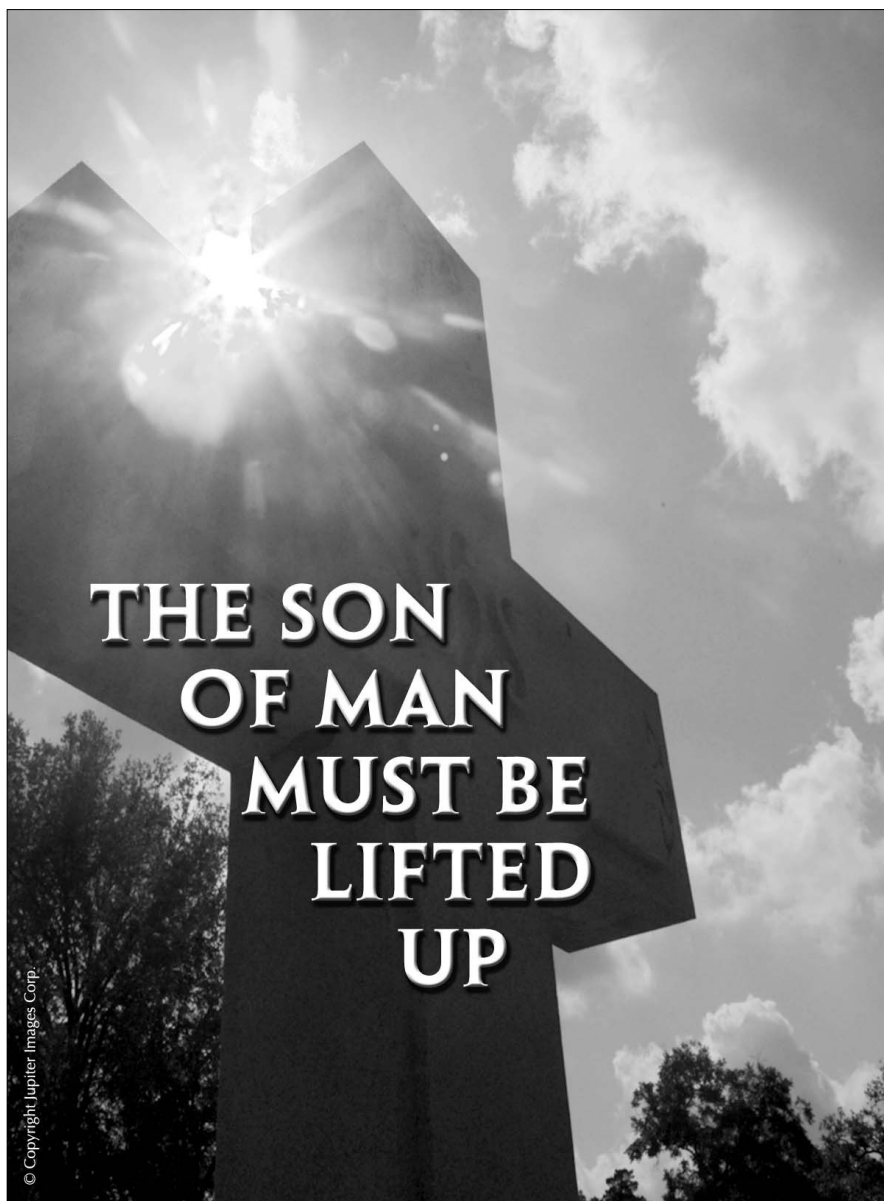


Our Lady of Victory Parish

300 Capt. Thomas Boulevard, West Haven CT 06516

*“Let us then pursue what leads to peace
and to build up one another.” (Romans 14:19)*

March 14, 2021 | Fourth Sunday of Lent



LENTEN ACTIVITIES appear on pg. 3.
READINGS for Mass appear on pg. 7.
MUSIC for Mass appears on pg. 8.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays at 7:30 AM
(except Thursday)

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM

Weekend Mass with music can be viewed online each week by visiting our website. To attend in person, **please sign up by Friday** by visiting our Facebook page for more details (addresses below).

CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Mondays 6-7 PM, and Saturdays, from 3-4 PM in the church. Masks must be worn; social distancing must be followed.

