Readings

Sunday
Lk 19:28-40
Is 50:4-7
Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Phil 2:6-11
Lk 22:14—23:56

Monday
Is 42:1-7
Ps 71:1-3, 13-14
Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday
Is 49:1-6
Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday
Is 50:4-9a
Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34
Mt 26:14-25

Holy Thursday Chrism Mass
Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9
Ps 89:1-6
Rv 1:5-8
Lk 4:16-21

Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14
Ps 116:12-13, 15-18
1 Cor 11:23-26
Jn 13:1-15

Good Friday
Is 52:13—53:12
Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jn 18:1—19:42

Holy Saturday
Gn 1:1—2:2
Gn 22:1-18
Ex 14:15—15:1
Is 54:5-14
Is 55:1-11
Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28
Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Rom 6:3-11
Lk 24:1-12

Easter Sunday
Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Col 3:1-4
Jn 20:1-9
A Message From Fr. Al

“OUR SPECIAL CHRISTIAN JOURNEY”

On Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord we hear two gospel readings. The first, at the beginning of Mass, tells the story of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem where he is honored and praised as a king. The story tells of Jesus riding on the back of a donkey colt, which is certainly not the way of a king. Despite his choice of transportation, the crowds cheer Jesus. By choosing a donkey to ride upon, Jesus is fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah and showing us of his eventual humility of death on the cross. Yes, Jesus is our king. But he also lowered himself to take on our sins and die as a criminal for us. Jesus, who deserves only honor, also loved us enough to take the lowest position; first riding on a donkey colt, and then dying on a cross. “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.” (Luke 19:38)

Today we begin a special Christian journey. Today, the holiest week of the church year begins. It celebrates in story and ritual Jesus’ passing over from death to life. Identification with Christ in both his death and resurrection is what identifies a whole and fully realized person as a Christian person. Today, we recall that the journey Jesus undertook is our journey as well. Each individual Christian life is closely knit to the life of Christ. So often we talk about the parish mission, so I believe that we should make this week a real spiritual retreat. And that is the best possible parish mission: To share in the mysteries of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

Today, we reflect on Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem. Jesus certainly had his chance for a more regal entry into Jerusalem than his Palm Sunday entrance afforded. Previously, the crowds who, having witnessed his miracles, wanted to make him their king. Jesus managed to slip away from those who wished to enthrone him.

Today, Jesus accepts the adulation of the crowd and makes his triumphal entry. Jesus had to know that his suffering and death were imminent. He was well aware of his enemies and the anger and hatred of the establishment for his message of God’s love for everyone. The shouts of the crowd affirmed the one identity which Jesus claimed; not the king, but “He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

I believe there is also a special vocation reflection this week. Sometimes we may not fully understand our Christian vocation but Easter hope nourishes the longing each Christian has to be one with Christ in God: “Your life is hidden now with Christ in God.” (Colossians 3:3) We believe that one day we will be face to face with God. So, let’s join together as a parish community celebrating the mysteries of Christ this week.

Have a joyful Holy Week! God loves you!

—Fr. Al

Parish and Community

‘AN EVENING TOGETHER’
Tickets On Sale Now!

You are invited to join the St Therese faith community for “An Evening Together” on Friday, April 29th. Purchase a ticket on line or after Mass in the gathering area. BUY YOUR TICKETS BEFORE APRIL 1 AND BE ENTERED IN A DRAWING FOR AN OVERNIGHT STAY AT THE LAFAYETTE COUNTRY CLUB.

Volunteers are still needed for April 29th. Visit sttheresegala@gmail.com for information or to sign up!

Silent auction donations are needed and can be made by April 1. Please deliver to the parish office.

All Are Welcome!

‘AN EVENING FOR THE KIDS’
The GRAMMY Award Winning Okee Dokee Brothers

Thursday, May 5 at 6:00p.m.

Save the date and plan to join us for this FREE concert! All are welcome so invite your neighbors and friends. This family-friendly concert will be a wonderful opportunity for new families to experience our great community.

You won’t want to miss it!

Remember in Your Prayers

Ron Kroning, David Bickford, Paul Boynton, Henry Brodbeck, Kathy Sandholm, John Zimmer, Ann and Dan Hansen, Tom Brakke, Mary Fleischhacker, Michael Junker, Joan Egger, Kiki Donovan, Todd McCutcheon, Father Jim Gorman, Laura Dees, Aleen Okey, Alice Wall, Martha Bishop, Christine Melander, Gary Voigt, Thomas Hoy, Paul LaFauce, Penny Finke, Terri Herman, Jim Gels, Matt Hinnenkamp, Shirley Niederuecke, Paul Bokros, Lorraine Beversdorf, Ana vanKoeverden, Maura Alvord, Kathy Eagan, Nathan Weaver, lan Socha, Tom Kretsch, Judy O’Dell, Andrea Miller, Ruth Colnar, Joseph Colnar.

