

MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

St. Bernard's Parish Faith Formation

We can teach young people, sometimes so focused on themselves, that there is more joy in giving than in receiving, and that love is not only shown in words, but also in actions.

-Pope Francis



CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Grade 2:

We are in our "final countdown" toward receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist! We will celebrate the Sacrament on Sunday, April 18 at 9:30 a.m. The 2nd graders have been working hard to prepare and we are ready!

We have also been talking about the Lenten season and how we can be more like Jesus to our family and friends. One special project was making birthday cards for a homebound parishioner and sending them in the mail. We also made "lamb" to remember that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and we are his sheep/lambs - and he loves each one of us 😊

As we approach the end of Lent and look toward Passion Week, we will be hearing more about Jesus' ministry and the events leading up to the Cross and Resurrection.

Have a Blessed Easter!

-Robbin Netemeyer and Shannon Netemeyer

Grades 7 and 8:

We are less than a month from receiving the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation on Sunday, April 25th at 9:30 am Mass. The students have been busy with presenting their Saint information to other classes, writing their letters to the Bishop, and completing their service projects.

As a Lenten reflection, we watched the King of Kings movie. The students really enjoyed it. Thank you, Jamie, for recommending the movie.

We would like to recommend everyone make it a tradition to watch the movie during Lent (or more often).

-Kelly Jansen, Dana Lake and Jamie Jung

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 28

- Palm Sunday



APRIL 18

- First Communion – 9:30 am at St. Bernard

APRIL 25

- Confirmation – 9:30 am at St. Bernard

**THE HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE IS ON
PAGE 4 OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

THE DEACON'S CORNER



Palm Sunday?

Zechariah foresaw it. Jesus fulfilled it.

The Greek author Plutarch describes how Kings are supposed to enter a city. He tells about one Roman general, Aemilius Paulus, who won a decisive victory over the Macedonians. When Aemilius returned to Rome, his triumphal procession lasted three days.

The first day was dedicated to displaying all the artwork that Aemilius and his army had plundered. The second day was devoted to all the weapons of the Macedonians they had captured. The third day began with the rest of the plunder borne by 250 oxen, whose horns were covered in gold. This included more than 17,000 pounds of gold coins. Then came the captured and humiliated king of Macedonia and his extended family. Finally, Aemilius himself entered Rome, riding in a magnificent chariot.

Aemilius wore a purple robe, interwoven with gold. He carried his laurels in his right hand. He was accompanied by a large choir singing hymns, praising the military accomplishments of the great Aemilius. That, my friends, is how a King enters a city.

But the King of Kings? He entered riding on a lowly donkey. Zechariah envisioned the King of Kings, the Messiah, coming not on a great stallion, but riding on a humble donkey.

Zechariah foresaw it. Jesus fulfilled it. (Fr. Tony Kadavil)

Just an added note of the importance of the children coming to Mass regularly on weekends with their families. On weekdays they attend Mass during Faith Formation sessions, but the children need to pray with their moms and dads at Mass also on the weekends. Praying together strengthens a family in more ways than we'll ever realize!!!! Joshua says', "as for me and my house, we will serve God" Thank you for bringing the children to Mass!

-Deacon Glenn

"May you always be doing those good, kind things that show you are a child of God." Phil 1:11



THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

We journey to Easter but first we pass through Holy Week with the Lord Jesus. In some ways it may seem with our experience of the pandemic that we have been in Lent for an entire year. Still, we have hope with the coming of Spring and the lifting of limitations. This year at least we will be able to celebrate together, in church for the blessing of palms, for the Holy Thursday liturgy and the Stations on Good Friday. There will be a limited fire on Holy Saturday and our essential liturgy to celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior.

In the Hispanic community we will also be celebrating a wedding on Easter Sunday and another on Saturday. And Easter Sunday must have something for the children. So, weather permitting there will be some eggs to hunt and perhaps some baskets to share, thanks to the generosity of others.

April 17 brings a special opportunity – a mini-retreat from 9-12 pm by Zoom sponsored by the Office of Hispanic Ministry: Joy in Hope, Patience in Difficulty, Be Constant in Prayer. (Spanish only)

We wish new life with the blessings of Easter to all. ! Felices Pascuas de Flores!

Estamos en camino a la Pascua, pero primero pasamos por Semana Santa con nuestro Señor Jesús. En cierto modo parece que por nuestra experiencia de la pandemia que hemos estado en Cuaresma por todo un año. Pero ahora tenemos esperanza con la venida de la primavera y que se levantan algo de las limitaciones.

Este año, por lo menos podemos celebrar juntos, en el templo para la bendición de ramos, para la liturgia de Jueves Santo, Las Estaciones de Viernes Santo. En sábado Santo habrá un fuego humilde, pero con nuestra liturgia esencial en que celebramos la Resurrección de nuestro Salvador.

En la Comunidad Hispana celebraremos también una boda el Domingo de Pascua y otra el sábado después. Y hay que ofrecer algo a los niños. Si el tiempo nos permite, habrá huevos que buscar y quizás unas canastas que compartir, gracias a la generosidad de otros.

Viene una oportunidad especial en la mañana del 17 de abril – un mini-retiro de 9-12 por zoom, patrocinado por La Oficina de Ministerio Hispano de nuestra Diócesis: Alegría en la Esperanza, Paciencia en Dificultad, Sean Constantes en Oración.

Deseamos para todos vida nueva con las bendiciones de Pascua. ¡Felices Pascuas de Flores!

-Sr. Ellen

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Odd Months - Eucharistic Adoration will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at St. Damian.

Even Months - Eucharistic Adoration will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at St. Bernard.

FACEBOOK CHANGES

There are currently two Facebook pages for St. Bernard and St. Damian parishes, so we will be closing the group page – St. Damian, Damiansville, IL. St. Bernard, Albers, IL. The cover of the page has a notice about the upcoming closing.

Be sure to 'Like' the new page - *St. Bernard and St. Damian Catholic Churches* (with the purple Lent cover)- if you have not already done so. Here is the link to the new page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stbernardandstdamian>

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE – DUE TO COVID, CHANGES MAY BE MADE–DATES AND TIMES ARE TENTATIVE

Event	Date	Time	Location
<i>Holy Thursday</i>	<i>April 1</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>	<i>St. Bernard</i>
<i>Good Friday Service</i>	<i>April 2</i>	<i>2:00 pm</i>	<i>St. Damian</i>
<i>Way of the Cross</i>	<i>April 2</i>	<i>6:00 pm</i>	<i>St. Bernard</i>
<i>Good Friday Service in Spanish</i>	<i>April 2</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>	<i>St. Damian Gym</i>
<i>Easter Vigil</i>	<i>April 3</i>	<i>8:00 pm</i>	<i>St. Damian</i>
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	<i>April 4</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>	<i>St. Damian</i>
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	<i>April 4</i>	<i>9:30 am</i>	<i>St. Bernard</i>
<i>Easter Sunday Mass in Spanish</i>	<i>April 4</i>	<i>11:00 am</i>	<i>St. Damian</i>