RECTORY OFFICE:

Monday—Friday

on a limited basis;

presently, closed to public

Telephone: 203-934-6357

Fax: 203-932-3315

E-Mail: olovrectory@yahoo.com

Website: www.olv.org

Facebook: [@olv.westhavenct](https://www.facebook.com/olv.westhavenct)

Instagram: [@olv.westhavenct](https://www.instagram.com/olv.westhavenct)

Twitter: [@OLOVwesthavenct](https://twitter.com/OLOVwesthavenct)

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Telephone: 203-933-0044

E-Mail: olovore@sbcglobal.net

PARISH STAFF

Priest:

Rev. Kevin M. Dillon, Pastor
Email: fr.dillon@aohct.org

Deacons:

Deacon Frank Bevino
Deacon Dean Macchio

Music Ministry:

Eduardo Perez, Director

Office Staff:

Ann Talevi, Business Manager
Patty Boyne, Office Manager
Betty Pergolotti, Afternoon Mgr.

Maintenance:

Ernie Conte, Custodian

Religious Education:

LoriAnn Ruiz, Director of
Religious Education

Weekly Mass Intentions

If you would like to honor a friend or family member with a Mass, please see available dates on pg. 6.

SATURDAY, March 13 — Lenten Weekday; Vigil

4:30 PM: **Paul R. Faughnan**, *Req. by the Ropiak Family*

SUNDAY, March 14 — **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM: **Edwin Butch Bates (Birthday Remembrance) and John Imbesi**, *Req. by Connie*

9:30 AM: **Brian Nugent**, *Req. by his Wife and Children Timothy and Mary Kate*

11:00 AM: **Thomas D. and Madeline Defonce, Sr.**, *Req. by Robert and Roberta DeFonce*

MONDAY, March 15

7:30 AM: **Tiffany Falcone**, *Req. by the Diana Family*

TUESDAY, March 16

7:30 AM: **Patricia Newhams**, *Req. by a Friend*

WEDNESDAY, March 17

7:30 AM: **Ann Patricia Ahern**, *Req. by Sr. Denise*

THURSDAY, March 18

7:30 AM: **No Mass**

FRIDAY, March 19 — **St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:30 AM: **Anthony Castaldi, Sr.**, *Req. by his Family*

SATURDAY, March 20 — Lenten Weekday; Vigil

7:30 AM: **Bob Fortuna**, *Req. by Barbara, Kate, and Lisa*

4:30 PM: **Beverly Halligan**, *Req. by Tom and Marilyn Halligan*

SUNDAY, March 21 — **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM: **Leo and Marie Castrcane**, *Req. by Caesar*

9:30 AM: **Enderline Anaeché**, *Req. by Judith Abaidoo*

11:00 AM: **Manuel Tavares**, *Req. by his Family*

THE SANCTUARY LAMP

this week honors

DENNIS JOYCE,

Requested by his Family



Eucharistic Adoration

*“Come to me, all you who labor
and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.” (Mt 11:28)*

Adoration takes place on Saturday
morning for one hour,
immediately following
the 7:30 AM Mass. Social distanc-
ing and masks are required.

Thank You

The Archbishop’s Annual Appeal helps provide the critical funding needed to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, counsel those in despair, offer much-needed assistance to the unemployed, and make medical care available to those without health insurance. Your gift to the 2021 Appeal helps to continue these and other vital ministries, services, and programs that reach out to so many in need. *(No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.)*

Lent

4th Sunday of Lent



Lenten Schedule

**Stations of the Cross,
Every Friday at 6:30 PM**
Stations will be prayed every Friday during Lent at 6:30pm. Please note the time change. Per COVID-19 prevention guidelines, booklets will not be distributed and there will be no singing by the congregation. Advance sign-up is not necessary unless communicated at a later date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Available on Mondays 6-7 PM and Saturdays 3-4 PM in the church. Masks must be worn; social distancing must be followed.

PALM SUNDAY

March 28, 2021

*See information at right
for details
regarding the distribution
of palms.*

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday: April 1

Good Friday: April 2

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
April 3

EASTER DAY

April 4

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Drive-Up Palm Distribution

*Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021 | 12:30-1:30 PM
(Also distributed at Masses that weekend.)*

Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event mentioned in each of the four Gospels. It also marks the first day of Holy Week, the week of that precedes the arrival of the Easter Season.

We celebrate Palm Sunday with the blessing and distribution of palm branches, representing the palm branches which the crowd scattered in front of Christ as He rode into Jerusalem.



Palms will be distributed on Palm Sunday, March 28, at all of our **Masses** AND between 12:30-1:30 PM by **driving around the loop** in front of the church, rolling down your window and receiving the palms hands-free.