To be included in this column, you or a family member should call the parish office at 952-473-4422.
**Holy Year of Mercy—”Miseriordie Vultus”**

**Pope Francis on the Parable of the Merciful Father**

I am always struck when I reread the parable of the merciful father; it impresses me because it always gives me great hope. Think of that younger son who was in the father's house, who was loved; and yet he wants his part of the inheritance. He goes off, spends everything, hits rock bottom, where he could not be more distant from the father. Yet when he is at his lowest, he misses the warmth of the father's house and he goes back. And the father? Had he forgotten the son? No, never. He is there, he sees the son from afar; he was waiting for him every hour of every day. The son was always in his father's heart, even though he had left him, even though he had squandered his whole inheritance, his freedom. The father, with patience, love, hope, and mercy had never for a second stopped thinking about him, and as soon as he sees him still far off, he runs out to meet him and embraces him with tenderness, the tenderness of God, without a word of reproach: his son has returned! And that is the joy of the father. In that embrace for his son is all this joy: he has returned! God is always waiting for us; he never grows tired. Jesus shows us this merciful patience of God so that we can regain confidence, hope-always! A great German theologian, Romano Guardini, said that God responds to our weakness by his patience, and this is the reason for our confidence, our hope. It is like a dialogue between our weakness and the patience of God; it is a dialogue that, if we have it, will grant us hope.

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**Easter Flowers**

Please help decorate our beautiful church with Easter flowers. Donations will be taken after all Masses this weekend.

Remember a loved one or honor someone special. Your donation will help decorate our church throughout the season and be enjoyed by all.

Find an order blank in the back of the church. Drop in the collection basket or take or mail to the office by March 23. Thank you for your donation!

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**Pastoral Ministry**

**Need to Talk? Looking for Spiritual or Community Resources?**

We offer spiritual resources as well as community resources for those facing life transitions. If you think you can benefit from our support, please call Deacon Bill at 952-261-0575, email bheiman@st-therese.org.

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**Lenten Schedule**

**Monday—7:00am Prayer Service**
**Tuesday—7:00am Mass**
**3:30pm Mass at Deephaven Woods**

**Wednesday—8:00am Mass**

**Easter Triduum**

**Holy Thursday**
7:00pm The Lord’s Supper

**Good Friday**
Noon—Stations of the Cross
3:00pm—The Passion of our Lord

**Holy Saturday**
8:30pm Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday**
Mass at 8:00am and 10:00am
(No child care on Easter Sunday.)

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**Lenten Disciplines of Fasting and Abstinence**

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

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**New Parish/School Website**

Our new parish website is now live. Check it out at:

www.st-therese.org

March 20, 2016—Page 3
Happenings in St. Therese’ Early Childhood Program

From the Zebra Pre-School Room —

Spring is here and the Zebras are ready! We are excited to welcome Alijah and Leo into our room as they move up from the toddler room. It will be Megan and Mary’s last month with us, as they transition into the Kangaroo room; we will miss them!

Our boys and girls sure love to read! This month, we fostered that love by having a week-long read-a-thon, followed by all things Dr. Seuss. Many class favorites were incorporated into art and our daily centers including “One Fish, Two Fish…,” “The Cat in the Hat,” ”Green Eggs and Ham” and “Fox in Socks.”

March 17 was St. Patrick’s Day, and we dedicated the week to him. We wore green while learning about the origin of the holiday and we created shamrocks, hats, plus rainbows with pots of gold. We even had a special visit from a little leprechaun!

“Hopper” will help us search for spring this week as we learn about gardens—planting seeds, parts of a flowers, and the cycle of a butterfly. We even plan to create and fly kites! And as we get ready for Easter, the Zebras will participate in an egg hunt, design baskets, make cute baby chicks and bouncing bunnies.

Registration for the 2016-2017 school year has started!

Contact the school office at 952-473-4355 to get more information about Childcare, Pre-School, or K-8 classes.

At St. Therese School your child will be known and called by name!

If you think you can’t afford Catholic education for your children, let’s talk. We will find a way to make it happen.

