



PALM SUNDAY OF THE *Lord's* PASSION

April 13, 2025

Prepare
Reflect
Rejoice

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**ST. ROCCO
PARISH DIRECTORY**

927 Atwood Avenue Johnston, RI 02919

PARISH OFFICEOffice Hours: Monday ~ Thursday 8:00AM ~ 3:00PM
Closed on Friday's**Parish Website**
churchofsaintrocco.orgFr. Angelo N. Carusi, *Pastor*..... 942-5203
frcarusi@gmail.comRev. Mr. Robert P. Troia, *Deacon*..... 942-5203Mrs. Stephanie Fava, *Secretary*..... 942-5203
churchofstrocco@gmail.com
Fax # 464-6422Mr. Christopher A. Caramello, *Music Director*..... 692-5270
musicaasanrocco@gmail.com**OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**931 Atwood Avenue
Johnston, RI 02919 ~ email~ srccdoftice@gmail.com
Mrs. Megan Reitz *Director*..... 944-6040**ST. ROCCO'S SCHOOL**Main Office: 944-2993 Fax # - 944-3019
931 Atwood Avenue
Johnston, RI 02919Mrs. Melissa D'Amico, *Principal*
mdamico@stroccoschool.orgMrs. Marcia Montecalvo, *Assistant Principal*
mmontecalvo@stroccoschool.org**PARISH MASS/CONFESION SCHEDULE**Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday Masses: 8:00 AM (Bi-Lingual Italian/English)
10:00 AM, 12:00 Noon
Weekday Mass: 7:00 AM
Saturday Morning & Legal Holidays 8:00 AM
Confessions: Saturday 11:00 AM ~ 12:00 PM & 4:00 PM or
anytime by appointment; please call the Rectory Office.**ADORATION**

Every Saturday morning from 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

NOVENA DEVOTIONSTuesday Evenings: 6:00 PM
Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with Novena
Prayers to St. Rocco, St. Anthony and St. Jude.**LEGION OF MARY**

Wednesday Evenings: 6:00 PM Rectory Office Conference Room

SICK PARISHIONERSPlease notify the Rectory when a parishioner or family member is
confined at home, hospitalized or in a nursing home.**BAPTISMS**

10:00 AM on the 1st Sunday of the month by previous appointment only. Sponsor certificates and birth certificates are required before date is set for a Baptism. Parental attendance at Parish Baptism Preparation Program is also required.

WEDDINGS Contact Rectory Office at least 1 year before.**From the Pastor's Desk:**

Each year when we read the Passion on Palm Sunday, we are disturbed at having to shout out "*Crucify Him!*" as one of the crowd's responses. The Church, however, is wise to have the congregation speak the words of praise (Hosanna) and the words of condemnation (Crucify Him). Many people go through life alternating between these two acclamations in their relationship with God.

When things are going well and all is right with the world; it's easy to praise God for all He's done (Hosanna). Prayer comes easily, we maintain a positive attitude, and our faith couldn't be stronger. Then something goes wrong. The bottom drops out, we're faced with a challenge or something we don't understand. We pray but seem to get no response. Then comes the "*Crucify Him!*" shout. People get angry with God because they didn't get what they want. We don't understand why things are happening in our lives, or why it's not turning out our way. Our prayers seem so reasonable, after all, so how could God possibly not answer? Although we would never admit it out of respect, these are the moments when we shout from our souls: Crucify Him. Just leave me alone, Lord. So, we stop praying, stop going to Mass, and blame God for all our woes and troubles.

The crowd shouted "*Hosanna*" because Jesus had done something fantastic: He raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus is their superstar. The people don't hail Him because they believe in Him. A majority of them wouldn't identify Him as the source of eternal life. All they know is that He's a remarkable person Who does things they are in awe of.

What we find with both the Hosanna crowd and the Crucify Him crowd is a lot of superficiality. There is no depth of faith here. There's no real attachment to the Person of Jesus or belief in His saving mission. It's all about "*What can He do for me?*" It's the shallowest religious existence...and sadly there's still a lot of it going on today. Jesus is either loved or despised not for who He is objectively; He's loved or despised because of how I think He's treated me. We insist on putting ourselves front and center when it comes to what we're willing to believe about God. This is sad.

The rituals of Holy Week unfold for us once again all that the Son of God does to redeem the world. Where and how will we spend this week? Are we going to spend it with Jesus and His Church or are we too busy, disinterested or distracted? We may be fickle people who alternate between praise and criticism of the Lord, but the saddest thing that can happen during Holy Week: no one present to make the responses of *Hosanna/Crucify Him*. Those are the peoples' parts, not the Priest or Choir parts. I pray with all my heart that you will be present to take your special place in the Rites of Holy Week. Give your heart and presence to Jesus throughout this Holy Week as He gave everything up for you.

