

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE-WESTPHALIA
St. Joseph, Cyclone & Church of the Visitation, Westphalia.

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Phone 254 985-2280.

Email: cyclone.marak@gmail.com. Pastor: Rev. Ranjan Cletus

Web address: stjyclone.org

The Sacraments

Baptism: Saturday after Mass. Please contact the pastor for scheduling a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St Joseph, Cyclone or Church of the Visitation, Westphalia.

Confessions: SATURDAYS 3:00-4:00 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT.

Marriage: Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before date of wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

MARCH 29, 2026 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

“This is Jesus the prophet,” the crowds cry out. “The form of God...taking the form of a slave,” Paul writes to the people of Philippi. Is he King of the Jews? “That’s what you say,” Jesus himself replies to Pilate. But the last word is left to the anonymous centurion, who speaks for us all: “Truly, this was the Son of God.”

We realize that so much of what we hear this Sunday is more than a long and agonizing recounting of the last days of Christ’s earthly life. It’s really a summation of who he is and what Christ gave on our behalf. And what a summation it is. There’s the triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the betrayal at the Last Supper; we hear the interrogation by Pilate and witness the agonizing walk to Calvary. It is epic. It is heartbreaking. It is exhausting. There’s judgement, torture, betrayal and death. It stings. It overwhelms. We stand there clutching our palms during the longest Gospel of the year, shifting on our feet, hearing once again what we’ve heard so often before and aching to just sit down. But we can’t. And for good reason. We need to hear it. We need to be reminded. This is where Lent has led us. And it just might help us appreciate once more that question Matthew records in the Gospel. Who is this?

It’s probably not a question we thought about much during Lent. During those 40 days, we’ve been thinking about other things. Maybe they’re incidental: things like ashes, hamburgers, purple vestments, the absence of alleluias. Or maybe they are the things that are on our own personal “to do” list — bad habits to correct, faults to acknowledge, sins to confess. A lot of us spend Lent reflecting more deeply on (as the Confiteor puts it) “what I have done and what I have failed to do” — looking at our problems, our sins and shortcomings, and seeking ways we can refocus our lives to be worthy of what is coming on Easter. We’ve been trying to pray more, give up more, give more to those around us as a way of living in imitation of Christ.

But then we hit Palm Sunday and it hits us back. The reality of Christ’s Passion strikes at the heart and tells us: This is why we’ve been doing this. This is what it was really about. This is who it was all about. Who is this? Scholars and saints have spent centuries trying to find new ways to answer that question, but this Sunday, as we brace ourselves again for Holy Week and the Triduum and the greatest feast on the Christian calendar, an anonymous soldier says what the world needs to remember: “Truly, this was the Son of God.” It doesn’t get more basic than that. We tend to think that the great takeaway of Palm Sunday is in those long strands that we carry home and tuck behind pictures or mirrors hanging on the wall. No. Just listen to the centurion. That’s the great message of Palm Sunday — and it can serve as a kind of haunting lectio for the days to come.

Bulletin Information: Cyclone: Nancy Posvar (254 913-2696)

Bulletin Deadline: Please call or send by email all info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!

MINISTRIES

Saturday, April 4, 2026

Communion: Kristen Parker
Lector: Letha Novosad
Altar Servers: L & S Jahns—J Hoelscher—A Novosad
Ushers: Volunteers

Sunday, April 5, 2026

Communion: Cathy Bruggman—Lacy Jahns—
Andrew Brenek
Lector: Courtney Prado
Altar Servers: D, R, C Jahns—L Schneider
Ushers: Ricky Brenek & David Hejl

UPCOMING MASSES

HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 2 5:00 PM

Communion: Janie Walker
Altar Servers: H & E Cowen—D & R Jahns
Lector: Steve Walker
Ushers: Volunteers

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3 5:00 PM:

Communion: Sarah Hejl
Altar Servers: K & H Hejl—A Stumbaugh
Lector: Kristen Parker & Becky Dolgener
Ushers: Volunteers