Morning Preschool

Many of you have heard by now that we are expanding our Early Childhood options to include a morning preschool. There is so much energy and excitement about the program! Registration has started and classes are filling up quickly! We are preparing indoor and outdoor learning spaces that will encourage children to discover and explore. Your child will experience faith, fun, love and learning each and every day!

Registration information can be found on the parish website under the School/Pre K tab. Contact Principal Lauren Caton with questions.

- 3* & 4 Year Olds, by Sep 1 (*29 months with parental permission)
  - 2-Day (T/Th) 9am -12pm - $165/month
  - 3-Day (M/W/F) 9am - 12pm - $240/month

- 4 & 5 Year Olds, by Sep 1
  - 4-Day (M-TH) 9am -12pm - $310/month
  - Optional Friday 9am -12pm - $380/month

Syrup Season

We are so grateful for our beautiful campus! Our students tasted maple tree sap from one of the four trees we have tapped on campus. After collecting close to 65 gallons of sap, students in grades 4 through 7 visited a former STS family to see how sap is boiled down into pure maple syrup. Sixty-five gallons made about 1.75 gallons of syrup! The other classes compared the taste of real maple syrup with popular maple syrup brands. In science class students heard about Native and early American traditions and read materials from the DNR. It has been an exciting learning experience for everyone!

Virtue for March —

Self Discipline

Remaining focused on and working toward a worthwhile goal; to regulate one’s conduct by principle and sound judgment, rather than by impulse, desire, or social custom.

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

-1 Corinthians 10:31

Looking Forward

Mar 22
• Stations of the Cross at 12:00

Mar 25 - Apr 1
• Spring Break

Apr 4
• School resumes. Parent drive day!

Apr 8
• Spirit Wear

Apr 22, 23, 24
• Middle School Play

Apr 28
• 5th Grade overnight at Science Museum

From the Zebra Pre-School Room —

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March 20, 2016—Page 4
March 20, 2016—Page 5

Faith Formation

Let Us Cook Dinner for Your Family on Faith Formation Wednesdays!
St. Therese families are invited to partake in a buffet-style meal in the community room at Deephaven Woods Senior Living, (right on our St. Therese campus) from 5:30 to 6:30 pm on the following Wednesdays: March 16, April 6, 13, & 20. Meal tickets are $5.00/child and $8.00/adult. Please RSVP to the Deephaven Woods reception desk at 952-288-2187 by 5 pm on the Monday prior to each meal. Alleviate some stress and let us do the cooking and provide a place for you to break bread together with family and friends just before or after Faith Formation class. Menus are as follows;

April 6: Chef Salad, Hamburgers & Cheeseburgers, Fries, Veggies, Assorted Cookies.
April 13: Italian Garden Salad, Lasagna, Veggies, Garlic Bread, Eclairs.
April 20: Garden Chicken Salad, Corn Dogs, Mac & Cheese, Veggies, Assorted Cookies.

Note—all meals include coffee, milk, juice and water.

Questions of the Week
Adult: What way would you most like to share your time with your family this week
Child: How and when can you share your love for each member of your family this week?

2016 VBS: “The Jesus Story”
June 20-24, 9am—12:00 pm

Questions of the Week
Adult: What way would you most like to share your time with your family this week
Child: How and when can you share your love for each member of your family this week?

1st Eucharist Candidates Create a Service Garden
The children of our parish preparing to receive their first Eucharist the weekend of April 23-24 are spending time each week making a special effort to show God’s love to others. They are creating a service garden on the bulletin board in the front entrance of the church. Each week, they are documenting their efforts to serve others on flower petals, which they glue to stems on the bulletin board. Soon the board will be bursting with color and the evidence that these children understand what it means to be sent forth to be the “Body of Christ” for the world.

Due to an earlier than normal printing deadline, Stewardship figures for March 12 & 13 were not available in time to include in this week’s bulletin.

Our Financial Stewardship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Better/ (Worse)</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>$20,559</td>
<td>$(4,587)</td>
<td>$30,492</td>
<td>$(9,933)</td>
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<td>Year-to-Date</td>
<td>$809,620</td>
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<td>$(24,858)</td>
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</table>

As the Easter season and spring approaches, your parish is abuzz with activity and anticipation, made possible through your gifts of time, talent and treasure.

God’s work: our hands

Castaway Middle School Retreat: #TRUESTORY
April 15-17, 2016 at Young Life’s Castaway Club in Detroit Lakes, MN. Registration materials are available in the main entrances to the church. Registration is due into the parish office by 4/1.

“...the coolest thing about Castaway is whether you’re playing ridiculously fun games or singing and dancing, you can feel God’s presence 100% of the time.”
—Past Castaway Camper

Thank you.

