

# St. Mary, Mother of God, Catholic Church

22 Bartlett Street, Sylva NC, 28779

Office: 828-586-9496 Fax: 828-586-2167

**4/2/23 – Palm Sunday**

**Domingo de Ramos**

**Pastor: Rev. Paul Asoh, MSP (Ext 102)**

**Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Matthew Newsome  
Rev. Mr. John Szarek (retired)  
Rev. Mr. Daniel Pyles

**Administrative Assistant:** Flor Widmar (Ext 101)

**DRC:** Luci Castillo (Ext 103)

**Receptionist / Office Assistant:** Sarah Brown (Ext 100)

**Liturgical Music:** Trinity Leger / Joe Conway

**Bookkeeper:** Carla Haire

**St. Mary's Book Rack:** Mary Ann Kuehl

**Office Hours / Horas de Oficina**

Monday, Friday & Saturday: 10 to 2; Wednesday 12 to 2

Lunes, Viernes y Sábado: 10 a 2; Miércoles 12 a 2

**Appointments with the Pastor**

Monday/Lunes: 10:30 to 12:30; Thursday/Jueves: 10 to 2

**MASS TIMES at St. Mary Mother of God**

**Weekend Masses:**

Saturday Vigil at 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Sunday at 8:30 am & 11:30 am

**Daily Masses:**

Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 9:00 am

Wednesday at 5:30 pm

Last Thursday at 6:30 pm (Spanish)

**Misas de fin de semana:**

*Vigilia del sábado a las 7:00 pm (Español)*

*Domingo a las 8:30 am & 11:30 am*

**Misas diarias:**

*Lunes, jueves, viernes y sábado a las 9:00 am*

*Miércoles a las 5:30 pm*

*Último jueves a las 18:30 (Español)*

**Mass Times at WCU: Catholic Campus Ministry**

*(during the academic school year) Sunday: 4:00 pm*

*Friday Daily Mass: 12:15 pm*

**CONFESSION**

Sunday: 10:45 until 11:15 am

Wednesdays at 5:00 pm, Friday at 9:30 am

and Saturday at 5:00 pm

Or by appointment

**Tiempos de Confesiones**

Domingo 10:45 am, Miércoles 5:00 pm

Viernes 9:30 am, Sábado 5:00 pm

O con cita previa

**Adoration and Benediction**

1st Friday from 9:30-8:00 pm

1st Saturday Holy Hour after Mass

Last Thursday & Friday 7:00-8:00 pm

**Adoración y Bendición**

Primer viernes de 9:30 am a 8:00 pm

Primer sábado Hora Santa después de la Misa

Último jueves y viernes 7:00-8:00 pm

**Main Line/Reception: 828-586-9496**

**Sacrament Emergency: 828-631-0576**

**Email: [smmgoffice@stmarymotherofgod.com](mailto:smmgoffice@stmarymotherofgod.com)**

## Calendar – March 26<sup>th</sup> to April 2<sup>nd</sup>

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Mass</b>	Ann Monahan Thomas+
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Mass</b>	Lucille Frontauria+
	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Mass - WCU</b>	Pro Populo
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Daily Mass</b>	Deceased pf the Kennedy & Maurro Families+
	6:30 pm	English Class / Clase de Inglés	
	7:00 pm	Hispanic Ministry Meeting	
<b>Tuesday:</b>			
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Daily Mass</b>	Kathy Starr
	6:30 pm	Holy Week Practice for Servers & Ushers	
<b>Holy Thursday:</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>	Deceased of the Bubb & Nigriny Families+
	8:00 pm	Adoration (until midnight)	
<b>Good Friday:</b>	3:00 am	Via Crucis – Living Stations of the Cross	
	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Veneration of the Cross</b> (bilingual)	
<b>Saturday:</b>	9:00 am	Office of Readings	
	10:00 am	Decorate the Church for Easter	
	<b>8:30 pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil</b> (bilingual)	Pro Populo
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Easter Sunday Mass</b>	Linda Tiller+
	10:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt	
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Easter Sunday Mass</b>	William Newsome+

To request a Mass Intention:

