



The Crusader

Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Children in Australia & New Zealand



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April 2023
Month of the
Blessed Sacrament

In Reparation for
Our Sins

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Dear Crusaders and Friends,

Every month when I write to you, I think how quickly the time seems to go by. It may seem we have a long time to live in this world (especially when you are young), but it will pass by quickly! God gives us the great gift of time to know, love and serve Him so that we can merit the eternal reward in heaven. If we use the time God gives us well we will become the saints God wants us to be – even if it is very short.

St Dominic Savio died when he was only 14 years old; St Tarcisus was 12 and St Agnes 13 when they gave their lives for Christ. Little Nellie of Holy God was just 5 when she died in the odour of sanctity. Jose del Rio suffered a terrible martyrdom when he was just a boy of 14, and St Maria Goretti refused to betray Our Lord and rather chose to die for Him when she was only 11. We could go on to list the many, many saints of the Holy Church who became saints when they were just children like yourselves, but I think you understand.

You see, it is not difficult to be a saint. All it takes is a generous and loving heart which is determined never to refuse anything to Jesus. A heart resolute to use every minute of everyday to serve Him, to please Him. Unfortunately, however, we so often use our time poorly. May God forbid that we would deliberately hurt our dear Lord by sin, but so

often we refuse to give Him the generous service of our hearts. Perhaps it is just those few minutes with Him after Holy Mass when He remains with us in the Blessed Sacrament. Maybe it is ten minutes of meditation or some little sacrifice; or even just a little act of charity to one of His children.

Whatever it is, every time we are not so generous with Jesus is a grace lost, a step not taken on the road to becoming a saint. Instead of pleasing Our Lord, we disappointment Him. During Lent, we have tried to grow in this spirit of generosity. Now with Easter coming so soon, we may easily lose what we have gained if we relax too much from the spirit of penance we have tried to cultivate in our hearts. We are Crusaders, not just during Lent, but everyday. Everyday, we get out of bed to dedicate ourselves to Christ by our morning offering. Now let us live it everyday: by Prayer, Communion and Sacrifice. In this way we will be true Apostles, real saints of Jesus Christ and worthy to join all His other heroes in the eternal happiness of heaven.

During this month we will pray and make sacrifices especially *in reparation for our sins*. Next month we will be praying *for the mothers of families*. Please be generous in filling out your Treasure Charts for these intentions.

Blessed Mother with your Loving Son, bless us each and everyone!

Fr. Joseph Ockerse



Place
Stamp
Here

The Crusader
61 Koplick Road
Park Ridge, QLD 4125

Use tape to seal this edge

The Sisters' Corner

A Word of Encouragement from the SSPX Sisters in Sydney



Dear Crusaders,

If someone asked you why you receive Communion, what would you answer?

Listen to this beautiful answer given by a 6 ½ year-old girl:

Charlotte, who was prepared by her aunt to receive Jesus, had to be tested for her First Communion. For the question, "Why do you want to receive Communion?" the little girl did not answer. The Sister changed the question a little and asked her: "Why do you want to receive Jesus?" With eyes shining with happiness, Charlotte spontaneously answered: "Because I love Him!"

In fact, that is one of the best reasons and it came straight from her heart. She understood everything. What did she understand? That the Host is Someone. It is God, it is Jesus, it is the best of friends, it is the nourishment of our soul.

You also, dear Crusaders, like to receive Communion, and maybe you have other reasons. Maybe you will find your reason in the list below:

- To make reparation to Jesus (for those who do not receive Him)
- To obtain the conversion of a family member
- For missionaries
- To show your love for Jesus
- To be a better child of God and of Mary
- To be pure, good, and courageous
- For the intention of the month (April: to repair my own sins)

Those who can receive Communion every day will draw strength from it, because, for souls in the state of grace, daily Communion is a nourishment and a remedy.

So even in your visits to the Blessed Sacrament, go as close as you can to the tabernacle. Tell Jesus "Thank you" for any joys; ask for His forgiveness for your sins. Pray with Him by placing your prayer in His prayer that He is offering from the tabernacle.