Will You Walk with Jesus on Good Friday?

April 2, 2021 | 10:00 AM | Front Doors of the Church

Walk the Boardwalk and pray the Stations of the Cross with Deacon Dean on Good Friday morning, starting at 10:00 at the church. More information to come!

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individuals recall and meditate on a specific event from Christ's last day.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Mondays | 6:00-7:00 PM | In the Church

During Lent, this special day and time for Confession is available to all in our community. Masks must be worn and social distancing followed. The sacrament is also available at the usual day/time of Saturdays from 3:00-4:00 PM.

We pray for those who are sick.

Out of respect for whom we pray, only family members may add names to this list.

Jason Adams, Maureen Alonso, Charles Asarisi, Augliera Family, Louis Altieri, Amanda, Valeria Asperelli, Priscilla Banning, Danielle Boros, Gerard Canadeo, Danny Caudell, Kevin Colleran, Michael Cote, Rosalie, Lucy Anne Criscuolo, Deanna Cusano, Jeff Davis, Dawn DellaRocco, DeNigris Family, Frank Dini Jr., Patti Dowling, Michael Duffy, Monique Ek, Sandy Eocai, Linda Foley, Tony Fusco, Maureen Freeman, Patti Fusco, Joseph Galatie, Geraldine, Therese Gill, Dee Green, Ray Guarino, Tom Halligan, Karen Hodgdon, Bill Kapinos, Hank Kowalski, Rose Jarvie, Florence Johnson, Ann LaBonia, Patricia Lesko, Carmen Limauro, Claudine Lopez, Martin Luth, Theresa Luth, Charles Maddelena, Noah McEachern, Genevieve Mieczkowski, Theresa Montz, Edwin Morales, Mary Moran, Gabby Murillo, Devin O'Connor, Judy Palmer, Joseph Pekar, Kristin Purdy, Joseph R., Marsha R., John Rakos, Don Robillard, Elizabeth Ross, Rose Santilli, Elizabeth Shamaly, Jack and Joan Shea, Richard and Suzanne Smallman, Anthony Spina, Daniel Steinau, Gwen Stiewing, Anthony Terassi Sr., Anthony Terassi, Jr., Jessie Terassi, Jane Thomson, Tiernan, Lynn and Jacques Veillette, Doris Worrell



In loving memory, we pray for these souls.

Our Parish extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Eileen Cook, John Crouth,
The Victims of the Coronavirus**

Please pray for those serving in our military.

Parishioners are invited to add the names of armed forces personnel on active duty to this list by calling the rectory office.

Jeffrey Batres, USMC | Staff Sgt. Adam Dudek
Staff Sgt. Danielle Luby
Cpl. Teagan Fransen, USMC
SPEC Giovanni Gigola | Capt. William Austin
Airman Gabriella Gigola
Airman Aaron Butner | Airman Sean Hufcut
E3 Lexi Ronan, USN | E5 Ryan Ronan, USN
Pvt. Christopher Miller
SPC Alexander Capuras
E4 Raymond Mayberry, USMC
Senior Airman, Hunter Cole, USAF
Airman 1st Class Skylar Hampton
1st Lt. Pilot Michael Dupliesse
2nd Lt. Jared Carlson

Weekly Lenten Devotion: *The Carrying of the Cross*

*This year's Lenten theme is "Merciful Love." What better way to feel Our Lord's mercy and love for us than by His Sorrowful Passion? This week focus on: **The Carrying of the Cross***

As we reflect on our Dear Lord carrying the heavy weight of the cross for us, we should imagine ourselves there, amongst the crowd on that first Good Friday. They are jeering and some may even be laughing at Jesus. Others are crying and lamenting. Then, out of the crowd steps Our Blessed Mother who meets her Son, face to face. She sees his beaten face, His head wearing a crown of thorns; blood mixed with dirt and spit. Mary could not help Jesus and she had to watch in unimaginable sorrow.

The beams of the cross are very heavy but our sins are what truly make the cross heavy for Jesus. As St. Padre Pio said, "In this life, Jesus does not ask you to carry the heavy cross with Him, but a small piece of His cross, a piece that consists of human suffering." May we offer our crosses to Jesus and thank Him for His suffering for our salvation!

