  
**Sacramental Minister:** Father JohnPaul Igbokwe  
**Director of Discipleship & Evangelization :** Philip Shefveland—[pshefveland@scsucatholic.org](mailto:pshefveland@scsucatholic.org)  
**Cluster Business Manager:** Janice Wuebkers—[jwuebkers@spiritandsaints.org](mailto:jwuebkers@spiritandsaints.org)  
**Music Director:** Stacy Ellens—[sellens@scsucatholic.org](mailto:sellens@scsucatholic.org)  
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