

Our Call to Face Down Evil

We come to the holiest week of the year. This week, Christians around the world dedicate their minds and hearts to meditate on the great gift of the redemption won for them by Christ. It is a cosmic event that happened 2,000 years ago but it bears fruit today in the heart of every Christian in every continent, country, city, and home.

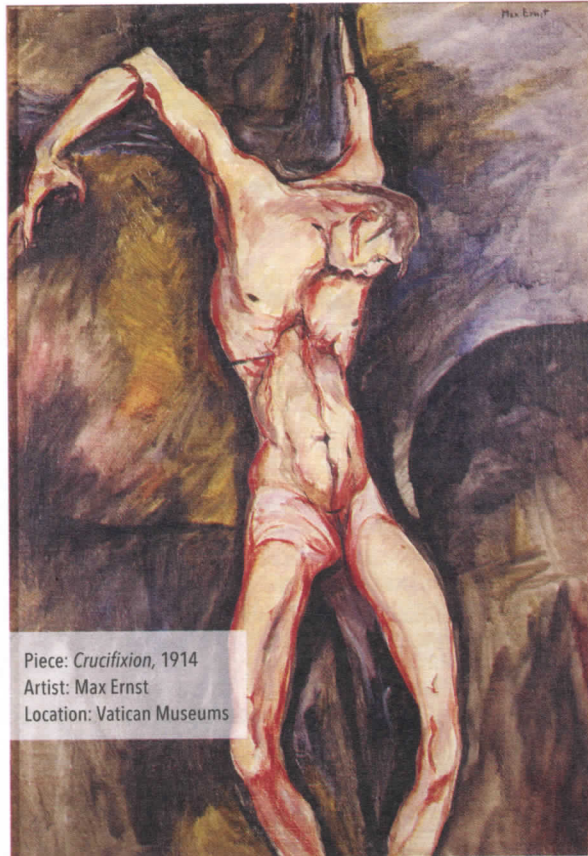
Max Ernst shows the crucifixion in cosmic, timeless dimension by placing the crucified Christ in a dark, tumultuous, and formless setting. The sinister colors of blue, brown, yellow, and black seem to hide a face or perhaps a masked and darkened eye on the right that peers through the evil canvas.

As chaotic and nonsensical as evil appears in our world, it also seems to have a commonality that betrays a will or an intelligence hidden beneath the surface. The suffering and destruction of so many people from senseless violence, famine, and hatred seems at once both spontaneous, yet strangely orchestrated by some force.

The same was true for Christ's crucifixion. On the surface it appears the result of a feverish crowd, a confused politician, a jealous and blinded religious leadership, and an overwhelmed group of cowardly followers. Yet we perceive the return of the tempter, Lucifer, the author of the *non serviam*.

The power of evil that struck the head continues to strike the body. Be aware of the call for all followers of Jesus to be ready to face the same struggle against evil that he did, and with the same measure of love.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *Crucifixion*, 1914
Artist: Max Ernst
Location: Vatican Museums

PHOTO © GOVERNATORATO S.C.V.-DIRETTORE DI MUSEI

For Reflection

What extra time will you take to be with your Lord who suffers for you?

How can you show your love to him in a special way this week?

*They crucified him and the criminals there...Then Jesus said,
"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."*

Luke 23:33-34

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak

Pastor: Rev. Darrell Kostiha

Mailing address: 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

Email: cyclone.marak@gmail.com **Website:** marakchurch.org

Masses: Cyclone: Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, Thurs & Friday: 7AM

Marak: Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 5:30PM(unless otherwise stated)

The Sacraments:

Baptism: On Sundays 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 Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

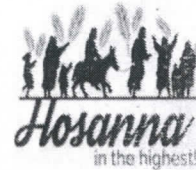
Confessions: Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

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

APRIL 14, 2019 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” Mathew 21

What is written about Me is coming to fulfillment,” Jesus says in today’s Gospel (see Luke 22:37). Indeed, we have reached the climax of the liturgical year, the highest peak of salvation history, when all that has been anticipated and promised is to be fulfilled. By the close of today’s long Gospel, the work of our redemption will have been accomplished, the new covenant will be written in the blood of His broken body hanging on the cross at the place called the Skull. In His Passion, Jesus is “counted among the wicked,” as Isaiah had foretold (see Isaiah 53:12). He is revealed definitively as the Suffering Servant the prophet announced, the long-awaited Messiah whose words of obedience and faith ring out in today’s First Reading and Psalm. The taunts and torments we hear in these two readings punctuate the Gospel as Jesus is beaten and mocked (see Luke 22:63–65; 23:10–11, 16), as His hands and feet are pierced (see Luke 23:33), as enemies gamble for His clothes (see Luke 23:34), and as three times they dare Him to prove His divinity by saving Himself from suffering (see Luke 23:35, 37, 39). He remains faithful to God’s will to the end, does not turn back in His trial. He gives Himself freely to His torturers, confident that, as He speaks in today’s First Reading: “The Lord God is My help . . . I shall not be put to shame.” Destined to sin and death as children of Adam’s disobedience, we have been set free for holiness and life by Christ’s perfect obedience to the Father’s will (see Romans 5:12–14, 17–19; Ephesians 2:2; 5:6). This is why God greatly exalted Him. This is why we have salvation in His Name. Following His example of humble obedience in the trials and crosses of our lives, we know we will never be forsaken, that one day we too will be with Him in Paradise (see Luke 23:42). Seeing and Believing .



Prayer Chain...Please remember in your daily prayers the faithfully departed, those souls in purgatory, those of our community that are in special need of prayer, those who are homebound or in nursing homes, all those in the military and the following: Gerald Beach, Andrea Enga(Cousin of Ethel Marak), Seth Litzman (nephew of Lynne Hornung), Albina Vrazel, JoLeen Cayhill, and Ethel Marak. Prayers are powerful

Contact Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—Slavik@farm-market.net to be put on the prayer chain.