"For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

Looking Back, Moving Forward

A letter from Fr. Dillon



Dear Parishioners,

One year ago we faced so many things that most, if not all, of us could have never imagined. The Coronavirus was quickly spreading and there wasn't much information about the it. It was a learn as you go experience with the State beginning a period of "lockdown." Public church services were suspended and a dispensation was granted from our Sunday Obligation until the end of May, 2020. I didn't leave the church property for two weeks. Finally, I nervously went to the grocery store and couldn't believe what I saw. The empty shelves reminded me of scenes from Soviet Russia and it was like a "demolition derby" with the shopping carts. Today, we can quote that old advertisement which said, "You've come a long way, baby."

In the past year, we've learned so much about Coronavirus and how to help to mitigate its spread. Vaccines have been developed which have great efficacy rates, stores are well stocked and panic buying seems to have ceased. We have public liturgies once more. We still must take precautions and the dispensation for attending Sunday Mass has been extended until May 23, 2021. There is a great sense of hope that the end of the pandemic is in sight and we can

begin to return to many of the activities that we long to resume.

So much of this is in line with our Christian approach to life. When things are going well and there seems to be nothing that can stop it, so often the least expected happens. A cross comes into our life. At first it may appear to be impossible to bear, but with God's help and our own persistence, we know we can endure until the end.

Jesus teaches us that when we endure, with the help of God's grace and complete trust and reliance on Him, we will emerge triumphant, if not in this life, then in the life to come.

This Sunday, we celebrate Laetare Sunday (*Laetare* comes from the Latin for "rejoice"). Last year, it was difficult to rejoice. This year, I truly believe that we have much in which we can rejoice. We've made it this far and there are better days to come. Our faith may have been tested, but the Good Lord has brought us through to this point and will continue to see us through until we are triumphant.

So, on this Sunday, may we focus on where we have been and where we are now, rejoicing in the goodness of the Lord.



Sign Up to Attend Mass

Masses are reaching capacity and walk-ins may not be allowed to enter. The link to sign up can be found here:

Website: Go to www.olv.org

- At top of page, click on "March Sign-ups"
- At the far left, click on SignUpGenius.com
- Click on the Mass you want to attend
- Then, at the bottom, click on "Submit."
- Put in your name and email and click "Sign Up Now" then you're all set!



Facebook: @olv.westhavenct

Or, call the rectory by Noon on Friday:

(203) 934-6357

Weekly Offertory:

March 1-7, 2021: \$9,237.00

Your financial support is appreciated as we celebrate the new year and grow our community outreach.

Your offering is gladly accepted by mail, at Mass in the donation basket, or online. Visit ww.olv.org/OnlineGiving for information.



An Archdiocesan Mercy Friday, March 19

Engage in any of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that are possible at this time.

During the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2015-2016, Pope Francis began a personal initiative of celebrating "Mercy Fridays," in which he would engage in specific corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Making visits to locations such as public housing projects, a center for Alzheimer's patients, or an institute for the blind, the Holy Father offered a sign of care, support, and mercy to all those he encountered.

While the official Year of Mercy has been completed and the pandemic has diminished many of our regular opportunities to go places and interact with others, that does not mean that *mercy* can be forgotten. In fact, Pope Francis has recently expressed the importance of mercy in these days of difficulty for our world. The Pope wrote, "Let us ask Christ for the gift of mercy. Let it engulf us and penetrate us. Let us have the courage to come back to Jesus to meet His love and mercy in the sacraments."

With this in mind, we invite the clergy, religious, and laypeople, truly all men, women, and children to celebrate a **Mercy Friday** for this year of 2021. Therefore, on **Friday, March 19, 2021**, we ask the Catholics of the Archdiocese of Hartford to observe a "Mercy Friday" by engaging in any of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that might be possible at this time.

March 19 is also the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, an important day for our universal and local Church. During this holy Year of Saint Joseph, and especially in this archdiocese where we celebrate Saint Joseph as our patron, March 19 will be a day of solemnity and celebration, but it can also be a day for mercy. Recalling the blessed ways in which Saint Joseph supported the Holy Family, we should be drawn into action, and what better way to act in commemoration of this saint than to act with great mercy toward one another.

Help Stop State-Sponsored Suicide

The Connecticut General Assembly is considering legalizing a form of suicide in our state commonly referred to as "aid-in-dying" or "physician-assisted suicide." The legislation is *House Bill 6425 "An Act Concerning Aid in Dying for Terminally Ill Patients."*

Modern hospice care and the proper use of pain medications render suicide unnecessary, and we need to be mindful of the threat that a suicide mentality poses to vulnerable people and to people with disabilities

We should never allow legislators to establish suicide as a solution to medical issues. Catholic teaching condemns physician-assisted suicide because it, like murder, involves taking an innocent human life.

