



St. Vincent de Paul Parish

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April 2, 2020

Dear Faithful Parishioners,

As we enter into the Most Holy Week of the year, we walk with Jesus and surrender our life to Him. This week reminds us of the depth of God's love for us as He sacrifices His Son for our salvation. Jesus on the cross forgives all our sins and seals the Everlasting Covenant with His blood.

On Palm Sunday we wave our palms singing the hosanna for the Son of David, the King of Israel. We welcome Him but know at the end the week we cry out crucify Him. As we celebrate this week enter into it with a heart yearning for the gift of faith. Walk with Jesus to the Upper Room. Imagine him washing your feet and the feet of your family. Rejoice that on this night Jesus instituted the Eucharist and Holy Orders. On Holy Thursday, you might even consider washing your family's feet as a sign of charity and a reminder to serve one another. On Good Friday, at least between 12:00pm to 3:00pm pray as a family and take time for silence reflection on the death of Jesus. On Holy Saturday take the time to read the Ancient Homily from the Office of Readings for Holy Saturday:

Something strange is happening – there is a great silence on earth today, a great silence and stillness. The whole earth keeps silence because the King is asleep. The earth trembled and is still because God has fallen asleep in the flesh and he has raised up all who have slept ever since the world began. God has died in the flesh and hell trembles with fear. He has gone to search for our first parent, as for a lost sheep. Greatly desiring to visit those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death, he has gone to free from sorrow the captives Adam and Eve, he who is both God and the son of Eve. The Lord approached them bearing the cross, the weapon that had won him the victory. At the sight of him, Adam, the first man he had created, struck his breast in terror and cried out to everyone: "My Lord be with you all." Christ answered him: "And with your spirit." He took him by the hand and raised him up, saying: "Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light. "I am your God, who for your sake have become your son. Out of love for you and for your descendants I now by my own authority command all who are held in bondage to come forth, all who are in darkness to be enlightened, all who are sleeping to arise. "I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be held a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead. Rise up, work of my hands, you who were created in my image. Rise, let us leave this place, for you are in me and I am in you; together we form only one person and we cannot be separated. For your sake I, your God, became your son; I, the Lord, took the form of a slave; I, whose home is above the heavens, descended to the earth and beneath the earth. "For your sake, for the sake of man, I became like a man without help, free among the dead. For the sake of you, who left a garden, I was betrayed to the Jews in a garden, and I was crucified in a garden. "See on my face the spittle I received in order to restore to you the life I once breathed into you. See there the marks of the blows I received in order to refashion your warped nature in my image. On my back see the marks of the scourging I endured to remove the burden of sin that weighs upon your back. See my hands, nailed firmly to a tree, for you who once wickedly stretched out your hand to a tree. "I slept on the cross and a sword pierced my side for you who slept in paradise and brought forth Eve from your side. My side has healed the pain in yours. My sleep will rouse you from your sleep in hell. The sword that pierced me has sheathed the sword that was turned against you. "Rise, let us leave this place. The enemy led you out of the earthly paradise. I will not restore you to that paradise, but I will enthrone you in heaven. I forbade you the tree that was only a symbol of life, but see, I who am life itself am now one with you. I appointed cherubim to guard you as slaves are guarded, but now I make them worship you as God. "The throne formed by cherubim awaits you, its bearers swift and eager. The bridal chamber is adorned, the banquet is ready, the eternal dwelling places are prepared, the treasure houses of all good things lie open. The kingdom of heaven has been prepared for you from all eternity."

Sunday we will rejoice in the Resurrection by singing the Alleluia and proclaim from the roof tops Jesus Christ is Risen! Alleluia! This is the day the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad.

Streaming Liturgies

During this week we will continue to stream our liturgies through Facebook and on our website. ***You do not have to be a Facebook user to view these streamed liturgies.*** Simply visit our website, www.svdpppeoria.com , scroll to the bottom left, and click on what video you would like to view. See a schedule for our Holy Week liturgies [here](#).

Parish Contributions

People continue to ask how they can make their regular contributions. You can contribute in the following ways:

- Mail contributions to the parish office: 6001 North University Street, 61614
- Drop off contributions in the parish mail slot (located on the outside of the church near the north doors)
- Automatic election debit from your account (Contact the parish office to set up.)
- Give online via credit card or debit card:
<https://cdop.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/parishes>.

Please know that we are committed to providing you resources and ways to engage in the faith. We want to thank each of you for the many ways you support our mission, and ask that you please continue to support the work of our church. Our parish is dependent upon your weekly financial gifts to continue to support our parish and school staff and provide ministry to all our parishioners.

Know that Fr. Taylor and I miss all of you. During Holy week you will all be remembered in our liturgical celebrations. Easter helps us recall that we are a people of hope. Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life so let us rejoice in the gift of our salvation and ask our Risen Lord to heal our country and world. God Bless you all!

In Christ,

Fr. Willard