



# CHURCH OF SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust



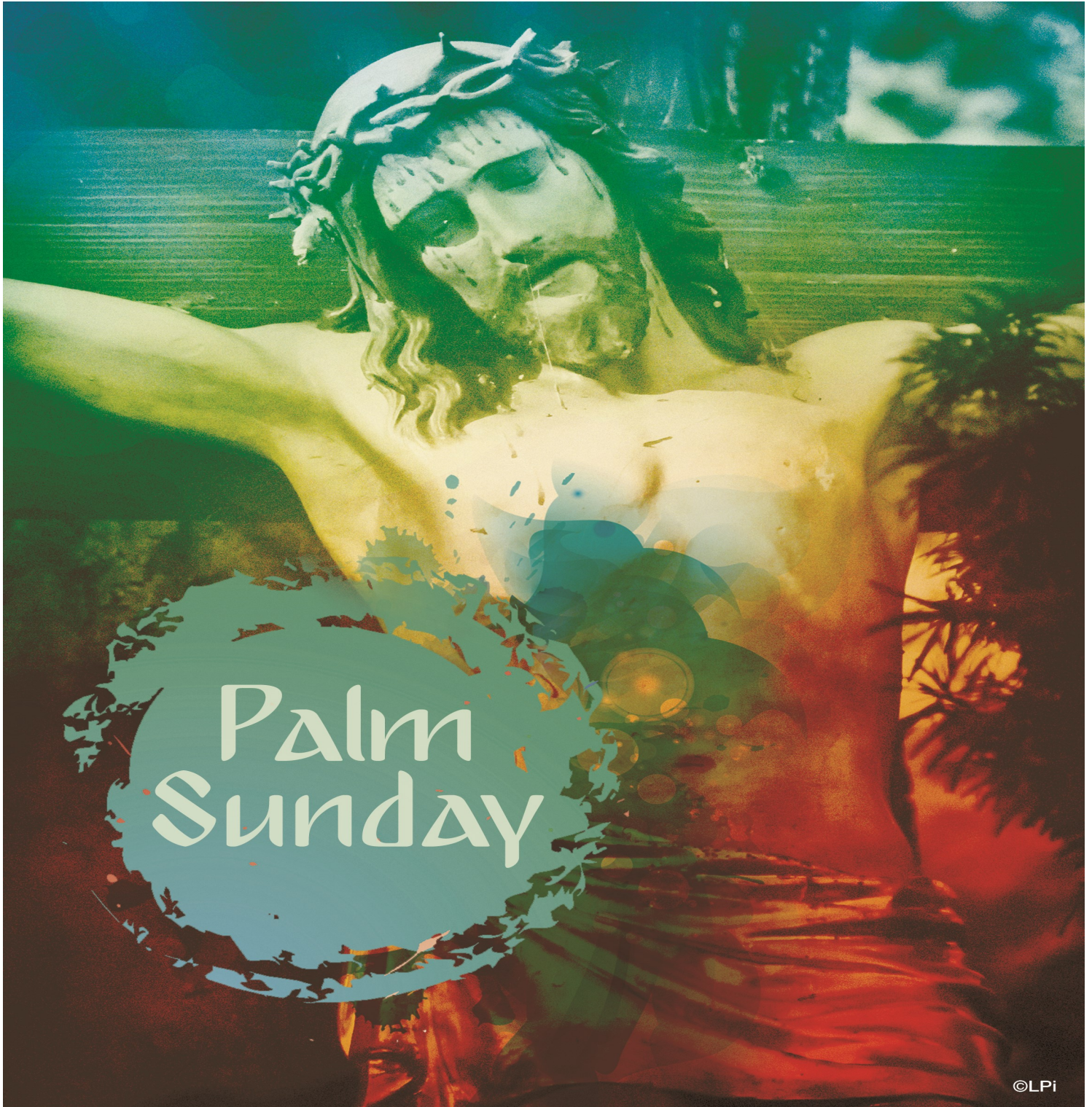
*March 24, 2024*

155 North Brady Street • Blairsville, Pennsylvania 15717

Office: 459-7103 • Rectory: 459-7173 • Marian Hall: 459-6211

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Parish Website: [www.sssimonandjude.org](http://www.sssimonandjude.org)



Palm  
Sunday



**03/23/24-Saturday–Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Vigil)**

1:00pm Sacrament of Penance  
4:00pm Patricia Suman by Husband & Family

**03/24/24-Sunday-Palm Sunday Of the Passion of the Lord**

9:00am For The People

**03/25/24-Monday-Monday of Holy Week**

8:00am Susie David by Dan & Jackie Hauger

**03/27/24-Wednesday-Wednesday of Holy Week**

8:00am Victor R. and Julia Prola by Family

**03/28/24-Thursday-Holy Thursday**

10:00am Chrism Mass-Cathedral, Greensburg  
7:00pm Maria Lynn Morrow by Mom  
Midnight Night Prayer

**03/29/24-Friday-Good Friday**

8:00am No Mass or Service (Here)  
(Passion of the Lord—Kent—2:00 p.m.)