3/31 Stewardship: Regular Offering: \$1,434.00

3/31 Children’s Offering: \$7.00

3/31 Catholic Relief Services: \$271.00

Thank you for Your Generosity!

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - Email—pagaines2002@yahoo.com

CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-869-2511)

Bulletin deadline : Please call or e-mail info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!

Ministries for Holy Week and April 21

Holy Thursday—April 18th:

Eucharistic Minister: Bernice Vrazel

Wine: Kelly Laurence Cindy Prcin

Ushers: David Hertenberger & Joe Mayer

Lector: Brad Vaculin

Offertory: Carl Hubnik Family

Altar Servers: Chase and Cade Hubnik

Good Friday—April 19th:

Eucharistic Minister: Kelly Laurence

Ushers: Jimmy Vansa & Garrey Prcin

Lector: Alfred & Bernice Vrazel

Offertory: Merlene Slavik & Sharon Richter

Altar Servers: Pat Higgins, Kate Higgins & Claire Kopriva

Easter Sunday—April 21:

Rosary: Liz Jungmann

Eucharistic Minister: Cindy Prcin

Ushers: Trey Richter & Sam Richter

Lector: Greg Hoelscher

Offertory: Albert & Marguerite Michalka

Altar Servers: Sam Richter, Will Richter & Brady Barton



MARAK MASSES—April 14-21, 2019

Date	Time	Intentions
Today- 4/14	10:15am	+ Jerry & Mary Ann Plachy by Robert & Betty Brenek & Robert & Vickie Plachy
4/17 - Wed.—Mass & Stations of the	5:30pm	+ Rita Mikulec by Robert & Debbie Vansa
4/18—Holy Thursday	5:00pm	+ Joe Vansa by Louis & Mary Frances Vansa
4/19—Good Friday	5:15pm	
4/21—Easter Sunday	10:15am	+ Larry Green by Tom & Julie Motyka + Susan Jochec by Raymond Jochec

CYCLONE MASSES— April 14-21, 2019

Date	Time	Intentions
Today - 4/14	8:15am	+ Joyce Litzman by Jim Litzman
4/16- Tuesday	7:00am	NO MASS
4/18— Holy Thursday	7:15pm	+ Anna Smetana by Jackie & Charlie Green
4/19—Friday—Stations of the Cross	3:00pm	
4/19—Friday—Good Friday	7:15pm	+ Larry Posvar by Janice & Chuck McCourt
4/20- Saturday Vigil	9:00pm	+ Royella Roessler by Judy & Clyde Gottschalk
4/21— Sunday—Palm Sunday	8:15am	+ Denise Posvar by Family

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **TODAY:** St. Joseph's Spring Fest Dinner—11am till 1:30pm—Homemade chicken & Sausage with all the trimmings—\$10/plate.
- **April 19—Good Friday :** Collection for the Holy Land in particular for the Franciscans who are stewards of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land. Visit <http://www.myfranciscan.org> to learn more.
- **April 19- Good Friday:** 20th Annual Good Friday Way of the Cross Procession in Temple, Texas. For more information, See flyer on bulletin board in the church entrance.
- **Easter Sunday—April 21:** KJZT Jrs. & KC Council #10186 are joining hands after Mass to provide an Easter Egg Hunt for our youth. It will be on the grounds right behind the church. Parents please remember to bring baskets or pails for your children to hunt goodies.

Calendar

Monday

APRIL 15

Holy Weekday

Is 42:1-7

Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

APRIL 16

Holy Weekday

Is 49:1-6

Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday

APRIL 17

Holy Weekday

Is 50:4-9a

Mt 26:14-25

Thursday

APRIL 18

Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14

1 Cor 11:23-26

Jn 13:1-15

Friday

APRIL 19

Good Friday

Is 52:13-53:12

Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday

APRIL 20

Holy Saturday

Gn 1:1-2:2

or Gn 1:1, 26-31a

Gn 22:1-18

or Gn 22:1-2, 9a,

10-13, 15-18

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

Rom 6:3-11

Lk 24:1-12

Sunday

APRIL 21

Easter

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4

or 1 Cor 5:6b-8

Jn 20:1-9

Dear Padre,

I was recently diagnosed with cancer. When I think about death now, I get scared. The crucifixion and death of Jesus, surrounded by dark skies, earthquakes, and opening tombs, adds to my fright. Any words of encouragement?

Transitions in life are always a bit frightening, and the transition of our dying and rising can be the scariest of them all. When we were tiny infants in our mother's womb, we transitioned into life. We were not conscious of what we were doing, and so we were not scared. We were in God's hands. And God, who creates all life, brought us to be born and live.

The same challenge faces you now as when you were in the womb. Even though you are conscious of your sickness and your possible death, you are still asked to leave it all in the hands of God. God, who brought you to life, will travel with you through your dying and into the kingdom. Jesus certainly showed us how to do this with his prayer during his crucifixion: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46).

People who have had near-death experiences do not talk about how scary and frightening it was. In fact, they speak about how peaceful and full of light the journey was for them. Most hated the idea of "returning" to their sick bodies. This same journey of peace and light, and the sense of God's close presence to you, can be yours in your last moments here.

Trust in God. Commend your spirit to God's care. God loves you! God will keep you safe and lead you home!

Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



SOLOVIOVA LUDMILA/SHUTTERSTOCK



A Word from Pope Francis

Let us ask for the grace to follow Jesus faithfully, not in words but in deeds. Let us also ask for the patience to carry our own cross, not to refuse it or set it aside, but rather, in looking to him, to take it up and to carry it daily.

—Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017