



# ST MARY OF THE ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday, March 29, 2026- PALM SUNDAY



## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." - Mt 21:9

"¡Bendito el que viene en nombre del Señor! ¡Hosanna en el cielo!" - Mt 21, 9

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### **Parish Administrator:**

**Father John De Britto, m.ss.cc**

frjohnbritto@charlestdiocese.org

**Deacon:** Juan Borges

### **Parish Secretary/Religious Ed. Director**

Alexandra Pérez

aperez@charlestdiocese.org

**Safe Environment:** Pat Binninger

pbinninger@charlestdiocese.org

**Pro life Director:** Petra Massey

nothingcouldbefiner@charter.net

### **Church Office:**

**Telephone:** 864-226-8621

**Email:** officesma@charlestdiocese.org

**Website:** sma43.net

### **Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am–2:00 pm

1821 White St, Anderson, SC 29624

## **Mission Statement**

St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church, Anderson SC was founded in 1943 by the Franciscans of the Holy Name Province, New York. The intention then and today, was and is to, in the spirit of Jesus Christ and St. Francis, minister in and with the African American Catholic community and to reach out to the African Americans of Anderson County. Furthermore, all who come to St. Mary's from whatever background and ethnicity with a desire for Christian family will be regarded as brothers and sisters to us. We also see ourselves as called to live in Gospel relationship to the alienated and the poor of this community.

# The Holy Father's prayer intention for the month of March 2026

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

## Mass Schedule

**Sunday:** 9:00 am (English) 12:30 pm (Español)  
**Monday:** No Mass  
**Tuesday:** 4:00 pm (English)  
**Wednesday-Friday:** 8:00 am (English)  
**Wednesday & Friday:** 7:00 pm (Español)  
**Saturday:** 4:00 pm (English)  
**Confessions:** 1/2 hour before each Mass.  
**Holy Adoration:** Thursdays after morning Mass, Fridays 6-7 pm

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## Food Pantry

Drop off any non-perishable food items in the church or parish hall bin. The following are food supplies we need to restock:

- Boxes of Cereal
- Canned Fruit
- Plastic Jars of Jelly

## THANK YOU

\*\*\*\*\*

### Parish Chorus Practice

**Thursdays at 6:00 pm**

**HeatherJCHiley@gmail.com**

**Heather Brown**

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### Prayer Warriors:

We are a group of parishioners who pray for you, your family, and / or friends.

To join our faith filled ministry or to request prayer, please contact Judy Hanson at 434-944-2636

### Prayer Intentions for this week:

Peggy Cowick

Ron Miskelly

Susan Wicker

Ashley

Babies Beckett and Francesca

Marina Osborn

Kris LeCompte

Linda Firnero

Renee Reid

Randy Kolb

Lynette Casey

Rod and Ida Fernandez

Roy Mack Tom Morris Will Hanson Lori Prine

David Howard Jessica

PLEASE NOTE: Prayer intentions cannot be posted in the bulletin unless permission is given to do so

## Weekly Collections

**March 21-22**

**Operating: \$ 6,921**

**B & G: \$ 165**

**Food Pantry: \$ 530**

**Women's Council Bake Sale: \$ 72**

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## Knights of Columbus

We are a Catholic men's organization serving our parish and community through time and support of charitable organizations. Anyone interested in finding out more can call Mike Massey at 864-314-3622.

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## Hispanic Ministry / Ministerio Hispano

Serves the growing Hispanic/Latino population by providing culturally and linguistically appropriate pastoral care, fostering their engagement and leadership in the Church, and welcoming them into the broader Catholic community. Meetings are once a month on a Thursday. Meeting dates will be announced.

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## Women's Council

**3rd Monday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall**

The Women Council is a ministry of service to the parish and community. All women in the church are welcome.

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## Men's Club

**1st Wednesday of the month - 5:30 P.M. Parish Hall**

The Men's Club was organized as a fellowship for the men in the parish. All men in the church are welcome.

