

FLORIDA *Catholic*

YOUR FAITH. YOUR LIFE. YOUR COMMUNITY.

OF MIAMI

Delve into triduum

My dear friends,

Once again we enter Holy Week, the holiest time of our liturgical year. This moment of transition from Lent to Easter is demarcated by what is known as the triduum — three days where we recall Christ’s passion, death and resurrection with very special liturgical ceremonies.



FROM THE ARCHBISHOP
John C. Favalora

The first day of the triduum is Holy Thursday, when we remember Christ’s Last Supper with his apostles. This is the moment when the Jewish Passover became our eucharistic meal, with Christ himself becoming the Paschal

Lamb.

“This is my body. ... This is my blood. ... Do this in memory of me.”

When Christ instituted the Eucharist, he also established the priesthood, for he entrusted his apostles to do as he had done. That is why Eucharist is inextrica-

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Para profundizar en el Triduo

Mis queridos amigos:

Una vez más llegamos a la Semana Santa, el tiempo más santo de nuestro año litúrgico. Este momento de transición de la Cuaresma a la Pascua, se distingue por lo que conocemos como el Triduo, tres días en los que recordamos la pasión, muerte y resurrección de Cristo con ceremonias litúrgicas muy especiales.

El primer día del Triduo es el Jueves Santo, cuando recordamos la Última Cena del Señor con sus apóstoles. Este es el momento en el que la pascua judía se convierte en nuestro alimento eucarístico, en el que

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DANIEL SOÑÉ | FC

PALM SUNDAY

In this file photo from 2008, Archbishop John C. Favalora holds palm leaves at the start of the Palm Sunday Mass he celebrated at St. Mary Cathedral. Holy Week begins Sunday, March 28. The archbishop will celebrate Mass at the cathedral at 10 a.m. For a complete listing of the cathedral’s Holy Week schedule, see Page 3.

To give until it hurts

In these pressing times, St. Vincent de Paul Society urges us to share what we have with those who are less fortunate

BRENDA TIRADO-TORRES
Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI — In the early 1990s, when Victor Martell led one of the parish conferences of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, he asked Auxiliary Bishop Agustín Román for help in reaching out to the wealthy, so they could solidify the financial base of the organization in south Florida.

Martell thought that the construction of the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity was funded by big donations from wealthy members of the community. But the bishop’s reply took him by surprise.

“He told me that the shrine was built one cent at a time, donated by the poor, the workers, the humble housekeepers, the Cubans who just arrived in the United States,” remembered Martell, who has volunteered during the past 25 years with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the Archdiocese of Miami, the last five as its president.

Throughout his ministry, he has always been reminded of Bishop Roman’s words when he sees “politicians and the wealthy calling press conferences and announcing ‘photo ops’ when they

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ARCHBISHOP

FROM A1

bly tied to priesthood. We cannot have one without the other.

We also cannot have priesthood without service. That is the other lesson of the Holy Thursday rites. Just as Jesus washed the apostles' feet, so the priest or bishop symbolically washes the feet of 12 representatives of the community. It is a reminder that those who lead the Church must aspire to serve others with humility, and that those who call themselves Christians must do the same with their fellow human beings.

The Mass of the Last Supper concludes with Benediction and

adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This reminds us of how Jesus asked his disciples to stay awake and pray with him in the Garden of Gethsemane. We are asked to do the same, to remain a while before the Blessed Sacrament, praying with Jesus, recalling his agony in the garden.

Then comes Good Friday, the only day of the year when Mass is not celebrated. We have a Liturgy of the Word and distribution of Communion, but the Eucharist is not consecrated. This is a symbolic way of reminding us that the Mass we celebrate every other day is the representation of what took place on Good Friday. But on Good Friday itself, Jesus' sacrifice

on the cross is our Mass, once and for all.

On Good Friday, the priest enters the church in complete silence. There is no music. He kneels or prostrates himself on the floor at the foot of the altar and prays. Then we read St. John's account of the Passion and we venerate the cross, coming up to kiss it. In doing so, we are acknowledging that Christ died for our sins, reminding ourselves that the cross and suffering are part of God's plan for our redemption. We, too, must suffer and die to our own sinfulness.

Our general intercessions on Good Friday are quite long and specific, encompassing all our brothers and sisters on this earth,

from those who believe in Christ to those who profess no faith at all in God. Christ died for them, too.

No bells are rung on Good Friday. The altar is bare. It is a visual sign that we are mourning. This is the darkest day of the spiritual year. Jesus has died.