But you cannot always remain near the tabernacle. You must do your other duties too; so, invite Jesus to come to visit you. This is what we call a SPIRITUAL COMMUNION. This visit will bring you the joy of being near Jesus, of being consolers of Jesus. Then you will be able to say, truthfully, "I receive Communion because I love Jesus".

The Sisters

A Little Heart to Heart Talk

By Fr. Mark Stafki

#9: I Want to Teach You about Holy Mass (3-2-2023)

Dear Children,

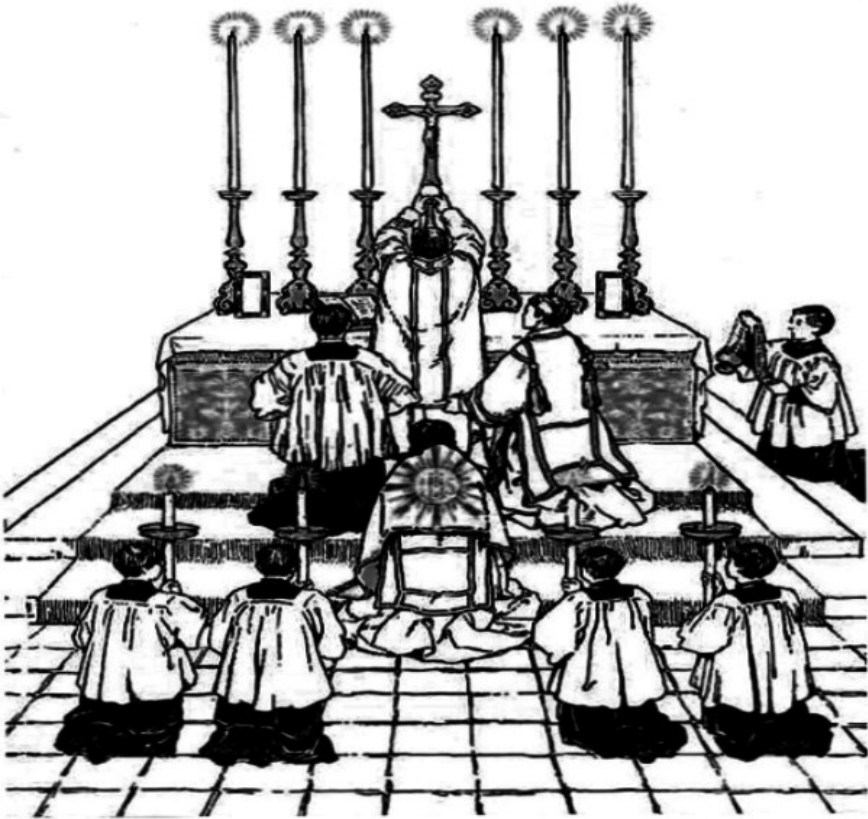
Some things in life are too beautiful to forget.² What are some of those things? The love of a mother is too beautiful to forget, so when we grow up and leave home, we keep a picture of her; we take a picture memory of her with us to every new home we make, no matter how old we get. These days soldiers sometimes have the word “Mother” tattooed on their arm. We do not do that; we do not get tattoos as Catholics, but it does show us that even these tough soldiers remember that there are some things too beautiful to forget. The sacrifices of soldiers who gave their lives for our country are too beautiful to forget, so we put up statues in their honour, often in the very centre of our towns: “Lest we forget.” And on top of that, every year, on 25 April, we celebrate their memory with Anzac Day. I hope that your years at St Dominic Savio School will also be too beautiful to forget. I hope that the memories of what you are taught here, of what you love here, of how you are loved here, will stick with you forever.

What do I want to teach you in the sermons this year? Many things, but one thing in particular. I want to teach you about something far too beautiful to forget. About a love even greater than that of a mother. About sufferings and a death more heroic than the sufferings and deaths of all the world’s soldiers rolled-into-one. I want to teach you about the love of Jesus Christ for you. I want to teach you about His death. I WANT TO TEACH YOU ABOUT THE MASS, HOLY MASS. Holy Mass is more than a picture of Jesus. It is more than a memorial parade. Holy Mass is the sacrifice of Jesus. It is His sacrifice on the Cross, made present on our altar, today, for us. What a mystery! God became man in order to die for us, to free us from sin. He wants us to remember His death. He wants us to be present at His sacrifice of love. He wants us to witness His love for us. He Himself gave us a way to remember His love,

the night before He died, at what we now call the Last Supper. The Mass is more than just remembering His love. His love becomes present again on our altars.