Email to [massintentions@stmarymotherofgod.com](mailto:massintentions@stmarymotherofgod.com)

Or use the envelopes near the women's restroom

## Liturgical Minister Schedule – Next Week

Mass / Misa			Ushers / Hospitalidad	Readers / Lecturas	Servers / Monaguillos
Easter Vigil	8 Abril	8:30 pm	Familia Perez	Benita Bueno Sara Freeman	
Easter	Apr 9	8:30am		Brian Raming	Brian Raming Todd Wenberg
Easter	Apr 9	11:30am		Sue Cerniglia	Alister, Gideon, Kristen, Maddie

# From the Pastor's Desk

## Our Beast of Burden

Today, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, is the sixth and last Sunday of Lent. It commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, days before he was crucified. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. The gospel's Passion narrative invites us to participate in the mystery of Jesus' Passion journey.

Almost all Jewish prophets prophesied the coming of the Messiah who would redeem Israel from her oppressors. At the time of Jesus, Israel was governed by the Romans. Jesus' disciples were convinced that Jesus was a political Messiah who would lead a rebellion against the Roman colonial rule and drive them out. Therefore, on arriving in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, he was given a rousing and heroic welcome: "The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road. The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest'" (Matthew 21:8-9). In Hebrew, 'hosanna' means, 'save us now.' So, the people were crying, "Save us now, Son of David; you are sent by the Lord, it's high time you save us." Like the crowds, we cry to Jesus to save us from our afflictions.



John 12:13 writes, "They took palm branches and went out to meet him and cried out." It is from this line that this Sunday is named "Palm Sunday." At the time of Jesus, palm branches were considered symbols of victory and triumph by the Jewish people. Unknowingly, the crowds proclaimed Jesus as the Savior of the world who was to triumph and become victorious over death. I do not think that the crowds would have cried to Jesus to save them if they knew that he was not a political Messiah. A few days later, the crowds shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Could it be that the crowds were frustrated and disappointed that Jesus did not fulfill their expectations? If Jesus had overthrown the Roman leadership, the crowds would have stood behind him. He would not have been crucified. Do we do as the Jews and the crowds did? We get very disappointed, frustrated, and upset when our expectations are not met. Then, we become aggressive and destructive.

As we read in the gospel, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a colt (a young donkey). Jesus chose to enter Jerusalem on a donkey (which was, at that time, the means of transportation for the poor) rather than on a horse (which was the means of transportation for the rich, the high and the mighty). By riding a donkey, a beast of burden, Jesus made himself our 'beast of burden' thereby fulfilling Isaiah 53:54, "He took up our pain and bore our suffering." Like the donkey, Jesus carries our pains and sufferings. By riding a donkey, Jesus identified himself with the poor and the lowly, and he teaches us to do the same. He wants us to identify with the burdened, the needy, the sick, and the suffering. And by riding a donkey, Jesus teaches us the importance of detachment and humility. In Matthew 11:29, Jesus says, "Learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart."

A blessed palm leaf is not to be thrown around or discarded as trash. It is kept reverently until next year when it is returned to the church to be burned for our use on Ash Wednesday.

Sincerely in Christ, Pastor, Fr. Paul Asoh, MSP

## Housekeeping:

1. We ask for your generous response to the second collection which will be taken in all churches of our diocese on Easter weekend. This collection will help meet the growing needs of our Seminarian program. We currently have 49 young men studying for the priesthood and your generosity and prayers are an investment in the lives and ministry of our future priests.
2. We are appealing for donations to purchase Easter lilies to decorate the altar for Easter Vigil and Sunday. We are hoping to raise \$500. Please feel free to drop the donation in the office or offertory in an envelope marked for Easter lilies. You can also make the donation online and indicate for Easter lilies.
3. Please be generous to the Diocesan Support Appeal. As we look at our lives and the many ways God has blessed us, let us give back a proportionate gift to the DSA as a way of saying thank you to the Lord. God will never be outdone in generosity. If you are yet to turn in your completed pledge envelope, you may complete a pledge envelope and return it to the Parish Office, offertory, or go to [www.charlottediocese.org/dsa](http://www.charlottediocese.org/dsa) to make a gift online. Your contribution to the Diocesan Support Appeal is a way to act with love for our sisters and brothers throughout the diocese and to continue the saving work begun by Jesus.
4. Please see the bulletin and the Parish website for the schedule for Holy Week.
5. We are all invited to the Easter Egg hunt taking place between the 8:30 am and 11:30 am Masses on Easter Sunday.