And so, on Holy Saturday, we enter the church in darkness. We recall how lost and forsaken the apostles felt after Christ died on the cross. What were they to do now?

The priest blesses the new fire and little by little, as everyone in the congregation lights his or her little candle, a glimmer of light appears. We are still in darkness

PLEASE SEE TRIDUUM, PAGE 4

ARZOBISPO

VIENE DE LA PÁGINA 1

Cristo mismo se convierte en el cordero pascual.

"Este es mi cuerpo... esta es mi sangre... Hagan esto en memoria mía".

Cuando Cristo instituyó la Eucaristía, también estableció el sacerdocio, pues confió a sus apóstoles hacer como él había hecho. Por eso es que la Eucaristía está inextricablemente ligada al sacerdocio. No podemos tener una sin el otro.

Tampoco podemos tener sacerdocio sin servicio. Esa es la otra lección de los ritos del Jueves Santo. De la misma manera que Jesús lavó los pies de los apóstoles, el sacerdote o el obispo lava simbólicamente los pies de 12 representantes de la comunidad. Es un recordatorio de que quienes dirigen la Iglesia, deben aspirar a servir a los demás con humildad, y de que quienes se llaman a sí mismos cristianos, deben hacer lo mismo con los demás seres humanos.

La Misa de la Última Cena concluye con la bendición y adoración del Santísimo Sacramento. Esto nos recuerda cómo Jesús le pidió a los discípulos que perma-

necieran despiertos y oraran con él en Getsemaní. Se nos pide que hagamos lo mismo, que permanezcamos un rato ante el Santísimo Sacramento, orando con Jesús, recordando su agonía en el mismo huerto.

Entonces llega el Viernes Santo, el único día del año en el que no se celebra la misa. Tenemos una liturgia de la Palabra y distribuimos la comunión, pero la Eucaristía no se consagra. De esta manera simbólica se nos recuerda que la misa que celebramos durante los otros días, es una representación de lo que sucedió el Viernes Santo. Pero en el mismo Viernes Santo, el sacrificio de Jesús en la cruz es nuestra Misa, de una vez por todas.

El Viernes Santo, el sacerdote entra a la iglesia en silencio absoluto. No hay música. Se arrodilla o se postra en el piso al pie del altar, y ora. Entonces leemos el recuento de la Pasión según san Juan, y veneramos la cruz, acercándonos para besarla. Al hacerlo, reconocemos que Cristo murió por nuestros pecados, y recordamos que la cruz y el sufrimiento son parte del plan de Dios para nuestra redención. Nosotros también debemos sufrir y morir a nuestra propia na-

turalidad pecaminosa.

El Viernes Santo, nuestras intercesiones generales son bastante largas y específicas, y abarcan a todas nuestras hermanas y hermanos en esta tierra, desde aquellos que creen en Cristo, hasta quienes profesan no tener fe alguna. Cristo murió por ellos también.

Las campanas no suenan el Viernes Santo. El altar está descubierta. Es un signo visible de que estamos de luto. Es el día más oscuro del año espiritual. Jesús ha muerto.

Por eso, el Sábado Santo entramos a la iglesia en la oscuridad. Recordamos cuán perdidos y abandonados se sentían los apóstoles tras la muerte de Cristo en la cruz. Ahora, ¿qué harían?

El sacerdote bendice el fuego nuevo, y mientras todos en la congregación encienden su vela, poco a poco aparece una luz trémula. Aún nos encontramos en la oscuridad mientras escuchamos una serie de lecturas del Antiguo Testamento, y cantamos los salmos entre cada una. Es la historia de la salvación, de Dios que trata de llegar continuamente a la humanidad.

Poco a poco nos vamos dando

cuenta de que la muerte de Cristo en la cruz fue el máximo acto de redención de Dios. Al igual que los apóstoles se regocijaron al escuchar que Cristo había resucitado de entre los muertos, nosotros también nos regocijamos al final de todas esas lecturas. Se encienden todas las luces, y nuevamente cantamos el Aleluya antes del Evangelio, algo que no hacíamos desde principios de la Cuaresma.

Ahora entendemos que somos "un pueblo resucitado", que ya no estamos sometidos al pecado y a la muerte. Tenemos una nueva vida en el Señor. Y ese mensaje es transmitido con poder al ver a los catecúmenos bautizarse "en el agua" y confirmarse "en el Espíritu".

En ese momento, nosotros también renovamos nuestras promesas bautismales, renunciamos al pecado y al mal, y profesamos nuestra fe en Dios, nuestro salvador.