Many of us do not know as much as we ought about Holy Mass. Perhaps if we listen closely with the ears of our soul, we will hear Jesus cry out again from the cross of our altar: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." Do you know what we do at Mass? Do you know what happens there? Do you know what goes on in the heart of the Priest? Let me teach you...

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
Amen.



²*Paraphrase of Archbishop Fulton Sheen's "Calvary and the Mass", Prologue*

ON SILENCE & MEDITATION

For Knights & Handmaids

*Taken & edited from "The Crusader" #64,
April 1995*

First Meditation

The Solitude of Mary

Mary is the Mother of Jesus; she had fed and nursed Him as a child, loved him throughout her whole life...and the proof of this is simply that she never sinned. This is why we can hardly comprehend the love that existed between Mary and Jesus. But, if the love was so great, then the sorrow must have been overwhelming. Jesus was now buried in the tomb, but Mary, her sorrow still continued, and this now was the terrible sorrow of solitude. Oh, how we grapple after something which we have lost; oh how great is the sorrow of those who had lost a loved one through death. How very great, then, was the sorrow of Mary. The prophet says: "Great as the sea is thy distress, who can heal thee?" And elsewhere he continues: "Look and see if there be any sorrow like unto mine."

Resolution: I will often think of this sorrow of Mary, especially when I am tempted to sin, reminding myself how much it hurts her.

Second Meditation

The Cross

God, from all eternity chose the cross to be the instrument upon which He would sacrifice His own Son, so as to convince the world of sin and so to show to the world His mercy and love. Now then, in the world there are two categories of men: those who obey God and so love the cross, and those who do not want to obey God, and so end up hating the cross. The cross therefore became that "sign of contradiction".

When we make the sign of the cross, we profess to follow Christ. It is the instrument of our redemption. We must therefore love the cross. We must pick up and carry our crosses as Jesus taught us to do. Let us then not fear the cross, nor despise it; for in it we will learn to deny ourselves. We will learn the evilness of sin and the love of God; we will be able to convert many back to God. "Ave crux, spes unica": Hail O cross, our only hope.

Resolution: Let me often kiss the cross, let me often look upon it, let me love it.



Third Meditation

Jesus descends into hell

It was to the poor souls in Limbo (sometimes called the gates of hell) that Jesus went to announce that they would soon go to heaven. Who was in Limbo at that time? All those just and holy people of the Old Testament. Heaven was closed because of sin, and these souls had to wait until Jesus would open its gates by his death. There were Adam and Eve, who although they committed that first sin, were repentant; Abraham with Isaac and Jacob, his son and grandson; Moses, who delivered the Israelites from Egypt; King David, who wrote many of the psalms; Ruth, David's great-grandmother; Esther, who saved her people; Judith, who cut off the head of wicked Holofernes; the prophets, Daniel, Ezechiel, Isaias, and Jeremias; the holy Machabees, and many, many more. (Think a little on all these holy men and women.) Oh what joy there must have been in Limbo when Jesus appeared to them in all his glory!

Resolution: With a great joy I will wait for my Jesus to deliver me from this world.

Fourth Meditation

The Resurrection of Jesus

Early on the Sunday morning, before the sun had risen, Jesus in great glory and shining light, raised himself from the dead. The tomb was opened by a great and beautiful angel. Jesus came forth, showing himself to be God (for only God could raise himself from the dead), and also showing that he had conquered death. Death, remember, was a result of Original Sin.

The soldiers, standing guard at the tomb, were so overcome with fear, that they fell to the ground like dead men. Jesus then first appeared to his mother, who was up to this time overcome with grief. Oh, what joy and happiness! Try to imagine the radiant and happy face of Mary, who still had the traces of tears upon her face. If the faces of Jesus and Mary had lost all their beauty during the great passion, they had now regained them a hundred fold.

Resolution: Let me have great confidence in Jesus, for I know that He lives and will call me one day to Him.



