

All Saints Church Good News Daily

Devotional readings for each day, parish birthdays and anniversaries

March 29-April 4, 2026

Palm Sunday, March 29

Zechariah 9:9-12 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. (v.9 NRSV)

The Passover crowds did rejoice in the streets of Jerusalem, spreading their cloaks on the path before Jesus, waving palm branches and shouting “Hosanna to the Son of David.” “Who is this?” many asked and were answered “the prophet Jesus from Nazareth” (Matthew 21:8-11). They knew his name, his hometown, and his reputation. But they didn’t know him as the Son of God.

At Christmas I revel in the great gift of the Holy Child. Wrapped in swaddling clothes, heralded by angels, worshiped by wise men, it is an easy gift to accept. I accept the great teacher, the compassionate healer, the gentle shepherd. But what about a confrontational Jesus, an angry Jesus? It makes me wonder. How well do I know Jesus? Do I skip over the hard sayings? Do I accept his confrontational actions but excuse my own reluctance to confront because it wouldn’t be Christian?

Lord, help me to know you, so that I may walk in your ways.

Psalms 24, 29; 1 Timothy 6:12-16; Luke 19:41-48

Birthdays: Lorraine Faul

Monday, March 30

Mark 11:12-25 He overturned the tables of the moneychangers and the seats of those who sold doves. He was teaching and saying, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations?’” (vv.15, 17)

The story of cleansing the temple is sandwiched between the cursing of the fig tree and Jesus’s response to Peter’s comment the following day that the fig tree had withered. Both events reveal a Jesus out of character with the way I like to picture him. But both events could be object lessons for those who carry on his work.

For me that poor little fig tree represents my inability to live up to the expectations of our Lord on my own. I have to tap into God’s power. It was the wrong time of year for that little fig tree to bear fruit. But it is never the wrong time to access the power of God through prayers of faith. And as with Jesus and the moneychangers, it is never the wrong time to keep God’s house holy.

“Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours” (v.24).

Lamentations 1:1-2, 6-12; Psalm 51; 2 Corinthians 1:1-7

Birthdays: Caroline Butterfield, Elizabeth Colon, John Evans

Tuesday, March 31

Mark 11:27-33 The chief priests, and scribes, and the elders came to him and said, “By what authority are you doing these things?” Jesus said to them, “I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” (vv.27-30)

What a graphic vignette! It was supposed to be a trap for Jesus, supposed to discredit him before his followers, supposed to reinstate the Sanhedrin officials as religious authorities. The Sanhedrin needed to retaliate for the ousting of the moneychangers from the temple. Imagine their smugness as they demanded an answer. Imagine their chagrin when they had to forfeit the contest because either answer they chose would strengthen Jesus and weaken them.

Jesus exerted God’s authority with great finesse and showed us how simple our choices are: God’s authority or our authority; God’s will or our will. Debates on religious matters boil down to the same two choices. The difference is in who will benefit—self or God. But when we choose God’s authority, God’s will, we always win.

Lamentations 1:17-22; Psalms 6, 12; 2 Corinthians 1:8-22

Birthdays: Rebecca Jernigan

Wednesday, April 1

Mark 12:1-11 “Have you not read this scripture: ‘The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’” (vv.10-11)

Jewish officials knew that somehow Jesus was describing them as the vineyard tenants who killed the son of the landholder. What they didn’t know was that Jesus’ parable would be enacted that very week. Like the tenants, they had used their special status as God’s chosen people to serve themselves—their own prideful egos—and not God.

Now we have inherited the gift, accepted the Son as the cornerstone, and have the same problem. The history of the Christian church is filled with self-seeking “tenants.” The Lord is patient. The Lord tries to lead his children into obedience. His love endures forever.

“Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:4-5).

Lamentations 2:1-9; Psalm 55; 2 Corinthians 1:23—2:11

Birthdays: Grace Caron, Maureen Douglas, Maxwell Miller, Pat Robertson, Rebecca Russo

Anniversaries: Randy & Pat Robertson

Thursday, April 2

Mark 14:12-25 “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks, ‘Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.” (vv.13-15)

There was nothing haphazard about this week. Jesus and his Father had made meticulous plans. First the Palm Sunday entrance into Jerusalem on a donkey the disciples found as Jesus had instructed. Next the careful goading of the temple authorities to force them to seek his life. Now the disciples follow his directions to find the upper room. It was all prearranged.

Jewish men did not carry water jars. This one was selected beforehand to be easy to identify. Upper rooms were often used by rabbis and their inner circle of disciples, and this one had already been reserved.

Jesus also prearranged our communion table. His body, broken, and his blood, poured out, completed the divine plan to make us acceptable to Almighty God.

Lamentations 2:10-18; Psalm 102; 1 Corinthians 10:14-17, 11:27-32

Birthdays: Vincent Smith

Friday, April 3

John 13:36-38 Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” (v.37)

Charles was in ICU for five weeks and every visiting period he asked, “Why can’t I go home with you?” Nothing else he said made much sense through all the drugs, but it was clear that he wanted to be at home with his wife of 50 years. He could not understand that he was not ready to go home. Little brothers

and sisters ask to tag along with their older siblings. Children complain, “Daddy, why can’t I go to work with you?” or “Mama, why can’t I go to the hospital to see Nanny? I’ll be good.”

Charles and Peter and the children weren’t ready. They had a lot of healing and learning and growing to do. And what about us? It takes a lot of discipline and maturity and love to follow Jesus. And the truth is: we’ll never be ready until we allow him to come live in us.

Look what Peter accomplished once he recognized that he didn’t have the fortitude and could only have it through the Holy Spirit.

Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-33; Psalm 22; 1 Peter 1:10-20

Birthdays: Jaxson Skip Jewett, Monique O’Brien, Chad Seiler

Saturday, April 4

Romans 8:1-11 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. (vv.10-11)

When Pa died, our world disintegrated. We had called him our rock and he was gone. Life had not always been easy, but, as long as we had Pa, we knew we would manage. We felt the way the disciples must have felt. Jesus was gone. He wouldn’t be there to answer their questions, to bind them together in a strong, loving fellowship.

In time we learned that Pa was still there to advise us. He had lived before us the way we needed to go, and all his directions were living inside us. That’s what the disciples learned about Jesus. He was living in them! And he lives in us the same way, giving us a new life—his life, his righteousness! What a gift!

Lamentations 3:37-58; Psalm 88; Hebrews 4:1-16

Birthdays: Chole Patterson

Anniversaries: Fr. Dick & Diane Greatwood

by Camilla Humber

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