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## Safe Environment:

**Safe Environment/Virtus Program:** St. Mary of the Angels Parish is committed to ensuring a safe environment for our children and vulnerable adults and for upholding the "National Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People." **All Volunteers who serve at Masses (Ushers, Lectors, Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers, Choir) and all parish office, Food Pantry and religious education volunteers must undergo a background screening and complete VIRTUS online training. The parish must receive clearance notification from the Diocese of Charleston prior to a volunteer beginning service.**

**Parish Safe Environment Coordinator:** Patricia Binninger, (703-403-5573), or pbinninger@charlestdiocese.org

**Diocesan Office of Child Protection Services:** Jeniffer Medina, (843) 225-8136

**Diocesan Victim Assistance:** Mary Nicole Cook (843) 856-0748 or (800) 921-8122 or mcook@charlestdiocese.org

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

I gave my back to those who beat me,  
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;  
my face I did not shield  
from buffets and spitting. (Is 50:6)

### Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

### Second Reading:

He humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him. (Phil 2:8-9)

### Gospel:

The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch  
over Jesus  
feared greatly when they saw the earthquake  
and all that was happening, and they said,  
"Truly, this was the Son of God!" (Mt 26:54)

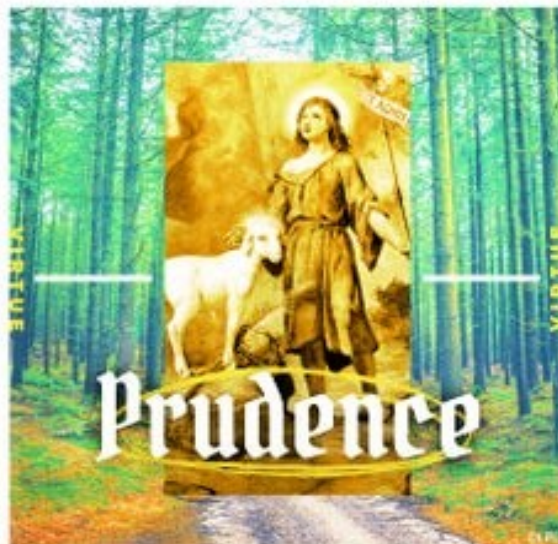
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

This week, we see things that break our heart —  
God betrayed. This week, we see things that shake  
our faith — God bleeding on a cross. This week,  
this Holy Week, with all its difficult moments, can  
change us, if we let it. Are we ready?

## Observances for the week of March 29, 2026

**Sunday:** Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord;  
Holy Week begins  
**Wednesday:** April Fools' Day  
**Thursday:** Holy Thursday  
**Friday:** Good Friday  
**Saturday:** Holy Saturday  
**Next Sunday:** Easter Sunday



## Virtues, Explained!

The virtue of prudence is  
like glasses for a soul made  
nearsighted by original sin.  
Prudence disposes our practical  
reason to not only discern what is  
good, but to choose the right way  
of achieving that good.

## Blessing for Holy Week

Be with us this week, Lord,  
journeying closer and closer to  
Your pierced and Sacred Heart.  
Immerse us in Your intense and  
undying love.  
Help us to encounter Your passion  
in new ways that inform, surprise,  
and inspire us.  
Amen.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of March 29, 2026

### Sunday:

Mt 21:1-11 (37)/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

### Monday:

Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

### Tuesday:

Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

### Wednesday:

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

### Thursday:

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

### Friday:

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

### Saturday:

Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15-15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

### Next Sunday:

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 Or Lk 24:13-35

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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Just prior to this week's Passion narrative in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a small, striking story describing a woman's scandalous action toward Jesus: **"A woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on his head" (Matthew 26:7)**. The ointment was pure nard, worth more than 300 denarii. A year's wages. Maybe a dowry, maybe a family inheritance. In any case, she breaks it. She does not measure or ration. She pours it all out, irreversibly, over Jesus. Why does this image begin Holy Week?

Because what she does with the jar, Jesus will soon do with his life. The jar must be broken so the fragrance can be released. Jesus' body will be broken so his priceless divine and human love can be poured out. She gives everything, just as he is about to give everything. And He sees it: **"She has done a good thing for me" (Matthew 26:10)**. Her act is lavish, impractical, scandalous in its apparent wastefulness. And he loves it. It is what Holy Week is all about.