Story Hour

Christie's Holy Communion

A FATHER PAUL STORY

*Based on a true story by Maria Winowska, translated and adapted for
"Crusade" Vol. IV, #2, April/May 1986*

The Scene: A parochial school in a poor village somewhere behind the Iron Curtain. The story takes place at a time when some Catholic schools were still operating, but when the Communists were rapidly closing them down.

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THE CHILDREN WERE INTENT UPON THEIR PRAYERS. There was little to distract them in their plain, poor schoolroom, and they recited their prayers with their whole hearts, emphasizing each word. One little girl, Christie, praying with her eyes tightly shut, was thinking, "Maybe this will be the last time that we can all pray aloud together, maybe the last time but we don't know it yet."

She made a greater effort to concentrate on what she was saying, "Give us this day our daily bread." She knew that for her body she needed the baker's bread, but for her soul—which is worth more than the body—she hungered for this Bread which is Jesus Himself, the Bread of Life!

In the month of May, Christie had made her First Holy Communion. In her heart that day she had said to Jesus, "Please Jesus, always give me this daily Bread so that my soul will live and be healthy."

Since then, Christie had received Communion every day. Forty-seven times in all. Now in her heart she was saying, "Oh Jesus, please don't let evil people come and stop me from receiving Thee in Holy Communion. What would I do without Thee, my Jesus!"

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Without warning, there was a rumble of feet outside, and the schoolroom door burst open. In shock and surprise the children stopped in their prayers and stood silent, frozen with fear, for in the doorway had appeared the Commissar surrounded by four Communist policemen.

Striding into the room before the nun and her petrified students, the Commissar unrolled a paper and read off several sentences in a high strident voice. Then, turning, he tore the Crucifix down from the wall and

hurled it to the floor where it broke in several pieces. "The New Regime will no longer tolerate such crude superstitions!"

Then he fastened his eyes on the children and commanded roughly, "Give me all your idols, immediately!"

Christie knew very well what he wanted.

All the children in the parochial school had holy pictures, and these pictures enraged and angered the police. It was necessary to give them up or risk worse reprisals.

The children looked at Sister Euphrasia, their catechism teacher, standing by helplessly and silent as a statue. Then, they unwillingly did as they were told; even though they loved them, they gave up their pretty holy pictures.

Little Christie wanted to keep her Good Shepherd. Never mind about the other ones, but this one was her favourite. It was the holy card she had received on her First Communion day. Maybe she could save it. As she tried to slip it under her blouse, her body reeled under a heavy and unexpected slap.

"Rotten child! Is this how you cheat your country?" screamed the Commissar at her, and then to the police he ordered, "Bring me this child's father!"

Fifteen minutes later, Christie and her father, their hands tied behind their backs and surrounded by militia men, entered the church which was full to the walls with people. Everyone from the village had been rounded up by the police and crammed into the little church to hear a new type of sermon. "This," thought the Commissar, "will rid them of their folly once and for all."

He mounted the altar steps, and with a loud voice and forceful gestures, he made a speech against the missionaries, "those agents of American imperialism," who, he said, had taken advantage of the people in order to extort money from them.

Then, he ordered the militia men to break open the tabernacle. Turning toward the crowd, the Commissar said with a sneer, "Now, let's see if your Christ knows how to defend Himself. Watch what I do. Here's your Real Presence, a trick of the Vatican to exploit you!"

Saying this, he snatched the ciborium from the tabernacle and tossed all the consecrated Hosts on the floor.

With an audible gasp, the stunned crowd stepped back.

Christie held back a cry. What had they done to her Jesus?

The others were waiting for thunderbolts from the sky, but not she. She needed no proof. She knew that Jesus let men crucify Him, and that in the Host He has entrusted Himself to men—men who sometimes betray Him. Her little heart, loyal and true, was bleeding at the sight of the Hosts on the floor.

The Commissar burst out laughing. “You see that all this is nonsense. If your Christ was hidden in this bread He would not permit me to mock Him.”

“But Pilate mocked Him,” thought Christie, “and Jesus did not kill him. The Commissar is doing what Pilate did, and the Bread on the floor is Jesus before the tribunal. Jesus in the Holy Eucharist no longer sheds His Blood as He did during the Passion. But does He suffer now? I think He does.”

