



A Guanellian Family Ministry  
Pious Union of St. Joseph for the Suffering and Dying

# SHRINE OF ST. JOSEPH

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Pastoral Bulletin of April 2012

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*“Avail yourselves of these days of salvation to despise the dreams of human vanities and to dedicate yourselves with greater affection to the service of God who alone can make you prosper.”*

(Saint Louis Guanella, Bread of the Soul II)

## Remembering, Re-enacting, Re-experiencing the Easter Event

Fr. Luigi De Giambattista, SdC

The liturgy of Holy week offers us a fresh opportunity to re-enact and re-experience the event of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are again given the grace to accompany our Master and Redeemer step-by-step in His voluntary and total self-giving, in His radical *Kenosis*, in His unconditional surrender to the Father with whom He fully shares His passion for humankind, His covenantal Love that liberates and restores us to the fullness of life

As we walk with Jesus from His entrance into Jerusalem to the cleansing of the Temple, to the Last Supper in the Upper Room, to the arrest and agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, through the Via Crucis to Calvary and to Easter morning, let us fix our gaze on Him and simply allow the Gospel refrain to resonate in the depth of our heart: “God so loved the world...” (John 3:16)

Yes, let us savor and treasure the grace, the gift of such an extravagant, unlimited, total life-giving offer of His love. Let us not waste such a personal, beautiful offering. Let us live Holy Week not as curious, detached spectators watching a drama from a distance. We are disciples; brought into the scene as actors, each one with his/her unique place, not in the script of a movie but in the wounded, open heart of a loving God. The passion of the Lord and His bloody cruel death outside the walls of the city is not “for show,” it is “for real!”

Let us take time to allow the Protagonist of the Paschal Drama to look straight into our eyes, into the deepest recesses of our human hearts and say to each of us again, personally, with the last remaining breath of a dying beloved friend: “*Consummatum est.*” “Everything has been accomplished, given; nothing is retained, all is offered. And remember...I have done this for you.” *Continued Inside*



### PASTORAL MINISTRY

#### Mass Times

**Mon, Tues,**  
**Thurs, Fri, Sat** 11:30 a.m.

**Wed** 8:30 a.m. *followed by*  
*Adoration*  
*Benediction 4:30 pm*

**Sun** 10:00 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

✧ Before and After Mass

#### Anointing of the Sick

✧ First Saturday  
✧ Upon request

#### Office Hours

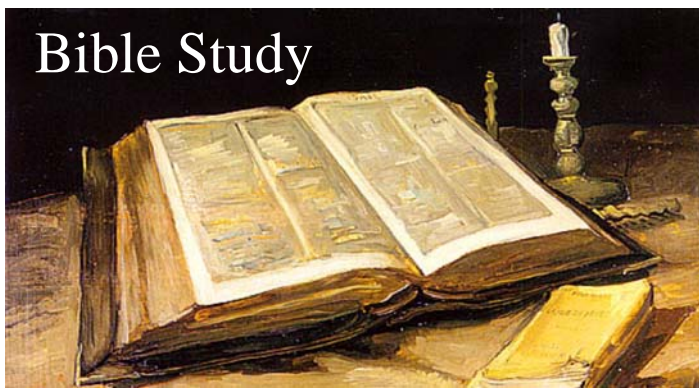
**Monday to Friday**  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## April Calendar



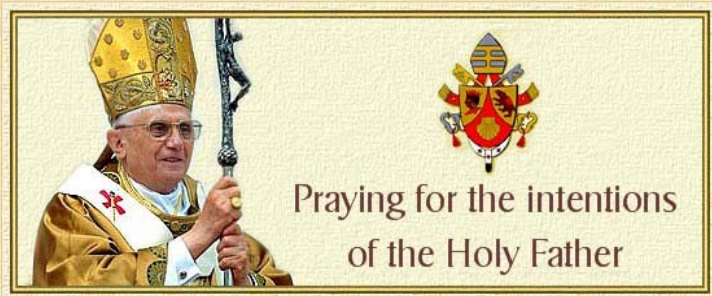
- 1 – Palm Sunday** Mass 10:00 am  
*Happy Birthday Fr Fortunato*
- 5 – Holy Thursday** Mass 7:00 pm  
Altar of Repose - Prayer Vigil until Midnight
- 6 – Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord**  
*Fast & Abstinence* Confession 9:30 – 11:00 am  
11-11:30 Adoration Stations 11:30 am  
Begin Divine Mercy Novena  
Confession 3:00 – 5:00 pm  
Confession 7:00 – 8:00 pm
- 7 – Holy Saturday – Vigil of Easter**  
9:30 – 11:00 Confession  
11:00 – 12:00 Adoration  
3:30 – 5:30 Confession
- 8 – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**  
Mass 10:00 am
- 13 – Bible Study with Fr Fortunato 7:00 pm
- 14 – Prayer & Pizza with the Sisters 8:30 am**  
*For Girls 8 – 18 years old*
- 15 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter** – Divine Mercy Sunday  
Fr. Fortunato will lead the Divine Mercy  
Devotion 3:30 pm
- 20 – Bible Study with Fr Fortunato 7:00 pm
- 22 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter** Mass 10:00 am
- 29 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter** Mass 10:00 am  
*World Day of Prayer for Vocations*

