

MARCH 24, 2024

Sat. Mar. 23 ~ L: Paula Platt & Kelley Gardiner
Host: Marlene Verdun **Chalice:** Megan Berkbuegler, Larry Gross, Martha McDonald, Paula Platt
Sun. Mar. 24 ~ L: Grant Deterding & Danny Miller

Host: Cindy Deterding **Chalice:** Matt Grau, Greg Crain, Norman & Jeannie Grau

Easter Décor: We will be decorating the church for Easter after the Good Friday service. Any and all help we can get will be most appreciated! Thanks so much!

PSR Lenten Food Collection: Our PSR students are collecting food for our local Food Pantry as we have done in the past. If you would like to make a donation (food or cash) we will gratefully accept your help. Food can be brought to the Parish Office, 915 Swanwick. Please include your name in order for us to acknowledge your generosity. Thank you!

St. Mary's School Gym Project: The Hawks thank you so much for the generous donations! We are over halfway to our goal! Contact Aaron Petrowske if you have any questions.

Catholic Relief Services: Thank you for your generous support last weekend for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. Our parish collected \$574 to send to the Diocese for this collection.

Chicken Fry: The KC Hall and St. Mary's School will be hosting a Chicken Fry on Friday, April 5th from 5:00PM - 7:00PM. Dine-In or Carry-Out; Call 618-826-3316.

KC Hall Monday Lunches: \$11 per plate; serving from 11am to 1pm.

Women's Support Group: The next meeting will be Thursday, March 21st @ 10am at Linda Stern's home, 106 Hillcrest Dr., Chester. Come and connect with others who are making their way since losing their spouses. If you have any questions call Linda (618-201-2957) or Martha McDonald (618-615-6624).

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Diocese New Facebook Page: We have a new, maintained Diocesan Facebook page. The link to the new page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557358381815>
Name: Catholic Diocese of Belleville

Chester Senior Center: *Ask a Techie* ~ Is your smart device more confusing than convenient? Oasis is looking to help adults age 50+ to become more acquainted with technology. Monday, March 18 from 1-2PM. Admission is free. Registration is required. *A Matter of Balance* ~ Tuesdays, April 9-May 28 from 1:30-3:30PM. Take steps to reduce your fear of falling. Admission is free for the 8 classes. Call 618-826-5108. The March Senior Site Menu & Activity Calendar is located at the church entrance.