God Bless, Fr. Carusi

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Vigil of the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
5:00 pm ~ Anthony & Jennie Miele (Memorial)
by sons Anthony & Gerald
Sarah Valante (Memorial)
by The Zayat Family

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

The Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
8:00 am ~ Virginia Tanzi (Memorial)
by daughter & son in law

10:00 am ~ Deceased members of the DeFilippo Family
(Memorial) by family
Mary & Angelo Tarro & Cosmo & Marie
DeFilippo (Memorial) by family

12:00 pm ~ Members of St. Rocco Memorial Shrine

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Holy Saturday
8:00 pm ~ Easter Vigil

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
8:00 am ~ Anthony V. Sauro Sr. (Memorial)
by Frances Zanni & James Conti
Maria Mariano (Memorial)
by Frank & Rita Saccoccio

10:00 am ~ Fausto LaManna (Memorial)
by wife & family
Keith E. Moore Jr. (Birthday Remembrance)
by mom, dad & family

12:00 pm ~ "Colonel" Domenic Vacca (Memorial)
by family
Anthony P. Mallane III (Memorial)
by Theresa Falco Grigsby

MONDAY, APRIL 14

Monday of Holy Week
7:00 am ~ Parishioners of St. Rocco

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

Tuesday of Holy Week
7:00 am ~ In honor of Christ's Agony in the Garden
6:00 pm ~ Novena & Lenten Spiritual Talk

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Wednesday of Holy Week
7:00 am ~ Maria & Antonio Viveiros (Memorial)
5:00-6:30 pm ~ Confessions (Last time before Easter)

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Thursday of Holy Week ~ Holy Thursday
8:00 am ~ Morning Prayer
7:00 pm ~ Mass of the Lord's Supper
Church will remain open until 12:00 Midnight
for Adoration

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

Friday of the Passion of the Lord ~ Good Friday
8:00 am ~ Morning Prayer
3:00 pm ~ Living Stations of the Cross & Procession
with St. Rocco Faith Formation Students
7:00 pm ~ Liturgy of the Passion &
Veneration of the Cross

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Holy Saturday
8:00 am ~ Morning Prayer



MEMORIALS

April 14th ~ 20th

Altar Bread & Wine
Eugene B. Rocchio &
Victoria Rocchio

Altar Candles

Aura Giron & Milagros Vasquez

Sanctuary Lamps

Eugene B. Rocchio & Victoria Rocchio



Eternal Rest be given to:

Maria Mariano ~ March 31st



St. Rocco's Church

Religious Education

Confirmation News

Holy Week April 17th ~ 20th

**Holy Thursday, Good Friday,
Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday**

Confirmation Candidates & Sponsors (or parents)
must attend 3 of the 4 Services.

Important Dates

April 26th Confirmation Retreat

9:00 AM ~ 3:00 PM

April 6, 2025
Weekly Collection

Envelopes and Loose Collection
Total = \$6903.00

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Parish Beautification  
Total: \$43.00  
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~~~~~  
Parish Outreach  
Total = \$238.00  
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~~~~~  
Online Giving  
Total = \$1529.50  
~~~~~