## Bible Study



*Begins Friday – April 13<sup>th</sup>*

**Meet in the Chapel on Friday night at 7:00 pm.**  
Invite your older children and join Fr Fortunato in studying the Gospel of the seven Sundays of Easter



**General Intention:** That many young people may hear the call of Christ and follow him in the priesthood and religious life.

**Missionary Intention:** That the risen Christ may be a sign of certain hope for the men and women of the African continent.

*Cont' from Cover*

Let us pause in silence, quieting down noises and anxieties, seeking space and moments of solitude to let the saving love of our God sink into our life and move us to repentance, contrition, to *metanoia*, to lasting gratitude, to a genuine decision to make a new start, a fresh beginning as disciples loved and sent to love the way God does.

Pope Benedict, addressing us priests, reminded us in particular to live this holy season as a *Kairos*, a precious opportunity to receive and offer God's mercy substantially through the sacrament of reconciliation. He said:

*"In administering this Sacrament, you are given the possibility of being instruments of an ever renewed encounter of men with God... an encounter with Christ and His grace. You will therefore be collaborators and protagonists in as many possible 'New beginnings' as there are penitents who come to you. The new evangelization also begins in the confessional...!"* (Benedict XVI, March 9, 2012)

In this encounter, we welcome Christ opening us up to His presence, ever new, and enabling us to transform and enlighten all the regions of shadows, while continually widening our horizons.

Re-echoing once again the Holy Father I wish: *"that the newness of Christ always be at the center and the reason of your existence, so that those who meet you might proclaim with Andrew and John 'we have met the Messiah.'" (John 1:41)*

*A grace-filled Holy Week and a Joyful Easter to all!*



April 20<sup>th</sup>  
**Feast of Blessed  
 Sister Clare Bosatta**

Blessed Clare saw herself as a humble servant of the Lord. She lived her life like Mary, her Mother and Model.

## Strength in Weakness

*Sister Clare, in the frailty of her flesh and afflicted by the mystery of suffering, manifested from the depth of her soul the strength that caused Fr. Guanella to exclaim: "This woman, who has the appearance of a lamb, has the strength of a lion!"*

*What life hides in the folds of the human soul are the values of the spirit that characterize the person.*

*Loss and suffering were, for Sr Clare, "a source of peace," filtering everything through the will of God which she accepted without reserve. He was always and in everything her "Provident Father." Sr Clare sacrificed herself pledging to advance on the way of sanctity so as to desire to be transformed into a "living Host."*

*The extreme poverty in which the Sisters found themselves in Como, Italy contributed much to Clare's physical suffering. She, as the directress of the House, had to make due with the scant means at her disposal coupled with the usual difficulties of all new beginnings. To this was added her delicate health which, because of cold and hunger, was seriously compromised.*

*While Clare's heart was held tight in the grip of physical and spiritual suffering, she had no fear of illness. Her interior strength carried her and she remained solidly in contemplation of her Lord. She placed herself on the journey of obeying God, her guide.*

*Winter was rigid, there were few blankets, and she deprived herself of the one blanket she had in order to cover the poor little body of one of the residents. The number of orphans she took in increased and places were few. Sister Clare gave her room to these and set herself up in the attic.*

*In this way she expressed the "love and suffering" which characterized her days – giving herself to Christ and to her brothers and sisters.*

*It is also the richness of the femininity of Sister Clare, who exalted by grace, found the highest expression in the paradoxical dialectic of "dying to live."*

*In her short life Sister Clare rendered visible the action of grace, embodying the little seed fallen on a clod of earth which, according to the Gospel, loses life to find it again, more fruitful than ever!*

*This year our liturgical calendar does not allow for us to pray the Novena in the Shrine, after daily Mass as we usually do, because this season we will be praying the Novena in anticipation of Divine Mercy Sunday.*

*Clare's little biography "A Daughter of St Mary of Providence" is available in the Holy Family Gift Shop (upstairs) if you would like to read more.*

## Divine Mercy Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>



3:30 p.m.

