

ST. PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

LIVING HOLY WEEK

LOOK INSIDE
FOR

*Some suggestions on how
to enter into Holy Week
and the Triduum.*



FATHER'S CORNER

Living Holy Week

Holy Week received its name aptly due to the fact that it is objectively the “Holy of Holies” in the liturgical calendar. All of our celebrations, in fact, move towards and flow from the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ by which we can all hope for salvation.

When I was a boy in junior high and high school I still remember that ‘week’ we had to go to Mass even more than just Sunday, but I never really understood the ‘why’. Although none of the celebrations are per se holy days of obligation, if we truly understand and believe our faith, nothing would be more important at this time than entering into Holy Week with our whole minds and hearts.


The best way to truly enter into Holy Week is to live the liturgical calendar intentionally. Each day holds significance. Sunday we recall our Lord’s entrance into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday), keeping in mind that the very people who are praising Him as the Messiah will in just a few days be calling for His crucifixion. Monday and Tuesday are the final days of His public ministry and His warnings to those who reject Him along with His promises to those who are faithful to Him. Wednesday is traditionally called, “Spy Wednesday”, since the day Judas goes to the pharisees and offers to hand



Christ over to them if they pay him. Many people aren’t aware of this, but Lent actually ends on this day!

Thursday begins the most central events of our faith- the most Holy Triduum. Holy Thursday, commemorating the Last Supper, ordination of the Apostles to the Priesthood and institution of the Holy Eucharist. Good Friday, commemorating the Passion and Death of Christ. And finally, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday commemorating the Resurrection of our Lord.

Each of these days is wrapped with special solemnity and silence which should enable us to enter more fully into the mystery of Christ’s final hours.



At St Paul's, along with the common liturgical practices according to the Masses and Holy Hours, we will also be praying Tenebrae daily. Tenebrae is simply the breviary chanted during the night hours (Tenebrae is latin for darkness).

After Thursday evening Last Supper Mass we will have Adoration until Midnight and Tenebrae chanted from 10:00 pm to 12:00 am. On Friday morning we will hike up Tablerock with a cross, watch the Passion of the Christ at 3:00 pm, and have a light meal before a Good Friday service in the evening followed by another Tenebrae service. Holy Saturday is a day of silence and recollection as we wait with Mary Magdalene by the tomb of Christ. We will have another Tenebrae service at 10am but nothing for the rest of the day until the Vigil Mass.

Ad Jesum per Mariam,
Fr Nathan Dail

Some suggestions on how to enter into Holy Week and the Triduum:

1. Cover your crucifixes at home as is the custom in Churches
2. Follow the daily readings of the Mass or read the appropriate Scripture passages to follow the events of Christ's final week as they unfold
3. Maintain silence in the home from Holy Thursday to Easter morning
 - a. No TV, cell phones, music, computers, etc
4. Fast during these days (make it uncomfortable enough so that one is forced to think about Christ often)
5. Pray the Stations of the Cross especially on Friday
6. Go all out on your Easter Resurrection Party
7. And most importantly, be sure to guilt trip those who only went to Mass on Easter Sunday- don't let them eat the Body of Christ or the baked ham until they have gone to confession and duly repented.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

NATALIE DOBROWSKI

Natalie is a senior at Boise State University. She serves as leader of women's ministry. Natalie also cantors for Candlelight and Sunday Mass.

Within the last four years the Lord has led me over mountains that I wouldn't have been able to climb without the support of the St. Paul's community. In 2019, I came to Boise State from New Jersey, starting fresh almost 3,000 miles away from all of my family and friends. I craved a sense of security and some sort of resemblance of home. Having grown up Catholic, I knew that going to Mass was non-negotiable.

While my new schedule lacked consistency, I looked forward to going to St. Paul's every Sunday evening, as it was the only stability I had at that time. That was, until I was challenged by college life.

Over time, my compass began to revolve around my image, an unhealthy and complicated relationship, and the party scene. I started going to Mass less and less, until I didn't go at all; the one stability I had was gone. I had never imagined myself compromising my faith and values until it became a reality.



You see, college offered me something I never had— complete freedom. While everything about it seemed so appealing, in reality I began to spiral. After hitting one of the lowest points I ever reached, I decided that it was time to give my pursuit of Christ another chance. This meant returning to St. Paul's after several months.

While I had trepidations as to what people were going to think, the friends I made there in previous years welcomed me with the most open arms. I felt so loved and accepted. Through much prayer and authentic conversation with my peers, I was given the grace to become the person I am today. It was through this community that Christ gave me the foundation and strength I needed to reroot my life in Him. With the help of frequent Adoration, Confession, Mass, and fellowship through bible study and Newman Night, I was finally living out my identity in who the Lord created me to be. This is what true freedom really looks like!