What jar are you still holding onto? Your time? Your comfort? Your plan for how life should go? Don't just wave palms today. Let yourself be broken open so your love, too, can be poured out.

**Lenten Challenge:** Offer something costly to Jesus this Holy Week — not out of guilt, but love. Your attention. Your forgiveness. Your time. Break the jar. Trust that nothing poured out for him is ever wasted.

— *Father John Muir*

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** The chasm between man and his Creator is an ancient one, and it is driven deep and wide. But this week — this Holy Week — a bridge is built across the chasm. And God reaches out His hand.

### **The Humanity of Holy Week**

We have all sold Jesus out, at one point or another. Some of us have done it more than once, and we've done it for a lot less than 30 pieces of silver.

We have all denied Christ, and we have done it more than three times and under much less pressure than Peter, who feared for his life when he shouted, "I do not know the man!"

We have all struck the face of God — out of anger? Fear? Confusion? All of the above? — screaming, in agony, "Prophecy for me!"

At one point or another, we have all looked at our Lord beaten and betrayed, and we have all said, as Pilate did: "What shall I do with Jesus called Christ?"

And we have all hung on the cross chosen for us, crying out in bewilderment: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Holy Week is a week where we see humanity, in all its vulnerability and ignorance. We see it in the "villains" of the piece, like Judas, and in the morally neutral characters like Pilate and the Jews who have been misled about Jesus. We even see it in the "good guys" like Peter.

In this, the holiest week of the year, we see ourselves at our very worst. The chasm between man and his Creator is an ancient one, and it is driven deep and wide — by the pridefulness of Adam and Eve, yes, but also by every poor choice you and I have ever made.

Every "I don't know the man!"

Every "Prophecy!"

Every "What shall I do with Jesus?"

These cries echo forth from the depths of this chasm.

But this week — this Holy Week — a bridge is built across the chasm. And God reaches out His hand.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

What is the difference between a chastisement and a punishment?

### Answer:

The distinction between chastisement and punishment is, in many ways, a subtle one, but which is still relevant in our Catholic tradition.

First, chastisement is a concept that is grounded in Sacred Scripture. Here, we see chastisement as a response by God to people's actions that is intended to teach a lesson. As St. John Paul II observed, "chastisement appears to be ... a kind of divine pedagogy, in which the last word is reserved to mercy: He scourges and then shows mercy, casts down to the depths of the nether world, and he brings up from the great abyss" (Tobit 13:2). The idea here is that in order to capture our attention or to highlight how we have not lived out our covenant-relationship with God as we should, there are times when God uses events in life to draw us back to the quality of relationship or faith that we should have.

The concept of punishment, however, has a different sense. The Catechism of the Church observes that punishment is the consequence of a damaging action that "has the primary aim of redressing the disorder" and to protect the community and the common good from further damage or harm (see no. 2266). Although we always hope that someone who is being punished for a crime or some other harmful action will learn from their actions, punishment isn't necessarily intended to teach a lesson in the same way that a chastisement is.

Ultimately, how we make the distinction between chastisement and punishment is a matter of discernment. As with almost everything in life, our experiences can be an opportunity for grace — or for something less — depending on how open we are to recognizing the movement of God's Spirit within them.

## Prayer

Jesus, help me to treat you like my king.

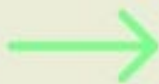
## Mission for the Week

Make your own palm branch to wave for Jesus at home. Cut an oval out of green construction paper. Then make cuts toward the middle (but not all the way through) for leaves.

## Sharing the Gospel

Many years earlier, God's prophets had written about the Savior. He would heal the blind, he would raise the dead, and he would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey as a gentle king. The people knew Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for. They treated him like a king.

Now color the picture!



Help Jesus get to Jerusalem.