Christie felt the hot tears run down her cheeks and onto her lips; they tasted salty. Suffering, she sighed inwardly, “See those wasted Hosts.”

“Do you people understand?” screamed the Commissar. “And now, go away! And beware to him who returns to this den of superstition!”

Sadly, the villagers filed out. In moments the church was empty. Really empty? No, for besides the invisible angels prostrate as they worshipped the white Hosts spread over the floor, there was another witness, the one who told us this story. It was Father Paul, a missionary priest hidden in a secret room near the choir loft, a room that had a little window through which one could look down into the interior of the church.

In hiding, he was waiting for the terrorists to leave, praying in atonement for the terrible profanation. He prayed in anguish, wanting desperately to go down into the church and pick up the Consecrated Hosts. Yet he knew that a guard, placed there to keep the people from coming inside the church, was pacing up and down outside. The way the church was arranged, the priest could not leave his hiding place and go into the church without being seen. The guard would be on him in seconds, before he could reach the Hosts. He was not worried about his own life—he would risk it to save the Sacred Hosts—but he knew that he would be unable to get to the Hosts, and that by exposing himself he would place in jeopardy the lives of the parishioners who had hidden him.

What should he do? He went on praying in agony and in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as evening came on.

Suddenly a narrow shaft of dim light from the outside struck the

interior of the church. Someone had noiselessly opened a door.

Father Paul watched in amazement as a little girl came softly into the church and tip-toed down the aisle. She knelt down, she approached the altar, and bending over to the floor with her tongue she picked up a Host. She said a brief prayer of thanksgiving and then left as quietly as she had come.

“It’s Christie!” thought Father Paul, stupefied. “I never would have thought it of that child who is usually so shy. Dear God, don’t let them catch her!”

The purgings continued. The Communist soldiers made their headquarters in the village and went out to the surrounding area to bring everyone into subjection. Terrorized, the peasants stayed in their houses. No one dared to move. Yet, every morning at dawn, the missionary hidden in the church witnessed the same scene: Christie managed to get in the church without being observed. Devoutly she walked to the altar, knelt down, picked up a Host with her tongue and quietly left.

“I only hope she can pick them all up!” thought Father Paul. “Doesn’t she know that in an emergency like this she can pick up more than one at a time?”

But Christie didn’t know. Sister Euphrasia had told her that “one Host a day was enough.” And also, she wanted to make her joy last.

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The day came when there was only one Host left.

At dawn, Christie came in as usual, approached the altar and knelt. Watching from his window, Father Paul stifled a short cry.

A soldier had entered the church. He shouldered his rifle and fired. The shot reverberated through the little building and then the soldier’s burst of hideous laughter echoed from the walls.

“Take that, you little witch!”

Father Paul thought Christie was dead, but then he saw her make a final great effort and inch toward the last Host.

She took it with her tongue. Her body gave a few convulsive starts; then all was quiet. Christie was dead.