Through St. Paul's, I have had the opportunity to put my convicted heart to work on our campus and in the world. This last summer I was blessed to go on a mission trip to Argentina through FOCUS. Throughout the course of this school year, I've utilized my gifts and passions by singing at Mass and facilitating the women's ministry subcommittee. This ministry has allowed me to foster faith-based relationships with the women at Boise State. I don't know where I would be today without St. Paul's, I am so grateful for the gift that this community is.



Natalie (blue jersey) with some of the St. Paul's women at a BSU football game this fall.



From left to right- Faith, Natalie, Sophia and Andrea pose at the first Mass back from summer break! Natalie was in my (Sophia) bible study her freshman and sophomore year. It's not common to see the fruit of your prayer in college ministry. What a great gift to now work at St. Paul's and witness the ways Natalie has committed her life to Christ.



That's (almost) a Wrap



MEN'S RETREAT

The month of February began with our men's silent retreat. We had 16 men join us at an airbnb in Almo, ID. for a weekend of rest and encountering The Father's Love.



WOMEN'S RETREAT

We ended the month of February with our women's silent retreat. Sr. Teresa Margaret O.C.D and Sr. Mary Clare O.C.D. led our women through a beautiful weekend of contemplation.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Buster Bronco stopped by our table in the BSU QUAD while our FOCUS missionaries and students advertised our Ash Wednesday services.

SPRING BREAK 2023



Our FOCUS missionaries, Fr. Nathan and 10 students spent the break walking the Camino de Santiago!



Some women took a trip to visit past BSU FOCUS missionary, Anna Evans, at her new campus placement in Eugene, Oregon.



Our Frassati Fraternity men traveled to Sedona, Arizona. While they didn't get the sun they were hoping for, they made the most of it!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ELISA LARSON

I first came to St. Paul's for Sunday Mass my freshman year on a "whim". I had not attended Mass for quite a few years after my family fell away from the Church. I went out of _____ but really had no intention of making the practice of the Catholic faith a regular part of my life nor did I hope to encounter and convert my life to Christ. A classmate of mine saw me there that Sunday and invited me to join her bible study. Little did I know, that was the first 'yes' of many to follow that would lead me to the most beautiful conversion to Jesus.

Over the course of the next four years, through bible studies, FOCUS discipleship, mission trips, Newman's Nights, and genuine friendships, Christ continued to seek me out and fill my life with purpose. This led to a continual conversion through all of college and an unveiling of all that I was missing in my life because of my prior apprehension to follow Him.

I am blessed as I reflect back on my four years. I find it difficult to pinpoint one moment, retreat, mission trip, bible study, etc. that stands out to me as the most memorable because there were just so many. Through all of these; however, it was the people who journeyed with me through the most marvelous moments, the challenges, and the monotonous days during my college years that I cherish the most. Through them, and the sharing of these experiences, I grew, laughed, cried, learned, and developed from the lost little freshman into the woman I am today.

Elisa (back middle) with her freshman bible study at a St. Paul's event.



Similar to my plan of only going to St. Paul's one time five years ago, I left Boise after graduating in May with the plan of not returning. I was headed for physical therapy school in North Carolina. However, God proved to me once again that He knows me better than I know myself. I found myself abandoning my original plans and returning once again to St. Paul's. I began working here as the Operations and Development Coordinator in September and have never looked back on physical therapy school. I love my job because I get to continually encounter Jesus each day in the same way I had originally- through the people, experiences, and the very place where He first met me. What a blessing.



Upcoming Events

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

St. Paul's Student Center

APR 1 & 2 PALM SUNDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday Vigil: 5:15 PM • Sunday Mass: 11 AM
APR 6 HOLY THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass: 7 PM • Adoration: 8 PM - 12 AM • Tenebrae Service: 10 PM - 12 AM
APR 7 GOOD FRIDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stations of the Cross: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 9 AM at Table Rock ◦ Meet at St. Paul's at 8:45 AM • The Passion Movie: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 3 PM in Game Room • Soup + Bread: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 5:30 PM in Social Hall (Silent) • Good Friday Service: 7 PM • Tenebrae Service: 8:30 PM
APR 8 HOLY SATURDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenebrae Service: 10 AM - Noon • Easter Vigil: 9 PM • Resurrection Party to follow Mass
APR 9 EASTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass: 11 AM • Potluck Brunch to follow

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, April 1st at 5:15 pm

Sunday, April 2nd at 11:00 am

HOLY WEEK

More info in the graphic to the left and on our website

www.broncocatholic.org

WOMEN'S BLESSED BRUNCH (all ages welcome)

Saturday, April 22nd at 10:00 am

All that's asked of you is to bring a heart open to other women and a little potluck dish to share!

SENIOR NIGHT

Saturday, April 29th

Celebrating our seniors with Mass and a special dinner. More info to come.

STAFF VS STUDENT KICKBALL

Sunday April 30th at 2:00 pm

FINALS WEEK

May 1st- May 5th

BACCALAURETTE MASS

Friday May 5th at 5:15 pm

LAST MASS OF THE SEMESTER

Sunday May 7th at 11:00 am