

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS
April 15, 2022
GOOD FRIDAY PASSION OF THE LORD

**Welcome to all who are here to worship with us.
Today is Good Friday.**

**Whoever you may be, or wherever you find
yourself on the journey, please know that here at
St. Matthias,
All Are Welcome.**

- For the Veneration of the Cross tonight, there will be two crosses at the foot of the altar. Everyone is asked to process up the center aisle in two lines, guided by the Hospitality Ministers. Furthermore, we ask that there be no touching or kissing the cross – only bowing and genuflecting.

**We begin tonight's remembrance
of the Passion of the Lord
in silence.**

SOLEMN INTERCESSIONS

Our response: *In Jesus' name we pray (sung)*

Presider: Msgr Brennan

As Jesus hung on the cross, he gave Mary, his mother, and John, his beloved disciple, to each other. That moment was the beginning of the community of the Church. As Mary and John stood at the foot of the cross, so too do we stand, the Catholic Community of St. Matthias. We bring before the Crucified Christ all our prayers for faith, unity, peace and vision; for grace, solidarity, and patience; for forgiveness, gratitude, and rest. For victims of abuse. At this hour, may we bear faithful witness to the meaning and power of the cross.

We pray for faith.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember the Church universal. We pray for Pope Francis; may he lead us to be better Disciples of Christ. We pray for our Bishop, James Checchio (Check-ee-oh), may he be an example of faithful service to the people of Christ. We pray for all priests, deacons, and those consecrated in religious life; may their devotion to the faith be an example to all of us. We pray for the Pastoral Staff and lay leadership of the Catholic Community of St. Matthias; may they be strengthened in faith as they lead us to live out our Gospel calling.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... (Sung response)

We pray for unity.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember all those who have different beliefs and faith traditions than us. We pray for our Jewish brothers and sisters; may we all remember our unity in the covenant promised to Abraham, our father in faith. We pray for all our Christian brothers and sisters; may we seek to find ecumenism through the waters of Baptism and the cross of Jesus. We pray for our brothers and sisters who follow the ways of Islam and other religious traditions; may we work towards understanding and accepting each other's differences, and towards recognizing and acknowledging our similarities. We pray for our brothers and sisters who do not believe in God; may we be the non-judgmental Christ among them.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... (Sung response)

We pray for peace.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember all people, places, and situations that are in need of ever-lasting peace. We pray for the women, men, and children affected by senseless gun violence everywhere. We pray for those affected by wars and conflicts all over the world...the Middle East, Africa, and parts of Asia, Europe, and the Americas - civil wars in Yemen, Afghanistan, Mexico, Libya, Syria, Somalia, and Iraq. We pray especially for the people in Ukraine and Russia, for those inhabitants who have fled from war, and for peace in the Ukraine. Console those in fear, bring hope to all who seem hopeless, inspire the hearts and minds of those who cooperate with evil to set aside their evil acts and acts of goodness, to lay arms down and resolve conflict, so all may live in harmony. And may the efforts of all our leaders be focused on peace and justice. We pray for the end of the "isms" in this world – racism, classism, sexism, ageism – and all the phobias that create intolerance and hurt. May we continue to tear down the walls of bigotry and hatred that continually divide us as a human race.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... (*Sung response*)

We pray for vision.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember all who hold positions of power and leadership. We pray for our President, our Senators and Representatives, our Governor and State officials, and our local officials; may they begin to heal political wounds and focus on the needs of liberty and justice. We pray for the governments and leaders of every nation; may they have the vision that upholds the dignity of every person. We pray for the leaders across all industries industry - science and technology, health care, the arts, education - may they continue to do what is best for the future of the common good, not the individual.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... (*Sung response*)