**03/30/24-Saturday-Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**

2:00pm Blessing of the Easter Foods (Baskets) (Church)  
9:00pm For The People

**03/31/24-Sunday-Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

9:00am Wayne T. Fumea by Sister, Pauline  
Children’s Easter Egg Hunt to Follow the 9:00 a.m. Mass

**WINE IN MEMORY OF PATRICIA SUMAN BY CHILDREN**

**WEEKLY READINGS: GATHER HYMNAL #1031 & #1037**

**CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, KENT  
MASS SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK/EASTER**

Friday, March 29 - Passion of Our Lord - 2:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday - 11:00 a.m.

**MASS SCHEDULE  
CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, KENT**

**MONDAYS Holy Hour-5:00 p.m.; Mass-6:00 P.M.  
TUESDAYS 8:30 A.M.  
THURSDAYS 8:30 A.M.  
SATURDAY 6:00 P.M.  
SUNDAY 11:00 A.M.**

**+++ FINANCIAL REPORT\*\*\***

**March 17, 2024**

Offertory Collection .....	\$ 4,889.00
Loose Collection.....	\$ 34.00
Total .....	\$ 4,923.00

**ONLINE GIVING QR CODE**



**PARISH COMING EVENTS:**

**Sunday, March 24**

- ◆ Faith Formation, Intergenerational, Grades K -12, Parish Center, 10:15 a.m.- “Noonish”

**Tuesday, March 26**

- ◆ Women’s Choir Rehearsal, Church, 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 27**

- ◆ Lenten Prayer Service & Luncheon, SS. Simon & Jude, Noon

- ◆ Men’s Choir Rehearsal, Church, 6:30 p.m

**Thursday, March 28**

- ◆ Parish Office Closed

**Friday, March 29**

- ◆ Parish Office Closed

**Saturday, March 30**

- ◆ Decorate the Church for Easter, 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ Blessing of the Easter Foods (Baskets), Church, 2:00 p.m.

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD  
PASTOR’S REFLECTION**

At the *Procession with Palms*: Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12 -16. **Mass**: Isaiah 50:4-7, Psalm: 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39.

**How deep is our knowledge of God?** We spend a lifetime coming to a deeper appreciation for the identity of another person, even someone as close to us as a parent, a brother or sister, a spouse. It is no surprise, then, that coming to a fuller appreciation of the identity of Jesus is likewise a lifetime process.

This hymn from the Letter to the Philippians (2<sup>nd</sup> reading) reveals even more about the identity of Jesus. He is the humble One, the obedient One, the exalted One, the Lord, and the Glory of God.

Who reveals the identity of Jesus? Ironically, it is from enemies and foreigners that we come to understand who Jesus is. The religious leaders ask Jesus if he is “the Christ, the son of the Blessed One.” Pilate condemns him because he is the “king of the Jews.” But the Roman centurion confesses this man to be “the Son of God.” As we stand this day at the foot of the cross, what do we come to understand about who Jesus is?

**READINGS-**

**Easter Vigil-March 30, 2024**

Genesis 1:1-2:2 (1st); Genesis 22:1-18 (2nd); Exodus 14:15-15:1 (3rd); Isaiah 54:5-14 (4th); Isaiah 55:1-11 (5th); Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 (6th); Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28 (7th); Romans 6:3-11 (Epistle); Mark 16:1-7 (Gospel)



**Easter Sunday-March 31, 2024**

Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43 (1st)  
Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 (2nd)  
John 20:1-9 (Gospel)



**DLA:** Thank you to all who have supported our DLA to date. Thus far, we have contributions from 107 families, totaling \$30,440.00. Our diocesan target is \$40,870.00. We ask that you be as gener-

ous as possible to this appeal and we encourage everyone to participate, for anything over our target, will remain here in the parish for our use. Pledges may be made by turning in your pledge card by mailing it **DIRECTLY TO THE DIOCESE** in the envelope provided. If you have misplaced your pledge card or for some reason did not receive one in the mail, Lenten Appeal offering forms are available at the entrances of the church that you may use to make your donation. Thank you.