TAKE ACTION:

Go to the website below, **read more on the issue** and then sign the petition to stop the legalization of assisted suicide in Connecticut

www.ctstopsuicide.org



Reserve a Mass for a Loved One

Remember Them in a Special Way

You may book Mass intentions for 2021 through **December** by calling the Rectory Office at (203) 934-6357. Donations for daily Mass intentions are \$15; weekend Masses, \$25.

Available Weekend Masses:

4:30 PM 3/6, 4/10
8:00 AM Masses available thru December
9:30 AM 4/18
11:00 AM 5/2, 5/23, 6/6

Weekdays at 7:30 am

Many Masses available through December.

The Sanctuary Candle is Available:

3/28, 4/18, 5/30, 6/6;

Also, many weeks through December.

The Lord is Kind and Merciful

By Deacon Frank Bevvino

As most parents know, discipline is essential in teaching children to grow responsibly. As a child grows, their attempts to break out and test the waters can cause some successes and failures. We respond to the successes with allowing the child to move forward, step by step, to greater responsibility.

For instance, when a young person reaches the legal age to drive, the parent cautiously allows the child to drive the car with them. Gradually, as the child demonstrates both proficiency and maturity in obeying the laws, s/he is allowed more opportunities to take the family car to either help the parents or for personal use.

Even as adults we oftentimes feel constrained by social conventions and cross the lines of social norms. However, we soon learn whether we are a child testing the waters of adulthood or adults testing the lines of social norms. In other words, whether we are doing the correct thing.

In last week's readings we read about the Ten Commandments and those boundaries God gave to Moses. As a loving parent, God established rules and set boundaries in order for His People to understand His expectations of us. These laws were not so much prohibitions, "Do not do this or that," but showed us where our emphasis must be "on God and each other." This is no less than any parent might do for their children. A loving concern in advising what their expectations are for their children as they grow in maturity.

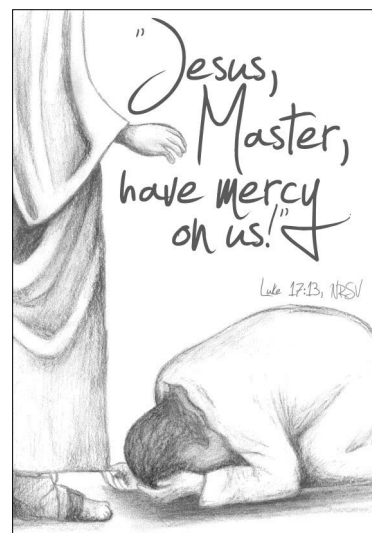
However, like all parents who know how difficult growing up can be with its shortfalls and missteps, God is fully aware of our potential to slip and fall short of what He wants. He knows how Jesus fought off the dangers of temptation but He is aware of our capacity to fall prey to temptation and sin.

Our readings this weekend provide us with two stories of the failures of people that can separate us from God. In both cases, God is present to strengthen and encourage us with forgiveness and support. As we continue our Lenten

journey, we are asked to contemplate and understand both God's mercy and forgiveness. We are also reminded, in Jesus' talk to Nicodemus, that God, in His infinite love and kindness, offered His Son to compensate for our failings. As any

parent would make sacrifices to show their children infinite love and forgiveness, so God has shown us His love and mercy as our Father.

Lent is a time for prayer and contemplation of what the meaning of Jesus' death is for us: To understand that God loves us so much, He gave His life here on Earth so that we may share Eternal Life with Him.



Sunday's Readings: March 14

*"...This Word of God proclaimed in the liturgy possesses a special sacramental power to bring about in us what it proclaims. ... How, then, do we respond to this wonderful gift of God's Word? We respond in word and song, in posture and gesture, in silent meditation and, most important of all, by **listening attentively** to that Word as it is proclaimed." -- General Instruction of the Roman Missal, United States Catholic Conference of Bishops.*

First Reading — The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of the chosen people (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23) *or* 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Second Reading — By grace you have been saved (Ephesians 2:4-10) *or* Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — The Son was sent by God so that the world might be saved through him (John 3:14-21) *or* John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].





Because of health guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we are unable to sing from the pews. The next few pages serve as your hymn book so you can follow along in silent, musical prayer.