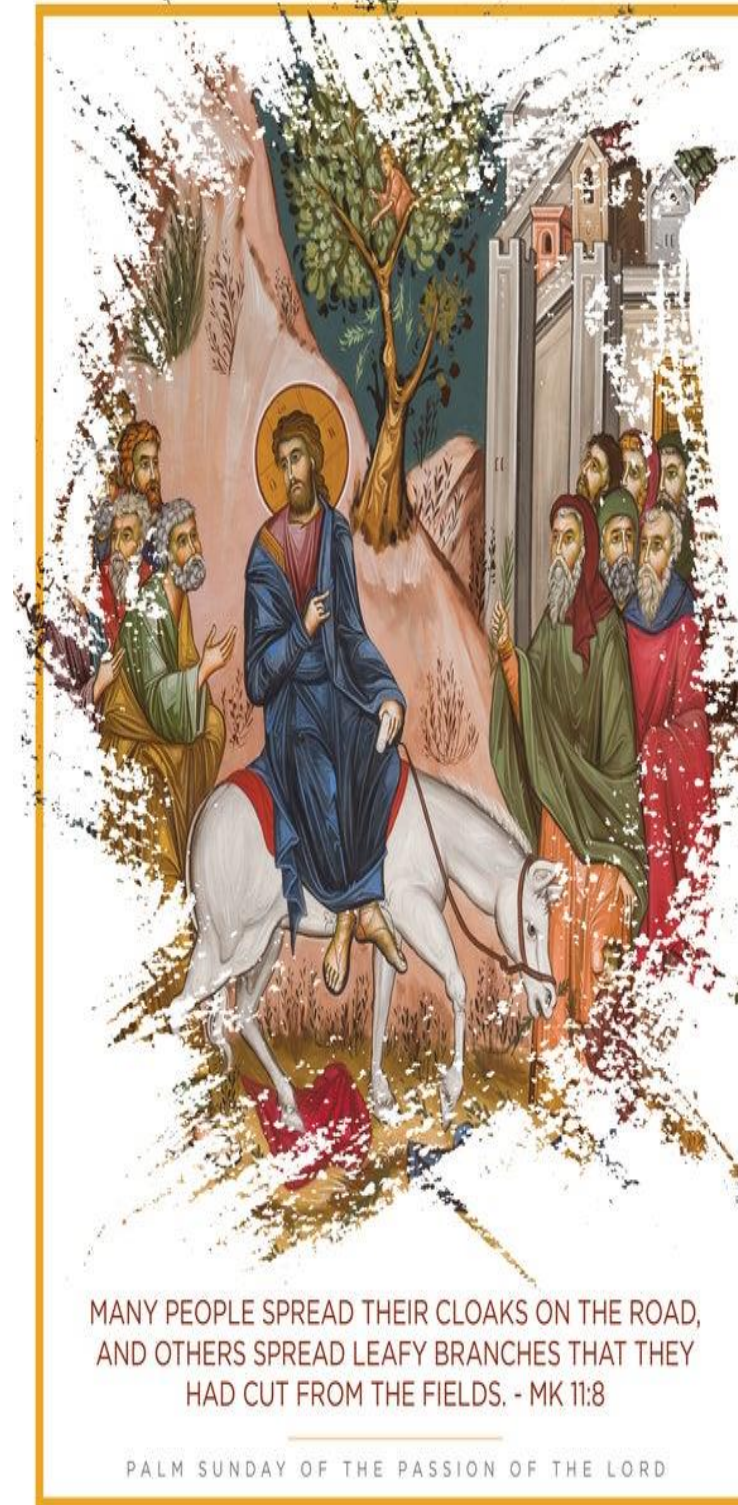
From Bishop McGovern: Each year the Holy Father asks every Catholic parish around the world to take up a collection

on Good Friday to support a Christian presence in the Holy Land. Your donation will go to supporting the work of the Franciscans in providing foundation and education in communities and schools and caring for the basic needs of people while maintaining the sacred shrines and parishes. During such a difficult time, your gift to this collection is essential to the Franciscan ministry which is a light of hope to those living in the Holy Land. Please join me in making a generous gift to assist our brothers and sisters as we walk together in Jesus's footsteps through the Cross to the Resurrection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Michael McGovern Bishop of Belleville

St. James CCW: Born in the USA (A Noon Luncheon Experience) Thursday, April 11, 405 W. Madison, Millstadt. \$15 per person; 12-2:30PM; doors open at 10AM; pulled pork, sides & desserts; quilt/cash raffle, bingo, attendance prizes and more. Paid RSVP's are required in advance. Call Jane Kuester at 618-476-1395.

Kings House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows: Friday, April 19 @ 4PM through Sunday, April 21 @ 2PM ~ Our couples retreat allows you to experience our "I Want to See You" silent retreat while encompassing your togetherness as a couple. This retreat centers on the story of the man born blind. Come and share the experience of being noticed by Jesus, touched, healed and called to witness to the new sight God's love provides. \$400 per couple (includes lodging and meals). Call 618-397-0584 to register.



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PASTOR: FR. SEBASTIAN UKOH, CM
Parish Partnership Website: www.stjoespdr.org

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7362 Shawneetown Trail, Ellis Grove, IL 62241
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St. Joseph
802 Middle St, Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277
Parish Secretary: Jill Whelan
Parish Phone: 618-284-3314
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*We extend a very warm welcome
to all those who are new to our parishes.
We would love for you to become
permanent members of our
Parish Partnership Family!
Please contact the Parish Secretary
at the office number listed above.*