Registration is due into the parish office by 4/1.

“...the coolest thing about Castaway is whether you’re playing ridiculously fun games or singing and dancing, you can feel God’s presence 100% of the time.”
—Past Castaway Camper

Thank you.

As the Easter season and spring approaches, your parish is abuzz with activity and anticipation, made possible through your gifts of time, talent and treasure.

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Eucharistic Liturgy Calendar and Intentions

All are welcome to join us in body or spirit for Mass or prayer whenever you have the opportunity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>8:00am †William Michael Orth</td>
<td>For the People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>For the People</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3/21</td>
<td>7:00am Prayer Service</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3/22</td>
<td>7:00am +Ruben Dario Gutierrez</td>
<td>3:30pm Mass at Deephaven Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3/23</td>
<td>8:00am Mass for Confirmation Candidates</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
<td>3/24</td>
<td>7:00am Thursday of the Lord’s Supper</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>3/25</td>
<td>12:00pm Stations of the Cross</td>
<td>3:00pm The Passion of the Lord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Saturday</td>
<td>3/26</td>
<td>8:30pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>3/27</td>
<td>8:00am †Eleanor Mample</td>
<td>10:00am For the People</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parish Services

PASTORAL MINISTRY

New Member Registration
First weekend of each month or contact the parish office.

SACRAMENTS

Weekend Liturgy Schedule
- Saturday, 5:00pm
- Sunday, 8:00 & 10:00am

Weekday Liturgy Schedule
See calendar above.

Matrimony
Contact Deacon Joe Smith at 952-261-0576 at least one year in advance to schedule wedding and preparation.

Baptism
Contact Carol Laubach at 952-261-0569 to schedule a baptism and preparation class.

Reconciliation
Saturday at 4:00pm or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick
Contact Father Al or the parish office, 952-473-4422.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS
Please submit articles and inserts to your staff liaison two weeks prior to publication.

Inserts are normally forms to be completed or information that will not fit in the bulletin.

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS
Submit the announcement to your group’s staff liaison at least one week in advance. Announcements are made at the discretion of the pastor.

Coming Events

Apr 29—”An Evening Together”
Join fellow parishioners at the Lafayette Club in Minnetonka Beach for what is sure to be a wonderful evening for a wonderful cause—your parish.

May 5—The Okee Dokee Bros.
After the grown-ups have their “Evening Together,” this is a concert for the younger ones.

Parish Staff & Phone Numbers

952-473-4422
Website: www.st-therese.org
Email: parish@st-therese.org
Fax: 952-261-0585
Deephaven Woods: 952-288-2187

Monday - Thursday: 8:00am-4:00pm
Fridays: 8:00am-12:00pm
Closed Saturdays and Sundays

Rev. Al Backmann  Pastor  239

PASTORAL MINISTRY
- Deacon Bill Heiman  Pastoral Minister  235
- Deacon Joe Smith  Deacon  236

WORSHIP AND MUSIC
- Garrick Comeaux  Dir. of Worship  228
- Rob Glover  Dir. of Music  227

SCHOOL
- Lauren Caton  Principal  323
- Sue Bokros  Secretary  322
- School Office Direct  952-473-4355

EARLY CHILDHOOD
- Jo Ellen Begalke  Director  247
- Tami Corrigan  Assistant Director  247

FAITH FORMATION
- Liz Lammers  Director  223
- Christina Moore  Youth Minister  254
- Angie Wilz  Confirmation Coor.  224

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
- Robert J. Behr  Dir. Ops & Finance  240
- Jeanne Ferrian  Network Admin.  237
- Carol Laubach  Office Coordinator  257
- Geri Korman  Receptionist  220
- Sharon Smieja  Bookkeeper  238
- D. J. Joarnt  Maint.  612-599-3339

Parish Councils

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)
- Lori Boisclair  Tom Sullivan
- Carolyn Denton  Tim Larsen
- Joan Lee  John Thomas
- Bruce Van Sloun  Al Gelschus
- MaryLouise Bowe (Trustee)

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL (PFC)
- Steve Birke  Bob Jasper
- Mark Klos  Charlie Marini
- Art Speck  Dwayne Ullsperger
- Ron Watson  Bob Behr (Ex-Officio)
- Conn McCartan (Trustee)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
- MaryLouise Bowe  Rick DesLauriers
- Mark Fleischhacker  Jerry Noack
- Dennis Regnier  Marya Robben
- Barb Sykora  Dwayne Ullsperger