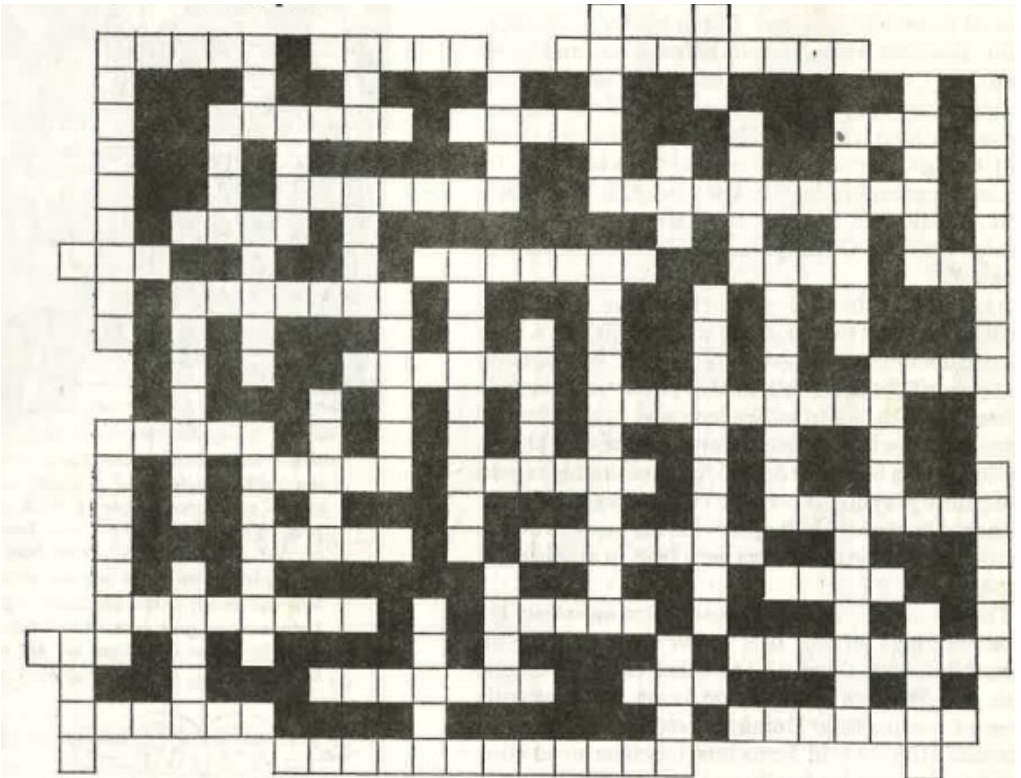
She had saved ALL the Hosts.



Crusader Games

Dear Crusaders, here is a **HOLY MASS WINDOW PANE PUZZLE!** There are 67 words, listed on the opposite page, which you have to fit into their correct spot. There is only one 11 letter word and one 12 letter word, so start with them first and go from there. All the words have some connection to Mass—its prayers, vestments, and holy vessels. Get those thinking caps on this Easter holiday...and best of luck!

* * * * *



Taken from "Crusade" Vol. V, #2, April/May 1987

3 LETTER WORDS

Alb
 Dei (*Agnus*)
 Ite (*Missa est*)
 Low (*Mass*)
 Ora (*pro nobis*)
 Per (*ipsum*)
 Pax
 Son
 The (*Mass*)

4 LETTER WORDS

Abel
 Ecce (*Agnus Dei*)
 Host
 John
 Last (*Gospel*)
 Luna
 Pall
 Sign (*of the Cross*)
 Thee
 Veil (*for Chalice*)
 Wine

5 LETTER WORDS

Altar
 Aisle
 Atone
 Burse
 Credo
 Cross
 Canon
 Kyrie
 Latin
 Linen (*cloths*)
 Orate (*fratres*)
 Paten
 Pater (*noster*)
 Stole
 Water

10 LETTER WORDS

Altar stone
 Tabernacle

6 LETTER WORDS

Cruets
 Gloria
 Gospel
 Lavabo
 Oremus
 Priest
 Secret (*prayer*)
 Server

7 LETTER WORDS

Biretta
 Candles
 Cassock
 Chalice
 Collect (*prayer*)
 Epistle
 Introit
 Maniple
 Memento
 Preface
 Propers
 Sanctus

8 LETTER WORDS

Chasuble
 Ciborium
 Corporal

9 LETTER WORDS

Celebrant
 Communion
 Confiteor
 Elevation
 Offertory

11 LETTER WORD

Catechumens (*Mass of the*)

12 LETTER WORD

Consecration

Aesop's Fables

~ ~ ~

The Trumpeter Taken Prisoner

A Trumpeter during a battle ventured too near the enemy and was captured by them. They were about to proceed to put him to death when he begged them to hear his plea for mercy. "I do not fight," said he, "and indeed carry no weapon; I only blow this trumpet, and surely that cannot harm you; then why should you kill me?"

"You may not fight yourself," said the others, "but you encourage and guide your men to the fight."

Words may be deeds.