# Desde el Escritorio del Pastor

## Nuestra Bestia de Carga

Hoy, Domingo de Ramos de la Pasión del Señor, es el sexto y último domingo de Cuaresma. Conmemora la entrada triunfal de Jesús en Jerusalén, días antes de ser crucificado. El Domingo de Ramos marca el comienzo de la Semana Santa. El relato de la Pasión del Evangelio nos invita a participar en el misterio del camino de la Pasión de Jesús.

Casi todos los profetas judíos profetizaron la venida del Mesías que redimiría a Israel de sus opresores. En la época de Jesús, Israel estaba gobernado por los romanos. Los discípulos de Jesús estaban convencidos de que Jesús era un Mesías político que lideraría una rebelión contra el dominio colonial romano y los expulsaría. Por eso, al llegar a Jerusalén para celebrar la Pascua, se le dio una entusiasta y heroica acogida: "La muchedumbre muy numerosa tendía sus mantos por el camino, mientras que otros cortaban ramas de los árboles y las tiraban por el camino. Las multitudes que lo precedían y los que lo seguían gritaban y decían: '¡Hosanna al Hijo de David; bendito el que viene en el nombre del Señor; hosanna en las alturas'" (Mateo 21:8-9). En hebreo, 'hosanna' significa, 'sálvanos ahora'. Entonces, la gente clamaba: "Sálvanos ahora, Hijo de David; eres enviado por el Señor, ya es hora de que nos salves". Como las multitudes, clamamos a Jesús para que nos salve de nuestras aflicciones.



Juan 12:13 escribe: "Tomaron ramas de palma y salieron a su encuentro y gritaron". Es de esta línea que este domingo se denomina "Domingo de Ramos". En la época de Jesús, las ramas de palma eran consideradas símbolos de victoria y triunfo por el pueblo judío. Sin saberlo, las multitudes proclamaron a Jesús como el Salvador del mundo que había de triunfar y salir victorioso sobre la muerte. No creo que las multitudes hubieran clamado a Jesús para que los salvara si supieran que él no era un Mesías político. Unos días después, la multitud gritaba: "¡Crucifícalo! ¡Crucifícale! ¿Será que las multitudes estaban frustradas y desilusionadas porque Jesús no cumplió con sus expectativas? Si Jesús hubiera derrocado al liderazgo romano, las multitudes lo habrían apoyado. Él no habría sido crucificado. ¿Hacemos como los judíos y las multitudes? Nos sentimos muy decepcionados, frustrados y molestos cuando no se cumplen nuestras expectativas. Entonces, nos volvemos agresivos y destructivos.

Como leemos en el evangelio, Jesús entró en Jerusalén montado en un pollino (un asno joven). Jesús eligió entrar a Jerusalén en un burro (que era, en ese momento, el medio de transporte de los pobres) en lugar de un caballo (que era el medio de transporte de los ricos, los altos y poderosos). Al montar un burro, una bestia de carga, Jesús se hizo a sí mismo nuestra "bestia de carga", cumpliendo así Isaías 53:54, "Él tomó nuestro dolor y llevó nuestro sufrimiento". Como el burro, Jesús lleva nuestros dolores y sufrimientos. Al montar en un burro, Jesús se identificó con los pobres y los humildes, y nos enseña a hacer lo mismo. Él quiere que nos identifiquemos con los agobiados, los necesitados, los enfermos y los que sufren. Y montado en un burro, Jesús nos enseña la importancia del desapego y la humildad. En Mateo 11:29, Jesús dice: "Aprended de mí que soy manso y humilde de corazón".

Una hoja de palma bendita no debe tirarse ni desecharse como basura. Se guarda con reverencia hasta el próximo año cuando se devuelve a la iglesia para ser quemado para nuestro uso el Miércoles de Ceniza.