# VIA FIDELIS:

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## THE FAITHFUL WAY

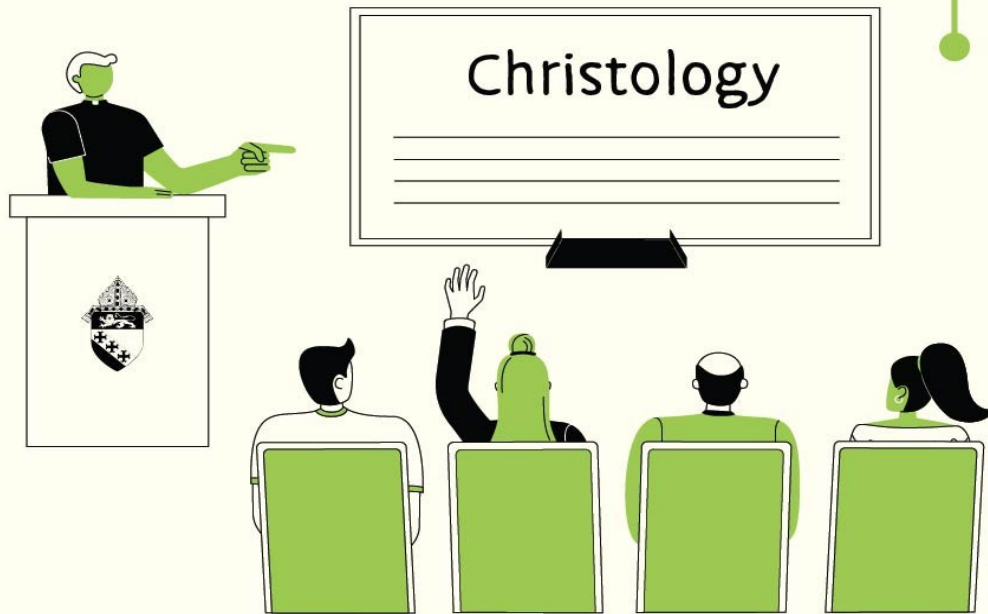
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### Catechesis

Grow deeper in the knowledge  
of our Church's teachings.

2026

Catequesis  
Catequese  
Katekesis  
Huấn Giáo



*Monthly study guides can be used in personal prayer and for small group reflection.*

## MARCH 2026

### SCRIPTURE

Read: Matthew 5:13-16

### REFLECT:

1. This passage appears in the 'Sermon on the Mount' in Matthew's Gospel, in which Jesus imparts many key elements of his teaching. How is this passage one of those key elements of Jesus' message?
2. Why do you think Jesus uses the image of salt to describe discipleship?
3. Similarly, why do you think Jesus uses the image of light to describe discipleship?

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### READ: A selection from *Via Fidelis* — Chapter 4

Over the course of the last few centuries, Western countries have demoted the Christian faith to a mere cultural symbol. The faith has been stripped of its richness and beauty. The Lord Jesus and his Gospel are dismissed or outrightly mocked. The Church is viewed as an antique of a bygone era that is no longer relevant or helpful to society. Such signs show us the loss of faith in our day.

In our age, which is predominated by secularism and moral relativism, even believers can get caught up in the moral laxity, financial greed, political messianism and nihilistic cultural realities around them. While expressed in different ways at different times, darkness and error are found in every age and our own age is no exception. We are in an active struggle to show the goodness of the Lord Jesus, the credibility of the Gospel and the essential role of the Church as salt and light for our world today.

### REFLECT:

1. In this selection, the Bishop describes a widespread loss of faith in our culture. In what ways have you seen this to be true? Conversely, what points of hope have you seen?
2. What effect do the 'moral laxity, financial greed, political messianism and nihilistic cultural realities' that the Bishop describes have on society and the individuals within society? How do we respond?
3. The Bishop echoes Jesus' call to be 'salt and light' in the world of today. What does this mean in our context?



## STATEWIDE



96 parishes



20 missions



32 schools



30 seminarians



109 diocesan priests



16 campus ministries



85 youth ministry programs



246 permanent deacons



8 Catholic Charities of SC locations

## GIFT PLANS TO CONSIDER

*(Based on 10-month pledge)*

Daily Sacrifice	Monthly Sacrifice	Total Gift
\$32.68	\$1,000	\$10,000
\$16.34	\$500	\$5,000
\$8.17	\$250	\$2,500
\$5.00	\$150	\$1,500
\$2.50	\$75	\$750
\$1.67	\$50	\$500
83¢	\$25	\$250

*NOTE: A 10% down payment is encouraged but not required.*

## His Garden Society

His Garden Society, offers a special way to join the Bishop as he leads the flock. Members of His Garden Society take a leadership role in supporting the Catholic Appeal of South Carolina with an annual gift of \$1,500 or more, or with a recurring monthly gift.