Durante el Triduo Pascual, las acciones son más poderosas que las palabras. Por eso les exhorto a asistir esta semana a dichas ceremonias en su parroquia. Su participación en estas liturgias añadirá un significado profundo a su celebración de la Pascua.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

"Living Healthy" program, Tuesdays through April 22, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Schott Communities for Persons who are Deaf or Disabled, 6591 S. Flamingo Road, Cooper City. Course addresses topics for living better. Presented in connection with Elder Affairs and the Administration on Aging and Evidence-Based Healthy Aging program. Open to the public. Free. 954-434-3306.

Spring concert, Tuesday, March 30, 7 p.m., Archbishop McCarthy High School Performing Arts Center, 5451 S. Flamingo Road, Southwest Ranches. Features classical and contemporary music. \$7 adults; \$5 seniors and students under 14. dfontus@mccarthyhigh.org.

11th annual high tea, Saturday, April 17, 1-4 p.m., St. Andrew Parish hall, 9950 N.W. 29th St., Coral Springs. Tickets: \$25; must be purchased in advance. Sponsored by St. Andrew Council of Catholic Women. 954-340-2647 or 954-227-1640.

Fashion show and luncheon, Saturday, April 17, noon, St. Bernard Parish, 8279 Sunset Strip, Sunrise. Annual fundraiser for the church. Fashions by Sondro's, great food, lots of fun! Sponsored by St. Bernard's Women's Guild. Tickets and information: 954-723-5652.

Annual respect life luncheon, Saturday, April 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Signature Gardens, 12725 S.W. 122 Ave., Miami. Guest speaker: Father Jordi Rivero, spiritual director of Respect Life Ministry. \$25 per person; prepaid reservations by Tuesday, April 20. Information: 954-981-2922.

FAITH FORMATION

"Jesús Liberador y Su Comunidad de Fe", 5 de abril-7 de mayo, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Southeast Pastoral Institute, SEPI, 7700 S.W. 56 St., Miami. Con el P. Pablo Laguna y P. Mario Vizcaino, Sch.P. Temas a discutir, entre otros: Los dogmas

crisológicos; El conocimiento de Jesús; El mensaje de Jesús encarnado en su persona; La Muerte y Resurrección; Las tentaciones de Jesús; Reflexión de la Iglesia primitiva; El hombre nuevo. Matrícula: 305-279-2333, www.sepimiami.org.

LENTEN SERVICES

Cathedral of St. Mary, 7525 N.W. 2nd Ave., Miami. 305-759-4531, www.cathedralofsaintmary.com:

- Palm Sunday Mass, Sunday, March 28, 6:30 a.m. in English; 7:30 in Creole; 10 a.m., English Choir Mass, presided by Archbishop Favalora; noon in Spanish.
- Chrism Mass with blessing of oils, Tuesday, March 30, 10:30 a.m., Main celebrant: Archbishop John C. Favalora.

- Tenebrae service, Wednesday, March 31, 7:30 p.m. Musical retelling of the Passion of Jesus, by St. Mary's Cathedral Choir.

- Trilingual Mass of the Lord's Supper, Thursday, April 1, 7:30 p.m. Main celebrant: Archbishop John C. Favalora. Followed by eucharistic adoration.

- Good Friday, April 2, noon, Service of the Lord's Passion; 3 p.m., Stations of the Cross; 7:30 p.m., trilingual service of the Passion. Celebrant: Archbishop John C. Favalora. Followed by Procession of the Sorrowful Mother.

- Trilingual Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 3, 8 p.m. Celebrant: Archbishop John C. Favalora, with blessing of the new fire and sacraments of initiation.

- Easter Mass, Sunday, April 4, 6:30 a.m., Sunrise Mass in English; 8 a.m. in Creole; 10 a.m. in English, with Choir; noon in Spanish.

Living Stations of the Cross, Tuesday, March 30, 6:45 p.m., Archbishop Coleman Carroll School gym, 10300 S.W. 167 Ave., Miami. A cross between students' modern interpretation of the Lord's Passion and the traditional Stations of the Cross. Donations appreciated to pay for technical costs. 305-388-6700.

Archbishop Curley-

Notre Dame Passion play, Wednesday, March 31, 9 and 9:45 a.m. Annual student production based on the Passion of Jesus and his death on the cross, 4949 N.E. 2nd Ave., Miami. Free and open to the public. 305-751-3741, ext. 22; news@acnd.net.