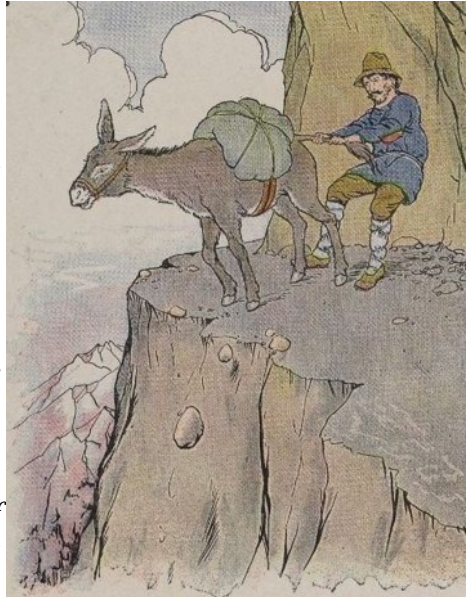
The Ass and His Driver

An Ass was being driven along a road leading down the mountain side, when he suddenly took it into his silly head to choose his own path. He could see his stall at the foot of the mountain, and to him the quickest way down seemed to be over the edge of the nearest cliff. Just as he was about to leap over, his master caught him by the tail and tried to pull him back, but the stubborn Ass would not yield and pulled with all his might.

"Very well," said his master, "go your way, you wilful beast, and see where it leads you."

With that he let go, and the foolish Ass tumbled head over heels down the mountain side.

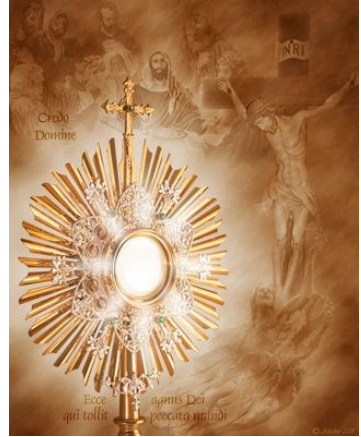
They who will not listen to reason, but stubbornly go their own way against the friendly advice of those who are wiser than they, are on the road to misfortune.



LITURGY THIS MONTH

The month of April is dedicated to the devotion to the Blessed Sacrament

*O Sacrament most Holy,
O Sacrament Divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving
be every moment Thine.*



Do you know your upcoming Feasts? See if you can answer these quizzing questions!

A) April 2nd: This Sunday opens Holy Week with the celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

B) April 6th: On what day did Jesus institute both the sacraments of Holy Orders and of the Holy Eucharist?

C) April 7th: This is a day of deepest mourning for the Church as her Divine Spouse dies on the cross.

D) April 8th: Because Our Lady alone kept faith in Christ's Resurrection on this day, Saturdays are now dedicated to her.

E) April 9th: The greatest feast in the liturgical year, the name of this feast in English is from a Christianized ancient spring festival. In other languages, its name relates back to the Hebrew Passover.

F) April 16th: This Sunday is also called "Quasimodo" from the first word of the Introit of the Mass (in Latin, of course!)

G) April 23rd: This saint is famous for the legend about his defeat of a dragon!

H) April 25th: Today is the feast of one of the Evangelists, and is also in many places a day to have processions to pray for a good harvest.

I) April 30th: This great saint was a Dominican and had the stigmata.