OPENING SONG:

AMAZING GRACE

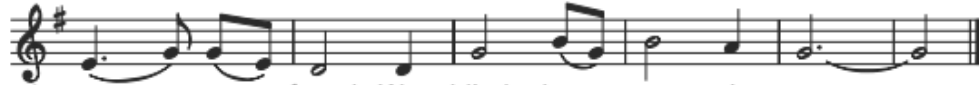
NEW BRITAIN



1. A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound That saved *a
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my
3. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my
4. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al -
5. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright shin - ing



1. wretch like me! I once was lost, but
2. fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
3. hope se - cures; He will my shield and
4. read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
5. as the sun, We've no less days to



1. now am found, Was blind but now I see.
2. grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
3. por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
4. safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
5. sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

*Alternate text: "and set me free!"

Text: CM; verses 1-4, John Newton, 1725-1807; verse 5, anon., fr. *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790.
 Music: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829.

KYRIE

Mass XVI, Chant, Mode III



Text © 2010, ICEL

Ed Bolduc
 Music © 2011, WLP

PSALM 137: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

R. Let my tongue be si-lenced, if I ev - er for - get you!

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LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION NO. IX-A

R. Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, King of end - less glo - ry!

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 Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

OFFERTORY:

BEYOND THE DAYS

Ricky Manalo, CSP

Refrain
 Be - yond the days of hope and mys - t'ry we
 see a light of faith re - newed, and in our long - ing
 we thirst for guid - ance to walk with you day by day.

Final **Verses**
 day, to walk with you day by day. 1. For - ty days and
 2. Not on bread a -
 3. In your hands, O
 4. On our Lent - en

1. nights, you guide the steps of our jour - ney. May your
 2. lone are we to walk on this jour - ney. Speak the
 3. God, we feel the touch of your guid - ance. Keep us
 4. path we see the dawn of a new day. Be our

1. pres - ence be felt in the whis - per of your voice.
 2. words that give life to the yearn - ings of our hearts.
 3. safe in your care: may your gen - tle - ness be there.
 4. vi - sion of hope; be the prom - ise of our lives.

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COMMUNION:

IN THESE DAYS OF LENTEN JOURNEY

Ricky Manalo, CSP

Refrain

In these days of Len-ten jour-ney we have seen and we have heard
the call to sow jus-tice in the lives of those we serve.

Verses

1. We reach out to those who are home-less, to
2. We o - pen our eyes to the hun - gry and
3. We o - pen our ears to the wea - ry and
4. We call on the Spir - it of Jus - tice and

1. those who live with - out warmth. In the cool-ness of
2. see the fac - es of Christ. As we nour - ish all
3. hear the cry of the poor. To the voic - es that
4. pray for righ-teous-ness' sake. We will sing for the

1. eve - ning we'll shel - ter their dreams; we will
2. peo - ple who hun - ger for food, may their
3. ech - o the song of de - spair, we will
4. free - dom of all the op - pressed; we will

to Refrain

1. clothe them in mer - cy and peace.
2. faith in our God be re - newed.
3. show our com - pas - sion and care.
4. loos - en the bonds of dis - tress.

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CLOSING SONG:

THE GLORY OF THESE FORTY DAYS

ERHALT UNS, HERR

1. The glo - ry of these for - ty days We cel - e -
2. A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw The lov - ing
3. So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, De - liv - ered
4. Then grant that we like them be true, Con - sumed in
5. O Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest, To you be

1. brate with songs of praise; For Christ, by whom all
2. God who gave the law; And to E - li - jah,
3. from the li - ons' might; And John, the Bride - groom's
4. fast and pray'r with you; Our spir - its strength - en
5. ev - 'ry pray'r ad - dressed; Who are in three - fold

1. things were made, Him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2. fast - ing, came The steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3. friend, be - came The her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4. with your grace, And give us joy to see your face.
5. Name a - dored, From age to age the on - ly Lord.

Text: LM; *Clarum decus jejunii*; St. Gregory the Great, ca. 540-604; tr. fr. the *English Hymnal*, 1906; Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt. Music: J. Klug's *Geistliche Lieder*, Wittenberg, 1543; adapt. by Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750, alt.

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on an ADVERTISED mattress
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brushes his teeth
with ADVERTISED toothpaste
washes with ADVERTISED soap
puts on ADVERTISED clothes
drinks a cup
of ADVERTISED coffee
drives to work
in an ADVERTISED car
and then . . .
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he ADVERTISES it for sale.

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