Tenebrae, a service of darkness, Wednesday, March 31, 7 p.m., by Schola Cantorum, Church of the Little Flower, 2711 Indian Mound Trail, Coral Gables. The service commemorates the final hours of Christ's life as he prepared to endure his sacred passion and death. 305-446-9950.

St. Richard Easter sunrise service, Sunday, April 4, 6:15 a.m., Deering Estate, 16701 S.W. 72 Ave., Miami. Take Old Cutler Road to 168 Street, turn east to end of road. Gates open at 6 a.m. Bring a lawn chair. Persons with physical challenges are asked to arrive early. 305-233-8711.

Holy Week calendar, St. Agatha Church, 1111 S.W. 107 Ave., Miami, 305-222-1500. Events in Spanish appear in italics:

- Palm Sunday: 7:30, 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. (English); 9 a.m., 1 and 6 p.m. (Spanish)
- Holy Monday: Lenten Cantata, 8 p.m.
- Holy Thursday: Last Supper of the Lord (Bilingual), 8 p.m. Followed by silent adoration until midnight. Retreat for young adults 18-35: 11 p.m.-6 a.m.

- Good Friday: *Laudes*, 9 a.m.; Stations of the Cross, 10 a.m.; *Meditación de las Siete Palabras*, 12 p.m.; *Novena de la Divina Misericordia*, 3 p.m.; Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 4 p.m.; *Solemne Procesión y Via Crucis*, 6 p.m.; *Liturgia de la Pasión del Señor*, 8 p.m.

- *Sábado Santo: Sermón de la Soledad*, 10 a.m.; *Rosario de los Siete Dolores*, 10:30 a.m.; *Novena de la Divina Misericordia*, 3 p.m.

- Easter Vigil (bilingual): 8 p.m. Easter Sunday: 7:30, 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. (English); 9 a.m., 1 and 6 p.m. (Spanish).

MASSES/PRAYER SESSIONS

National Mass for "Terri's Day", Wednesday, March 31, 5 p.m., at the

Deadline for Calendar listings

The Florida Catholic welcomes calendar items of parish/organization events that are open to the whole archdiocese. There is no charge but items must be in the Miami office at least six weeks before the event. To list an event both on the Web site and in the newspaper, go to www.miamiarch.org, click on the banner "announce your event for free" and follow the instructions. Notices may be sent by e-mail: arsoto@theadom.org; fax: 305-762-1132; mail: The Florida Catholic, 9401 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33138.

Ave Maria Oratory, Ave Maria University, 5050 Ave Maria Blvd., Ave Maria, FL. Organized by Priests for Life and Terri's Foundation, in memory of Terri Schindler Schiavo. 718-980-4400, ext. 251; or 727-490-7603.

SCHOOL EVENTS

St. Michael the Archangel open house, Tuesday, March 30, 8-11 a.m., 300 N.W. 28 Ave., Miami. Meet administrators, faculty and staff. School accepts Florida Pride, McKay, and VPK program. Pullout program for students with difficulties in math and reading. 305-642-6732.

Chaminade-Madonna annual golf classic, Friday, April 30, 11 a.m., Fort Lauderdale Country Club. Dinner, silent auction and awards ceremony will immediately follow. Proceeds from the event benefit co-curricular education, athletic and financial aid programs. Registration: www.cmlions.org/golfclassic. Early bird registration fees until April 1. 954-989-5150, ext. 117 or 140.

Sts. Peter and Paul is accepting applications for pre-K through seventh grade until May 31. Fully accredited by the Florida Catholic Conference; religious education based on Catholic principles; after-school program available. Now accepting Corporate Tax Credit Scholarship program. 305-858-3722.

VINCENT

FROM PAGE 1

make donations. But the poor constantly help each other in silence. I have knocked on many doors, but the only ones who answer are the poor," said Martell.

It is thanks to their generosity that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been able to help those in need throughout generations, since its establishment in Paris in 1833.

For over 10 years, the Miami conference of the society has produced a two-hour program on Radio Paz on Sundays where they share news about the group and receive calls from people requesting assistance.

"In almost every case, we receive calls from people willing to help those who just called for help. It's amazing," said Martell. "On just a few occasions the society has had to withdraw from its funds to assist someone."

He remembers one time when a caller said he had no money to buy medications for his cancer treatment. A few minutes later, another caller offered to provide not only the medications but also to find coverage for the treatments.