**2024 LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE & LUNCHEONS**

All Services & Luncheons are on Wednesdays at Noon  
March 27—SS. Simon & Jude Church  
*Good Friday—March 29—Community Good Friday Service—Blairsville First Methodist Church—7:00 p.m.*

**A STATIONS OF THE CROSS WALK** is planned for 9:00 a.m. Friday, March 29th, starting at the Blairsville Gazebo. Everyone is welcome to join the Blairsville Community Churches for this Good Friday celebration.

**HELP IS NEEDED FOR OUR LENTEN LUNCHEON:** SS

Simon & Jude is hosting the Lenten Prayer Service & Luncheon on March 27th at noon. Help is needed to set up the hall, prepare the sandwiches, serve soup and drinks. Please come to the hall at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 27th, if you can help. Thank you.



**CD OF A WILL MEET ON APRIL 3RD:** The Court is nominating Pat Dettore for the Woman of the Year Award. Dues for 2024 are due, unpaid members will be notified. April committee is Barb Kozar, Donna Crawford, Pat Halmes, and Peg Uncapher. Hope to see you there.

**The Whole Story**

The Bible is a strange book. It's one of the only books that most people never read in its entirety, even those who claim it as one of their favorites. It's also one of the only books that we feel comfortable chopping up and sectioning out. There's nothing wrong with that, really, until people start making wholesale judgments of divine revelation based on one tiny part of it. You can't base your belief system on a few lines from Leviticus and ignore the Gospels, just like you can't embrace the teachings of Jesus and ignore the Old Testament. You need to accept the whole story, in its entirety, or none of it means anything.

But it's hard, because accepting the whole story means patience. It means critical thinking. It requires endurance. It's easier just to throw a line from Leviticus at a problem and be done with it.

Holy Week reminds us that salvation history is a tapestry, not a collection of threads. As beautiful as the individual stitches might be, you won't appreciate the message unless you back up and look at the complete product. If we didn't have the whole story, Holy Thursday and Good Friday would be neither holy nor good. And without Holy Week, Easter morning means nothing — it's just a guy waking up.

How often in life do we find ourselves confused to the point of hopelessness, unable to make sense of it all? Overwhelmed by the pain and suffering that exists in this world, and for seemingly no reason. Some of us become so frustrated we throw up our hands and despair.

We need Easter. We need the whole story. We need to be patient.

*"His disciples did not understand this at first, but when Jesus had been glorified they remembered that these things were written about him and that they had done this for him." — John 12:16*



**"A KNIGHT AT THE RACES":** The Knights of Columbus, Council 10960, are having their annual fundraiser on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at the Graceton-Coral Sportsman's Club. \$25 admission includes a catered buffet meal, with refreshments, snacks, and dessert. Sponsor a horse for \$10. If your horse wins, you win \$50!! A fun night for those over 21. Open to all. Tickets are available at Church of the Good Shepherd office and Our Lady of the Assumption office, or contact Norb Rayko at 724-422-1533. Basket donations are welcome. All proceeds benefit the charitable works of the Knights.



## **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord March 23rd & 24th (SS. Simon & Jude)**

Saturday, 4:00 p.m. – Mass & Blessing of Palm Branches

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – Mass & Blessing of Palm Branches

## **Holy Thursday, March 28th**

10:00 a.m. – **Chrism Mass** (Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg)

7:00 p.m. - **Mass of the Lord's Supper** (SS. Simon & Jude)

**Transfer of the Holy Eucharist to the Chapel (Adoration until midnight)**

12:00 midnight – **Night Prayer** (Chapel) (SS. Simon & Jude)

## **Good Friday, March 29th**

2:00 p.m. - **Celebration of the Lord's Passion & Communion** (Kent)

7:00 p.m. - **Blairsville Ministerium Good Friday Service**, Blairsville First Methodist Church (South Walnut Street)

## **Holy Saturday, March 30th**

**(SS. Simon & Jude)**

10:00 a.m. - **Decorate the Church for the Easter Season**

2:00 p.m. - **Blessing of the Easter Foods (Baskets)** (Church)

9:00 p.m. - **Solemn Easter Vigil Liturgy** (begins outside with lighting of the fire and Easter Candle)

## **Easter Sunday, March 31st**

9:00 a.m. - **Eucharistic Liturgy** (SS. Simon & Jude)

11:00 a.m. - **Eucharistic Liturgy** (Kent)

**Children's Easter Egg Hunt following the 9:00 a.m. Mass**  
(SS. Simon & Jude)

**Join us for the SS. Simon and Jude Parish  
Easter Egg Hunt**



**Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024  
Following the 9:00am Mass  
Meet at the Mary Statue**

**\*\*In case of bad weather, will hold in Marian  
Hall.\*\***

**All children invited!!**

