My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the Blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ be with each of you. Today, we begin the sacred journey into Holy Week with Jesus. As we start the commemoration of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, we are called to strengthen and renew our faith; to recommit ourselves to His service. As you pray, ask God to guide you this week and to open your Heart to receive His blessings.

Que la bendición de Nuestro Señor esté con todos Uds. Hoy empezamos la sagrada Jornada hacia la Semana Santa con Jesús. Al empezar a conmemorar la Pasión y Resurrección de Nuestro Señor, se nos llama a corregir y renovar nuestra Fe, para comprometernos a Su servicio. Cuando oremos, pidamos a Dios nos guíe y abra nuestro corazón para recibir Su Bendición.

May God Bless you all,
Fr. Juan Manuel

As a Catholic community, we strive to grow in faith together through the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FOUNDED 1868
Palm Sunday
Ancient Traditions Bring Us Together

“When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?” The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

— Matthew 21:10-11

Palm Sunday begins the sacred walk we take together, commemorating the final days leading up to Jesus’ passion, death, and resurrection. On this, the last Sunday in Lent, it is Jesus who sets the stage for us with his triumphant entry into Jerusalem — an experience rich with ancient signs and symbols of our Catholic faith. The liturgy is distinctive: The color is the red, a sign of Jesus’ Passion and triumph over it. There are three primary rituals: the Blessing and Distribution of Palms, a joyful procession into the church, and the Mass of Palm Sunday. What magnifies the significance of this celebration is knowing that all over the world, our brothers and sisters of faith are also commemorating this sacred day with us — a day that honors Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem — and also symbolizes His opening of the eternal doors of life for all of us.

Customs for the Sunday before Easter date back to medieval times, but much remains the same. In the early centuries, palms blessed on Palm Sunday and used in the procession, were taken home. They were kept in prominent places in the house, in the barns, and in the fields, and thrown into the fire during storms for protection. Different countries have unique traditions: In Italy, olive branches are used; the yew in Ireland; the palm willow in England. Centuries ago, flowers of the season were also blessed, giving way to new names, Flower Sunday (England); Blumensonntag (Germany); Pâques Fleuris (France), and Pascua Florida (Spain).

The 9th Century Palm Sunday hymn, All Glory, Laud, and Honor, connects the People of God across time and distance: “Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring, great source of love and goodness, Our Savior and Our King.”

Peace,
Fr. Charlie
Parish Announcements

Two $1,000 College Scholarships | one from Knights of Columbus and one from St. Vincent De Paul Society. Available to High School Seniors, who are parishioners of Our Lady of the Pillar. Applications are available at the Church Office. DUE: Monday, April 8, 2013

Supporting Our Parish | Your Offerings

March 16 and 17 OFFERINGS

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<th>Parish</th>
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<td>Our Lady of the Pillar</td>
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<td>Our Lady of Refuge</td>
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<td>St Anthony’s</td>
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To be announced next week

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday EVENING, March 23, 2013
5:00 pm      Maria Pedroso+
8:00 pm      Alfredo Haro+

Sunday, March 24, 2013
8:00 am      Michael Rodrigues+
10:00 am     Manuel Machado+
12:00 noon    Arlene Fratis+
6:00 pm      Manuel Jose & Family+

Monday, March 25, 2013
8:00 am      Wilfred Steger+

Tuesday, March 26, 2013
8:00 am      Antonio Sr. & Virginia Coelho+

Wednesday, March 27, 2013
8:00 am

Thursday, March 28, 2013
8:00 am      Holy Thursday

Friday, March 30, 2013
8:00 am      Good Friday

Saturday, March 31, 2013
8:00 am      Easter Sunday+

St. Anthony’s
6:00 pm   3/16     Por la Parroquia
9:00 am    3/17    Antoinette Alegria (living)

Our Lady of Refuge
10:30 am For the Parish

Sacrament Preparation

Baptism  •  Marriage
Communion in the Home  •  Anointing the Sick

SPECIAL NOTE: English Baptism classes have been changed to the 3rd Thursday each month at 7:00 pm. For preparation information, call the Church Office 726-4674 or visit our website: http://www.ourladyofthepillar.org/sacraments

Pray for Our Parish Family Who are Sick

Pray that God’s healing power will fill them with strength and hope. To add a name, please call the Parish Office at 726-4674.

Geraldine Carter  Ilva Evans  Margaret Phelan
Nicki Galle      Natalino Marchi    Cherie Schwing
Casey Cunningham Earl Madeiros    Donald Thierry
Dorothy Canadas

TABLE of PLENTY
Weekly Supper for the Hungry
Learn more, volunteer, be our guest, or donate to support this new OLP community ministry. Contact Sister Jeanette Braun: 650-483-9037 or email: tableofplenty.olp@gmail.com; or get connected ONLINE: ourladyofthepillar.org/tableofplenty