The assistance provided by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul turns out to be particularly necessary during the current economic recession. Last December, the Miami conference received 1,200 boxes with food, clothes and toiletries to distribute at an event hosted by Radio Paz, but far more

ACTIONS, NOT JUST WORDS

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, also known as Conferences of St. Vincent de Paul, is a lay organization established in 1833 by a group of Catholic students in Paris, who met as the Conference of History to discuss history, law, literature and philosophy.

During one of the discussions, a student dared the group members to prove their faith by showing their works, given that they were so proud of calling themselves Catholics and trying to convince others to become Catholic as well. Confronted by the challenge, the students chose to substitute their discussions for the practice of charity and helping the poor.

The Council General of the Conferences of St. Vincent is based in Paris, where its offices have been since the society was established. In the United States, the society has its central offices in St. Louis.

The Archdiocesan Council of Miami

than 1,200 families showed up to receive them.

In January of this year, Florida's unemployment rate stood at 11.9 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Labor and the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation. That figure tied the May 1975 rate, the highest ever recorded, and higher than the national average, which was 9.7 percent in January.

The number of jobs in Florida was down 303,200 in January 2010 compared to a year ago. The industry losing the most jobs is construction. Private education and health services are the only sectors gaining jobs among Florida's major industries.

In Florida, those who are eligible for unemployment compensation may receive between \$32 and \$275 a week throughout their

of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was established 87 years ago at Gesu Parish. On the parish level, the society has conferences whose members meet every week to dialogue and plan around issues related to charity. There are 51,000 conferences in 142 countries, with more than 700,000 members who deal directly with the needy, visiting them in their homes, in hospitals, on the streets, in jail, or wherever they are, and offering their friendship as basis of their assistance.

For more information about the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Miami, visit www.stvincentmiami.com or e-mail: ssvpami@gmail.com.

The society's weekly radio program (in Spanish) is broadcast every Sunday, 3-5 p.m. on Radio Paz 830 AM. To send a donation, make check or money order payable to "St. Vincent de Paul" and mail it to P.O. Box 431232, Miami, FL 33243.

eligibility period, according to the Agency for Workforce Innovation. The state's \$275 weekly maximum benefit has not changed in 10 years. In comparison, unemployed workers in Massachusetts may collect up to \$600 a week; in Georgia, up to \$440 a week.

During the first two months of 2010 alone, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Miami showed a 40 percent increase in requests for assistance.

"We see more and more people losing their employment, their homes, even their marriages because of the recession," said Martell. "Middle class families, the ones who gave to the society at their parishes, are now requesting assistance. They tell us how sorry they feel because they can't help us now. Their situation is dire.

This is unbelievable."

The society does not receive funding from the government or from the archdiocese. Their conferences receive assistance from individuals, parishes and other groups, including people not affiliated with the Catholic Church.

In 2009, the Miami conference gave more than \$1.3 million in cash assistance to 48,102 families in south Florida. That figure does not include assistance with clothing, food, furniture and vehicles, which brings the 2009 total to \$2.1 million, including in-kind and service donations. Even though the community has been very supportive and generous, the need increases.

"Lent is a season for introspection, for reflection. We ask the suffering to reflect on Jesus on the cross and present all their burdens to him. We might not be able to solve all their problems, but we will always try to help them," said Martell.

"Jesus said that much is expected from those who have received much. During these holy days, we invite everyone to reflect upon the countless blessings we have received from God, on everything that brings us happiness, and let's share them with our brothers and sisters in need," he added. "But let's share from what we have, not from what is left. As Blessed Teresa of Calcutta taught us, we should give until it hurts. I hope that by Easter, more people will be experiencing the beauty and the joy of giving." ■

TRIDUUM

FROM PAGE 2

as we begin to listen to a series of readings from the Old Testament, singing psalms in between. It is the history of salvation, of God reaching out continually to humanity.

Slowly, we come to the realization that Christ's death on the

cross was God's ultimate act of redemption. And just as the Apostles rejoiced when they learned that Christ had risen from the dead, so, too, do we rejoice at the end of all those readings. All the lights are turned on and we sing the Alleluia again before the Gospel — something we have not done since the beginning of Lent.

Now we understand that we are "resurrected people," no longer under the grip of sin and death. We have new life in the Lord. And that message is powerfully transmitted as we watch the catechumens being baptized "in water" and confirmed "in the Spirit."

We, too, at this time, renew our baptismal promises, renouncing

sin and evil and professing our faith in God our savior.

Actions do speak more loudly than words during the Easter triduum, so I urge you to attend these ceremonies in your parish this week. Your participation in these liturgies will add a profound meaning to your Easter celebration. ■