We pray for grace.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember all those who will come into the Church this coming year. We pray for our Elect, Diem-Long Hoang as she prepares to receive the Waters of Baptism; may she become one with Christ. We pray for our Candidates, Brenda Cantillo, Sean Catibog, David Chan, Matthew Cyr, Monica Gombas, Lauren Gregory, Abigail McElmurry, Leah Phillips, Marcella Ramos, Michelle Ramos, Samantha Ranches, Sanny Ranches, Kristy Rojas, John Rosario and Phyllicia Torres they seek full communion with the Church; may they be added to the number of God's children. We pray for all who will bring their children for Baptism; for our children preparing for First Communion; for our young people preparing for Confirmation; may they begin to learn and understand what it is to be a person of faith. We pray for all who will be married; for those making religious professions; for all to be ordained; may they receive God's graces through their life's vocation.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... (*Sung response*)

We pray for solidarity.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember our call to be in solidarity with those in whom we see the Passion of Jesus. We pray for the poor in our local community and especially our stewardship communities, and all over the world; may we continue to reach out to the least of our brothers and sisters. We pray for the homeless, the hungry and the thirsty; may we give them shelter, food and drink. We pray for the stranger, the immigrant, and the outcast; may we always welcome them, whoever they may be. We pray for the sick, homebound, and elderly; may we show them God's love and care. We pray for those in prison; may we visit and see them as our sisters and brothers.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... *(Sung response)*

We pray for patience.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember the gift of patience we receive from the Spirit. We pray for times when our patience is tried by family, friends, co-workers, and strangers; may we always embrace the way of Jesus. We pray for the times of illness, unemployment, and insecurity; may we learn to center ourselves on the Lord. We pray for those whose lack of patience causes violence, hurt feelings, and harsh words; may they learn to step-back in situations of high stress. We pray for those unemployed or underemployed; may they find comfort in knowing God has a plan for them.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... *(Sung response)*

We pray for forgiveness.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember to practice forgiveness as a difficult, daily, life-long struggle. We pray for those who ask for our forgiveness; may we forgive them their trespasses as we ask for forgiveness of our own trespasses. We pray for the times humanity has failed; we ask for forgiveness for countries affected by war caused by outsiders; for over-looked genocides; for past acts of violence committed in Auschwitz, Dachau, American Japanese Internment Camps, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Cambodia, Syria, failures at our own borders, and now Ukraine; for slavery and oppression of our African, Latino, Asian, and Middle Eastern brothers and sisters. We pray for the times we have been apathetic or silent; may we be forgiven for standing by idly and silently. We pray for our own acts of selfishness and cruelty.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... *(Sung response)*

We pray for gratitude.

Before the cross of Jesus, we remember all for which we can be grateful. We pray for our friends and family; may we let those relationships flourish and not be silenced by anger or hurt. We pray for a simplified life; may we learn to focus less on what we need and want and more on the blessings we have to give. We pray for all those who have blessed our lives; may their example encourage us to Be the Blessing in the lives of others.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... *(Sung response)*

We pray the victims of abuse.

For all victims of physical or emotional abuse, especially those who have been harmed by ministers of the Church. May they find understanding, consolation, justice and peace. May those who have suffered a violation of trust at the hands of ministers of the Church find through your constant care and concern, an unfailing source of comfort and healing. We ask that you restore their trust in you and your Church. We ask this through almighty and ever loving God, and through Christ our Lord, Amen.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... (Sung response)

We pray for rest.

Before the foot of the cross of Jesus, we remember all those who have been laid to rest, especially those who make up the body of Christ at St. Matthias. We pray for all those who mourn the loss of a loved one, especially those lost in the recent acts of violence; may they find comfort in knowing their loved ones are resting in the Kingdom of Heaven. We pray for those who die alone and forgotten; may they find companionship with Jesus in their eternal rest.

At the foot of the cross, we stand... (Sung response)

PRESIDER

Lord God, we know that Your Son, Jesus, still suffers today in the lives of Your people. Knowing this, we choose love over hatred, charity over indifference, sympathy over apathy, and compassion over self-centeredness. Listen to our prayers for all of our sisters and brothers throughout the world. Gather them close to Your loving heart and hold them gently in the palm of Your hand. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son. AMEN.