**The Feast of Mercy is not a  
 "party for devotees"**

**But rather a very special  
 "refuge for sinners"**

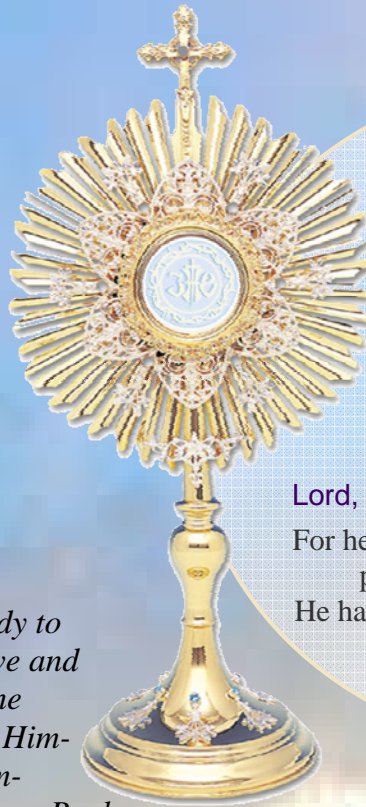
Pope John Paul II fulfilled the will of Christ and officially established that Feast of Divine Mercy in the year 2000.

What is this new **Feast of Divine Mercy** you may wonder? It is the promise of total forgiveness of all sin and its punishment for anyone who goes to Confession and receives Communion on this very day.

## How Can We Live the Mystery of Christ's Resurrection?

*The answer to this question is as simple as it is startling. We live the mystery of Easter by our devotion to the Holy Eucharist. How is that? Or better; how is that possible? It is not only possible but practicable because the Holy Eucharist is the Risen Christ. It is the Risen Jesus, now on earth in our In the Eucharist the Risen Lord is ready to bestow His graces, provided we believe and humbly ask Him for what we need. The Eucharist is the Risen Savior offering Himself in the Mass, coming to us in Communion, and living among us by His very Real Presence on our altars.*

*Fr. John Hardon*



### ADORATION OF JESUS IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*“...The fountain of holy love in Jesus Christ is with us in the Most Holy Eucharist.”*

*Blessed Guanella*

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you

For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

Wednesdays 9:00 - 4:30

**We are in the full joy of Easter Day.** Today our hearts exult in jubilation of spiritual happiness; our mind forgets about earthly matters to rise to the contemplation of the heavenly ones. Our very body seems to diminish in its weight so as to be able to run faster to the celebration of the sacred solemnities. Heaven speaks of joy, earth by its own language hints at happiness. Everything calls us to rejoice by saying, “Be comforted, Jesus Christ is risen as he said.” Come adore Jesus and say to him: alleluia, alleluia!

The most holy soul of the Savior, like an ineffable light, has entered into the sacred body to give it life. The body of Jesus moves, revives and is alive and glorious. His wrapping sheets are empty. A light tremor shakes the little mountain. The guards fall on the ground as if dead. The huge stone is overturned and there, an angel in the appearance of a young man dressed in white, sits upon it. The angel speaks to those who have come, saying: “Jesus is risen; he is not here. Go and tell the apostles and Peter that Jesus Christ has risen, as he said.”

We are in the midst of full rejoicing on Easter Day. Nonetheless, we are still children incapable of thinking as we ought about God’s matters, unable to speak of Him, as the majesty of the Most High deserves. How much will we rejoice when, becoming adults, we will have left childish futilities behind! The apostle St. Paul said for himself and each of us: “When I was a child I talked like a child, thought like a child, reasoned like a child. When I became a man I put childish ways aside.” Let us reflect on these words of the Apostle for our own sake and let us rejoice as much as we can in our hearts on this holy day.

**Blessed Louis Guanella**  
*The Bread of the Soul*