~~~~~  
Other Donations/Collections  
\$262.00  
~~~~~

**Total number of
envelopes used this week:**

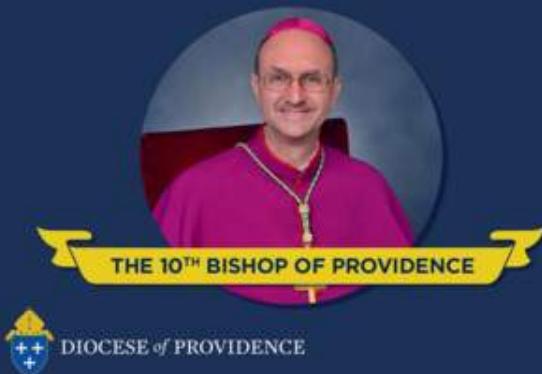
1st collection 269 2nd collection 33



The **Catholic Charity Appeal** makes it possible for families to provide their children with a **Catholic education** by easing the financial burden of tuition. Our schools are not just places of learning—they are centers of **faith, formation, and community** where students can witness, share, and grow in the Catholic Faith. Rooted in Catholic values, our schools aim for academic excellence while nurturing spiritual, social, and emotional growth, shaping students into lifelong learners and promoters of the Gospel. To make a gift to the 2025 Catholic Charity Appeal visit dioceseofprovidence.org/cca. Your generosity assists in passing on the faith to the next generation.

Goal: \$47,500.00
Raised so far: \$42,635.00

POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS
+
MOST REVEREND BRUCE A.
LEWANDOWSKI, C.SS.R.



Bishop Bruce Alan Lewandowski, C.Ss.R. was appointed by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, as the tenth Bishop of Providence on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, His Excellency was born to the late Frances (Czelusta) and Robert Lewandowski, the second of four children to grow up on their farm. Since 2020, he has served as Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore as well as Vicar for Hispanic Catholics and Vicar for Baltimore City for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. In September 1988, he professed first vows in the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, a religious order known as the Redemptorists, and completed his formation and education at Saint Alphonsus College in Suffield, Connecticut where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy, Holy Redeemer College in Washington, and then Washington Theological Union where he earned a Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained to the Priesthood in the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on May 7, 1994.

As a Redemptorist priest, Bishop Lewandowski ministered as an Associate Pastor of Saint Cecilia Parish in East Harlem, New York (1994-1999); Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in South Bronx, New York (1999 to 2002); in missionary service as Assistant Pastor of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Vieux Fort, Saint Lucia, West Indies (2002 to 2005); Pastor of Our Lady of the Visitation Parish in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2005 to 2011); Vicar for Cultural Ministries for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia (2011 to 2015); and Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Baltimore (2015 to 2020). In 2019, Archbishop William Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, named him archdiocesan Vicar for Hispanic Catholics. The Holy Father, Pope Francis, named then-Father Lewandowski as an Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore on June 10, 2020. He was consecrated to the episcopacy in the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore on August 18, 2020.

Welcome Bishop Lewandowski!



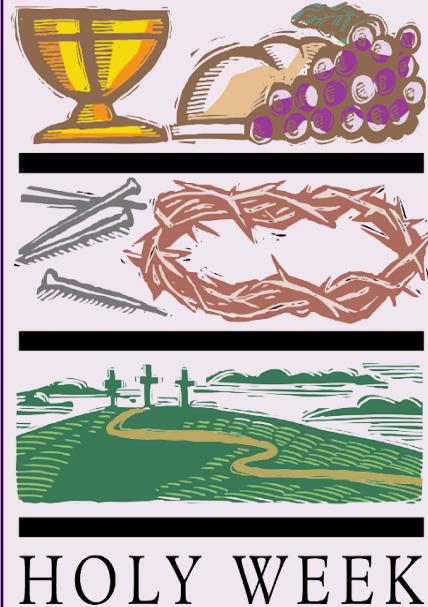
Palm / Passion Sunday

Beginning in the fourth century in Jerusalem, Palm Sunday was marked by a procession of the faithful carrying palm branches, representing the Jews who celebrated Christ's entrance into Jerusalem. In the early centuries, the procession began on the Mount of the Ascension and proceeded to the Church of the Holy Cross.

As the practice spread throughout the Christian world by the ninth century, the procession would begin in each church with the blessing of palms, proceed outside the church, and then return to the church for the reading of the Passion according to the Gospel of Matthew.

The faithful would continue to hold the palms during the reading of the Passion. In this way, they would recall many of the same people who greeted Christ with shouts of joy on Palm Sunday would call for His Death on Good Friday; a powerful reminder of our own weakness and the sinfulness that causes us to reject Christ.

In different parts of the Christian world, particularly where palms were historically hard to obtain, branches of other bushes and trees were used, including olive, box elder, spruce, and various willows. Perhaps best known is the Slavic custom of using pussy willows, which are among the earliest of plants to bud out in the spring. The faithful have traditionally decorated their houses with the palms from Palm Sunday, and, in many countries, a custom developed of weaving the palms into crosses that were placed on home altars or other places of prayer. Since the palms have been blessed, they should not simply be discarded; rather, the faithful return them to their local parish in the weeks before Lent, to be burned and used as the ashes for Ash Wednesday.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 15th

St. Rocco Novena ~ 6:00 PM

Wednesday, April 16th

Confessions 5:00 ~ 6:30 PM

(Last time before Easter Sunday)

Thursday, April 17th

Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 AM

Mass of the Lord's Supper ~ 7:00 PM
Church will remain open until 12:00 Midnight for Adoration

Friday, April 18th

Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 AM

Living Stations of the Cross & Procession ~ 3:00 PM
with St. Rocco's Faith Formation Students

Liturgy of the Passion & Veneration of the Cross ~ 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 19th

Morning Prayer ~ 8:00 AM

Solemn Easter Vigil Mass ~ 8:00 PM

Sunday, April 20th

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Masses: 8:00 & 10:00 AM & 12:00 Noon

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"Come to me all of you." -Matthew 11:28



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Classroom News.. Miss Danielle Messier..Grade 1

We have been very busy here in first grade! We are in the third trimester, and we are working so hard to be ready for second grade.

In Writing, we are working on fables. We read and learned about many of Aesop's fables, and now we are each writing our very own! We learned all about brainstorming, drafting, revising, and finalizing writing. Student Treasures is working with us to turn us into published authors! In just a few weeks, our stories and illustrations will come to life in hardcover books. We are so excited to show our families!

In Reading, we are about to start our unit on biographies. We are getting more and more confident and independent with reading by the day. We absolutely love partner reading our weekly decodable books!



In Math, we have been working on counting coins. We are excited to be moving onto telling time soon! Then we will end the year with adding and subtracting two digit numbers.

In Religion, we have been talking about the season of Lent. We each have our own Lent booklet that we colored and can read all on our own!

In Science, we started learning all about animal habitats. This week we talked about rainforests. Next month, we will be observing real live animals in habitats at our field trip to Roger Williams Park Zoo!

This has been such a fun and memorable school year, and we can't wait to see what the last couple months bring!



St. Rocco School is Accepting Applications for the 2024-2025 School Year Grades PK 3 to 8th



We welcome you visit us for a tour and see why everyone is impressed with St. Rocco School! If you are interested in having your child or know of a family interested in attending St. Rocco School, please have them contact our School Office at 944.2993 to schedule a personal tour. Tours are available Monday thru Friday after 3:00 PM and also on Saturday.



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