- 3/29 Sunday 8:15 am: + Lucille Stock by KC's
+ Darwin Bruggman by Family
- 3/31 Tuesday 7:00 am: + Elsie Jez by Charlie Tischler
+ Maxie Roessler by Patsy Cofer
- 4/2 Thursday 5:00 pm: + Nancy Hubnik by Terry & Barbara McNeill
+ Jerome Schoppe by Family
- 4/3 Good Friday 3:00 pm: Stations of the Cross
Good Friday 5:00 pm: Veneration of the Cross
- 4/4 Holy Saturday Vigil 8:00 pm: + Monica Mikeska by James & Jane Kahlig
+ Glenda Hesse by Monica Mikeska
- 4/5 Easter Sunday 8:15 am: + Denise Posvar by Family
+ Linda Hering by Family

WESTPHALIA MASSES

- 3/29 Sunday 10:15 am
- 4/1 Wednesday 6:00 pm
- 4/2 Holy Thursday 7:00 pm
- 4/3 Good Friday 3:00 pm—
Stations of the Cross
- 4/3 Good Friday—
Veneration of the Cross 7:00 pm
- 4/5 Easter Sunday 10:15 am

In your charity, please pray for: Homebound: Leora Hering. Good health: A. J. Stermer, Bill Stock, Dorothy Haisler, Evelyn Richter, Buddy Roessler, Al & Lou Buckholt, Mary Jane Underwood, Lindsey Pierce, Rebecca Marek, Margaret Campbell, Barbara Johnson, Fr. Tom Chamberlain.

Stewardship—March 22—\$1758 Catholic Relief Services—\$20

Sanctuary Light—March 29—April 4—In Memory of Jerome Schoppe by Family.

SCHOLARSHIPS—The Burlington-Cameron Branch of Catholic life Insurance is sponsoring a scholarship to graduating seniors from our parish and other parishes represented by our Branch. See Shirley Hoelscher, REP coordinator for applications.

St. Mary's Altar Society is sponsoring 2—\$1000 scholarships. Applications are in church entry—Due April 26.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 30—April 3—Holy Week—FREE noon lunches—12:00 pm—1:00 pm—Methodist Church—Rosebud—All are warmly invited to come and enjoy a simple noon lunch, a brief message, and time together as a community of faith. This is a community-wide effort with all local churches participating throughout the week, coming together in unity to prepare and serve each day. Come as you are, bring a friend, and take a moment in the middle of your day to pause, reflect, and prepare your heart for Easter. "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" Psalms 133:1.

April 7—June 2—Sacred Heart Church in Lott is sponsoring a faith formation class which consists of a study on the mystery and meaning of the Cross. As we walk through Christ's suffering, death, Resurrection, and Eucharistic gift, we'll explore how the Cross speaks to our own pain, hope, prayer, and daily lives — and how it draws us more deeply into the love of Jesus. Tuesdays @ 7P in the Sacred Heart Hall. Contact Chris Lincoln at chris@chrislincoln.com or 559-473-8357.

April 7 — Week 1: Why the Cross is the heart of the Christian life.

April 14 — Week 2: What Jesus was willing to endure for us, and why it matters.

April 21 — Week 3: Learning to look honestly at the Cross instead of looking away.

April 28 — Week 4: Staying close to Jesus in His physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering.

May 5 — Week 5: Bringing our hardest questions about suffering and evil to the Cross.

May 12 — Week 6: What Jesus' sacrifice did for us, and why His love changes everything.

May 19 — Week 7: How the Resurrection and Ascension bring hope to suffering and death.

May 26 — Week 8: Meeting Christ in the Eucharist and learning to offer ourselves with Him.

June 2 — Week 9: Living the mystery of the Cross in everyday life with trust and love.

ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

April 12—Next Altar Society meeting following mass.

Altar Society is collecting for college care packages through April 18/19. We have 3 students that we'll be sending packages to.