Sinceramente en Cristo, Pastor, P. Paul Asoh, MSP

## Noticias

1. Pedimos su generosa respuesta a la segunda colecta que se realizará en todas las iglesias de nuestra diócesis el fin de semana de Pascua. Esta colecta ayudará a satisfacer las crecientes necesidades de nuestro programa de seminaristas. Actualmente tenemos 49 jóvenes estudiando para el sacerdocio y su generosidad y oraciones son una inversión en la vida y el ministerio de nuestros futuros sacerdotes.
2. Estamos solicitando donaciones para comprar lirios de Pascua para decorar el altar para la Vigilia Pascual y el domingo. Esperamos recaudar \$500. Siéntase libre de dejar la donación en la oficina u ofertorio en un sobre marcado con lirios de Pascua. También puede hacer la donación en línea e indicar para los lirios de Pascua.
3. Sea generoso con la Campaña de Apoyo Diocesano. Mientras miramos nuestras vidas y las muchas maneras en que Dios nos ha bendecido, devolvamos un regalo proporcional a la DSA como una forma de agradecer al Señor. Dios nunca será superado en generosidad. Si aún tiene que entregar su sobre de compromiso completo, puede completar un sobre de compromiso y devolverlo a la Oficina Parroquial, el ofertorio o visitar [www.charlottediocese.org/dsa](http://www.charlottediocese.org/dsa) para hacer una donación en línea. Su contribución a la DSA es una forma de actuar con amor por nuestros hermanos en la diócesis y continuar la obra de salvación iniciada por Jesús.
4. Consulte el boletín y el sitio web de la parroquia para conocer el horario de Semana Santa.
5. Todos estamos invitados a la búsqueda de huevos de Pascua que se llevará a cabo entre las Misas de 8:30 am y 11:30 am el Domingo de Pascua.

## Religious Education

*No class on April 5. The next Faith Formation class day is April 12.*

*No hay clase de Formación ed Fé el 5 de abril.  
El próximo día de clases es el 12 de abril.*



## Coming Soon – The Chosen

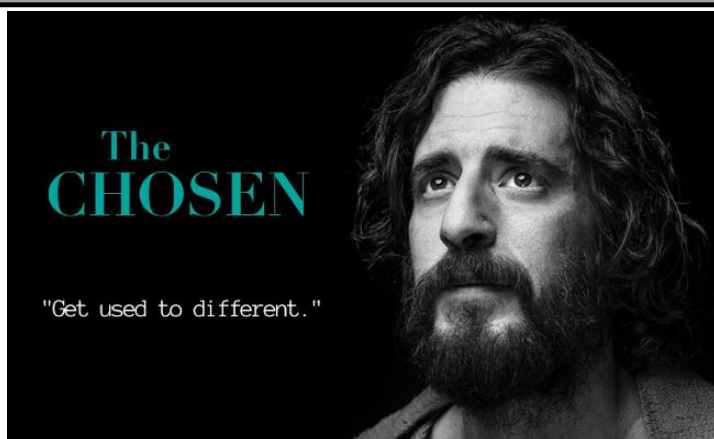
Donuts & Dogma will feature:

### *“The Chosen”*

A multi-season dramatization of Jesus’ life, this series will take you deeper into gospel stories by retelling and expounding on the character and intentions of Jesus and those who knew Him.

Beginning

**Sunday, April 9, 10:00 am**



## Corpus Christi Retreat: Source and Summit

“The Eucharist is ‘the source and summit’ of the Christian life. All ministries are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it” (CCC 1324). Come to this retreat and learn how to make the Eucharist the “source and summit” of your life and ministry. Renew your spirit with a mix of Adoration, contemplation, and prayer, plus be guided by several thoughtful reflections on the Mass. Make this year’s Feast of Corpus Christi one to remember.