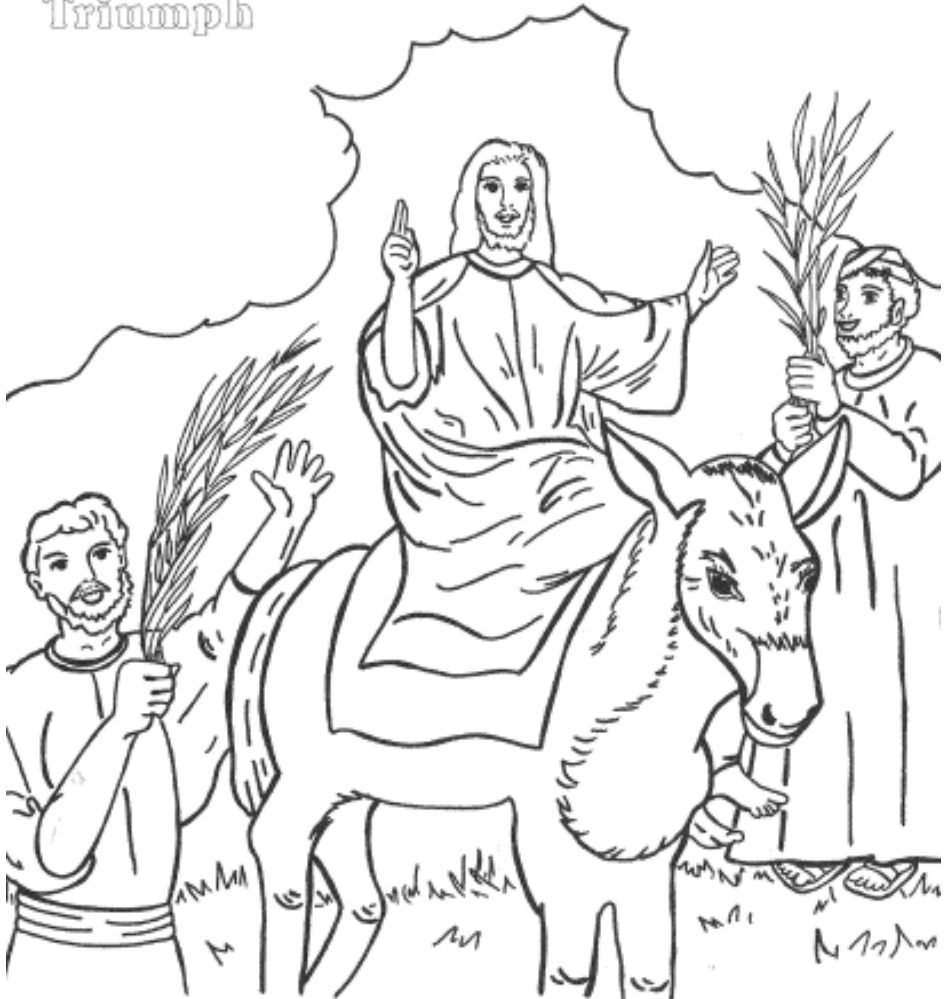
A) Palm Sunday B) Maundy Thursday C) Good Friday D) Holy Saturday
E) Easter Sunday F) Low Sunday G) St. George H) St. Mark the Evangelist & the
Greater Litanies I) St. Catherine of Siena

Colouring Page



PALM SUNDAY

Jesus Enters Jerusalem in
Triumph





The Crusader prays, receives Communion, makes sacrifices and shows good example for the intention that is given him each month by Reverend Father Davide Pagliarani, successor of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre as Superior General of the Society of Saint Pius X



PRAVER

April 2023 Intention: **In reparation for our sins**

Daily offering

To be recited every morning when you wake up

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins. I offer them particularly
in reparation for our sins



COMMUNION



SACRIFICE



APOSTOLATE

DECEMBER 2022 RESULTS

The Intention was for the conversion of poor sinners

| | Treasure Sheets returned | Morning Offering | Masses | Communions | | Sacrifices | Decades of the Rosary | Visits to Blessed Sacrament | 15 mins of meditation | Good Example | % returned |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
| | | | | Sacramental | Spiritual | | | | | | |
| Brisbane | 11 | 265 | 111 | 105 | 208 | 464 | 1289 | 106 | 29 | 400 | 18% |
| Jolimont | 1 | 31 | 12 | 10 | 31 | 93 | 155 | 12 | 31 | 93 | 7% |
| Seminary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| Rockdale | 5 | 140 | 33 | 31 | 18 | 125 | 300 | 12 | 86 | 73 | 19% |
| Tynong | 18 | 489 | 105 | 96 | 95 | 539 | 2543 | 31 | 19 | 418 | 18% |
| Whanganui | 17 | 477 | 243 | 223 | 118 | 989 | 2872 | 290 | 265 | 821 | 26% |
| Albury | 4 | 124 | 31 | 22 | 136 | 234 | 623 | 48 | 25 | 178 | 29% |
| TOTAL | 56 | 1526 | 535 | 487 | 606 | 2444 | 7782 | 499 | 455 | 1983 | 19% |

***Eucharistic Crusade in Australia,
St. Philomena School, 61 Koplick Road, Park Ridge, 4125, Queensland***