### HIS GARDEN SOCIETY GIVING LEVELS

St. Francis Circle	Any monthly recurring gifts
Camellia Circle	\$1,500 - \$4,499
Magnolia Circle	\$5,000 - \$9,999
Azalea Circle	\$10,000+

## OPTIONS FOR GIVING

Each family is asked to prayerfully consider a contribution in one of the following ways:

- A ONE-TIME GIFT
- A PLEDGE that is payable over 10 months
- An AUTOMATICALLY RECURRING GIFT that continues until you elect otherwise *(must be fulfilled electronically)*.

SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



*To make a donation using stocks or mutual funds, please visit our website for instruction: [charlestondiocese.org/catholic-appeal](http://charlestondiocese.org/catholic-appeal)*



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIocese**  
OF CHARLESTON

901 Orange Grove Road | Charleston, South Carolina | [charlestondiocese.org](http://charlestondiocese.org)

CATHOLIC APPEAL  
of South Carolina

The CATHOLIC DIOCESE of CHARLESTON

# HOLY WEEK 2026

Let us accompany the Lord in His Passion, Death, and Resurrection

We warmly invite all parishioners, families, and friends to join us for sacred celebrations of Holy Week.

## PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of palms

**MARCH 29**

9:00 a.m. English Mass  
12:00 p.m. Spanish Mass

## MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

**MARCH 30**

8:00 a.m. English Mass  
Followed by Confession

## TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

**MARCH 31**

Chrim Mass at the Cathedral  
11:00 am

## WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

**APRIL 1**

NO MASS

## HOLY THURSDAY

**APRIL 2**

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper  
7:00 pm Bilingual

## GOOD FRIDAY

**APRIL 3**

Stations of the Cross 2:00 pm  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion & Veneration of the Cross  
3:00 pm, Bilingual

## HOLY SATURDAY

**APRIL 4**

Easter Vigil on the Holy Night  
8:30 pm, Bilingual

## EASTER SUNDAY

**APRIL 5**

9:00 a.m. English Mass  
12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass



May these holy days bring grace, peace, and renewed faith to every family

## THE BUZZ PROJECT



**Bee** DIGITAL MISSIONARY

#Bee CATHOLICCHALLENGESC

Share your story of growing up in the Catholic Church.

Here is your mission:

- 1) Post your experience on social media
- 2) Use #beecatholicchallengeSC
- 3) Tag a friend to challenge them to do the same!

Don't forget to join our BEE HIVE on Instagram and Facebook @buzzprojectsc.

Let's swarm social media with faith and #beeboldforJESUS!



A deacon is an ordained minister of the Catholic Church. There are three groups, or orders, of ordained ministers in the Church: bishops, priests, and deacons.

Deacons are ordained for a ministry of service, which they carry out under the authority of the Bishop. All ordained ministers in the Church are called to functions of Word, Altar, and Charity.

**PERMANENT DIACONATE**

# ARE YOU CALLED?



Deacons are ordained as a sacramental sign to the Church and to the world of Christ, who came "to serve and not to be served."

## FORMATION

- New classes form every two years
- Discernment and formation lasts 5 1/2 years
- Catholic men must be aged 35-80 at time of application to be eligible to apply
- Scan the QR code for more requirements and information.

For information on exploring a vocation as a deacon in the Diocese of Charleston: [charlestondiocese.org/diaconate](http://charlestondiocese.org/diaconate). Email Deacon Brian Justice, Director of Formation: [bjustice@charlestondiocese.org](mailto:bjustice@charlestondiocese.org).

## Devine Mercy Novena

The Devine Mercy Novena will begin Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, (this day we will do it personally at home), and it will continue daily through Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm in the Church. We will celebrate Devine Mercy Sunday on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

All are welcome.

**Parish Office will be closed**

**Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at**

**12:00 noon through Friday,**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Office will open on**

**Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**



SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD  
CUT BRANCHES AND  
STREWED THEM ON  
**THE ROAD.**

— MATTHEW 21:8 —