**June 9-11, 2023**

**Catholic Conference Center  
in Hickory, NC**

*For more information:*

Visit [www.catholicconference.org/eucharist](http://www.catholicconference.org/eucharist)

Email [info@catholicconference.org](mailto:info@catholicconference.org)

Call 828-327-7441



**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS - POR FAVOR GUARDE EN SUS ORACIONES:**

Charlotte Alexander, Alonso Family, Ángel Esteban Arrua, Rodolfo Martin Arruabarrena, Mary Ann Asbury, Justin Basenese, Jacki Bautista, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Fran Berry, Luz Alejandra Bringas, Michael Burke, Cáceres Family, Moon Chung, Verónica Natalia Chávez, Jim Clark, Will Crain, Rebecca & Russell Ensley, Diane Glover, Jim Glover, Rory Glover, Monica Glover, Rita Goffinet, Marisa Graham, Miles Harris, Debbie Hentschel, Barbara Jakiela, Souhair Kwaham, Rita Lamanna, Daniella Machado, Tim Mann, Sam Matthews, Karen Matulis, Paula McCafferty & McCafferty Family, Peter Namotka, Georgia Newsom, William Newsom, Jr., Tom Nicoletti & Nicoletti Family, William Owen, Carolina Silvia Brizuela Pérez, Cathleen Pilch, Stephen Pilch, Zig Pilch, Cynthia Pitts, Alicia Ramirez, Rios Family, Verónica Rodríguez, SantaCruz Family, Stuart and Janet Snyder, María Sol Montel, Kathy Starr, Teresa Starrs, Jay Thorne, Allen Thurston, Joshua Turner, Lewis Turner, Joe Waters, Pauline Watson, Bonnie Welch, Elaine Wilkes

**Those Called to Active Duty:** Luke Turner

**Serving a Vocation:** Sr. Catherine, OCD and Fr. Joseph Wasswa (Diocese of Charlotte)

**and for all the prayers written in our parish book of prayers.**

*If you know of someone to be added to the prayer list or is homebound that would like a visit please email or call the office.*

**Holy Week Schedule / Horario Semana Santa**

Palm Sunday (Apr 2)	8:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass
Wednesday (Apr 5)	6:30 pm	Practice (servers, ushers)
Thursday (Apr 6)	6:30 pm 8:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration (until midnight)
Friday (Apr 7)	3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Living Stations of the Cross Veneration of the Cross
Saturday (Apr 8)	9:00 am 10:00 am	Office of Readings Decorate the Church
Easter Vigil (Apr 8)	8:30 pm	Vigil Mass
Easter Day (Apr 9)	8:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass

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Sábado (1 abril)	7:00 pm	Misa (de ramos)
Miércoles (5 abril)	6:30 pm	Práctica (servidores, ujieres)
Jueves (6 abril)	6:30 pm 8:00 pm	Misa de la Cena del Señor Adoración (hasta medianoche)
Viernes (7 abril)	3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Vía Crucis Viva Veneración de la Cruz
Sábado (8 abril)	9:00 am 10:00 am	Oficina de Lecturas Decorar la Iglesia
Vigilia (8 abril)	8:30 pm	Misa de Vigilia Pascual
Pascua (9 abril)	8:30 am 11:30	Misa Misa

**Protecting God's Children**

***Help protect all of God's children***

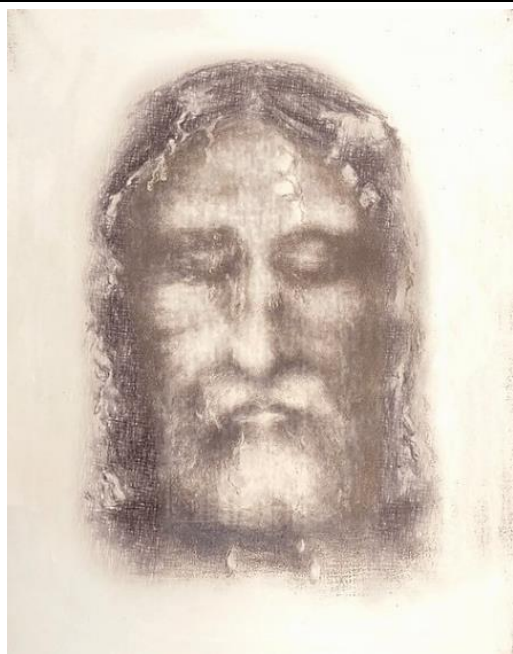
Everyone has a role to play in protecting children. If you have information about possible sexual abuse or misconduct by any clergy, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Charlotte, report concerns securely and anonymously over the phone or online: 888-630-5929 or [www.RedFlagReporting.com/RCDOC](http://www.RedFlagReporting.com/RCDOC).

***Ayuda a proteger a todos los niños de Dios***

Todo el mundo tiene un papel que desempeñar en la protección de los niños. Si tiene información sobre un posible abuso sexual o mala conducta por parte de cualquier miembro del clero, empleado o voluntario de la Diócesis de Charlotte, por favor reportar sus inquietudes de forma segura y anónima las por teléfono o en línea: 1-888-630-5929 o [www.RedFlagReporting.com/RCDOC](http://www.RedFlagReporting.com/RCDOC).

*We had all  
gone astray  
like sheep,  
each  
following  
our own  
way;  
but the  
LORD laid  
upon Him  
the guilt  
of us all.*

*Isaiah 53:6*



## Stewardship

Offertory last weekend: \$2,819 / Budget: \$3,292  
February month to date: \$11,358 / Budget: \$13,168  
DSA Actual: \$4,515 / Target: \$19,622

Ofertorio último fin de semana: \$2,819 / Meta: \$3,292  
Mes de enero a la fecha: \$11,358 / Meta: \$13,168  
DSA recaudado: \$4,515 / Meta: \$19,622

## Parish Organizations

### Parish Council

*Chair: Brian Raming*  
Secretary: Sue Szarek

### Parish Finance Council

*Chair: Robin Starrs*

### Buildings & Grounds Commission

*Chair: Don Pierce*

### Communications & Evangelization Commission

*Chair: Linda Gray*  
· Online & Social Media Resources:  
Deacon Matt and Linda Gray

### Community Outreach Commission

*Chair: Elaina Quijada*  
· Food Pantry: Yenny Sanchez  
· Respect Life: Sue Szarek  
· Prison Ministry: Steve Kuehl

### Faith Education & Formation Commission

*Chair: Bonnie Dodge*  
*DRE: Luci Castillo*  
· OCIA Coordinator: Mike Ensley  
· Contact Luci for sacramental needs

### Liturgical Commission

*Chair: Joe Conway*  
· Altar Guild: Sue Szarek

### Hispanic Community Commission

*Chair: Juan Carlos y Deisi Villegas*

### Parish Life Commission

*Chair: Javier & Analise Comacho*  
· Knights of Columbus: Joe Cerniglia  
· Lay Carmelites Director: Jean Burton

### Stewardship Committee

*Chair: Brian Raming*

### WCU Campus Ministry

Campus Minister: Deacon Matt Newsome

**Email:** [smmgooffice@stmarymotherofgod.com](mailto:smmgooffice@stmarymotherofgod.com)

**Website:** [stmarymotherofgod.com](http://stmarymotherofgod.com)

### **Social Media:**

[facebook.com/stmarysylva](https://facebook.com/stmarysylva)

[instagram.com/stmarysylva](https://instagram.com/stmarysylva)

[youtube.com/c/StMaryMotherofGod](https://youtube.com/c/StMaryMotherofGod)

**Main Line/Reception:** 828-586-9496

**Sacramental Emergency:** 828-631-0576

To contact any Commission with ideas or to volunteer, contact Brian Raming at [pcchair@stmarymotherofgod.com](mailto:pcchair@stmarymotherofgod.com)

### New to the parish?

**Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Hall and complete a registration form.**

Want to volunteer? Please call the office and we will help you share your time and talents within the parish.

### ¿Nuevo en la parroquia?

**Pase por el mostrador de bienvenida en el salón y complete un formulario de registro.**

¿Quieres ser voluntario? Llame a la oficina y lo ayudaremos a compartir su tiempo y talentos dentro de la parroquia.





# EASTER EGG HUNT

**EASTER SUNDAY (APRIL 9TH)**

**BETWEEN THE 8:30 AND 11:30 MASSES**

**BRING YOUR BASKETS AND JOIN US FOR  
SOME EASTER FUN!**

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED**

