

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

300 West Pine Street
Palmyra, PA 17078
Phone: 717-838-3369



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Fr. Dijo Thomas, Pastor

Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

Mass Schedule

(Also live streamed on YouTube at Holy Spirit Palmyra)

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm

Sunday Mass: 8:30am inside & 11:00am

Daily Mass:

Monday, Thursday: 9:00am

Wednesday: 6:00pm (Rosary 5:30pm)

Friday: 7:00am

Confessions: Sat 5—5:30pm; Wed 6:40—7:10pm

Adoration Chapel:

Monday: 10am—5pm

Tuesday: 6am—9pm

Wed & Fri: 12noon—5pm

Thursday: 10am—9pm

Saturday: 2am—9am & 7pm—9pm

Sunday: 12 noon—1pm & 6pm—10pm

For more information call 717-838-3369 x 111 or email adorers@hspalmyra.com.

Baptism: To schedule a baptism, contact our Parish office at 717-838-3369 or email church@hspalmyra.com.

Sponsor Forms: Certificates to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation can only be given to those who are registered and practicing members of the Parish.

Bulletin Deadline: Three weeks prior to publication. Please use the forms on our website for bulletin inserts, blurbs, or facility requests.

Benevolence: For financial assistance, please call 717-838-3369, x 112, and leave a message to set up an interview.

Staff

Clergy: Father Dijo Thomas, Pastor

pastor@hspalmyra.com; Ext 107

Deacon Jorge Reyes

deacon@hspalmyra.com; Ext 105

Financial Secretary: Brenda Poland

manager@hspalmyra.com; Ext 106

Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor: Becky Montefour

church@hspalmyra.com; Ext 109

Maintenance & Facilities: Joe Cesari

facilities@hspalmyra.com; Ext 103

Choir Director/Organist: Richard Druby

choir@hspalmyra.com; Ext 108

PREP:

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Brenda Poland,
cgs@hspalmyra.com

Gr 1-6: Dr. Ann Marie Licata, prep@hspalmyra.com

Gr 7-8: Logan Zugay, confirmation@hspalmyra.com

Parish Council: parishcouncil@hspalmyra.com

Office Hours:

Monday: 9:30am—12noon & 1pm—4pm

Tuesday: 8:30am—12noon & 1pm—3:30pm

Wednesday: 12noon—6pm

Thursday: 8:30am—12noon & 1pm—3:30pm

Friday: closed

OUR MISSION

To seek to know the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ; to celebrate together as a Catholic family of faith; and to share our gifts and talents in loving service to others.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

The Power of Hope: A Reflection from Pope Francis.

Hope is one of the most essential virtues in the Christian life. Pope Francis has often emphasized that true hope is not mere optimism but a deep trust in God’s love and His promises. He encourages us to hold onto hope even in the face of suffering, uncertainty, and despair.

Hope: A Gift from God: In one of his reflections, Pope Francis reminds us that hope is a gift from the Holy Spirit: “Hope is not mere optimism; it is not simply looking at things with a positive spirit. Hope is a gift, a gift of the Holy Spirit, and for this reason, Paul says that hope does not disappoint.” This means that Christian hope is not based on human strength but on God’s faithfulness. Even when we feel weak or lost, hope reminds us that God’s love never fails.

Hope in the Midst of Suffering: One of the most striking teachings of Pope Francis is that hope shines brightest in times of suffering. He often points to the Cross as the ultimate symbol of hope: “Christian hope is rooted not in mere expectation but in the certainty of Christ’s victory over sin and death.” He encourages us to look at Jesus’ Passion and Resurrection as a model for our lives. Just as Good Friday leads to Easter Sunday, our suffering is not the end, it is the path to new life.

Hope Requires Perseverance: Pope Francis teaches that hope is not passive; it requires action and perseverance. In a world filled with war, poverty, and injustice, we are called to be agents of hope by loving and serving others: “Hope opens new horizons, making us capable of dreaming what is not even imaginable.” When we choose to help the poor, forgive those who hurt us, and work for peace, we bring God’s hope to the world.

TITHING: GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING

Sunday Offering 3/30/2025 \$ 13,390

DAC 2025 Goal: \$118,701

Amount Collected \$32,570

Amount Still Needed \$86,131

CALENDAR & INTENTIONS

The **Sanctuary Candle** will burn in loving memory of Barry Bender (From Maura & Bob)

The **Chapel Candle** will burn in loving memory of Ken Parks (From Janet, Bob, & Family)

MONDAY, APRIL 7

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:12-20

9:00am Mass

† Nening Saplala

1:30pm Traditions

† Fran Luprek

7:00pm Lenten Penance Service; Threads of Hope

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

3:15pm Cenacle

7:00pm Folk Group

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

9:30am Awaken Lenten Study

5:00pm Legion of Mary

5:30pm Rosary

6:00pm Mass

† Gabby Mekarbane

6:40pm Confessions

6:45pm Women at the Well

7:00pm RCIA

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Gen 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

9:00am Mass

† Joe Spear

7:00pm Sunday Choir; Knights of Columbus

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

7:00am Mass

† Jesus Evasco

10:30am Banke’s Baptism

3:00pm-7:00pm Fish Fry

7:15pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

11am Easter Egg Hunt

12noon Rosary at the Square

4:00pm Mass

† Greg Booth

5:00pm Confessions

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56

8:30am Mass

† Thomas Morin

11:00am Mass

For the People of the Parish

6:00pm Seder Meal

PALM SUNDAY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE ON FRIDAY, APRIL 11 & GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18, AT 7:15PM IN THE MAIN CHURCH.

First Holy Communion & PREP Information

- 4/25 — FHC Retreat from 6pm—7:45pm
- 5/2 — FHC Rehearsal at 5:30pm (One parent must attend)
- 5/3 — First Holy Communion will be at 10am
- 5/4 — May Crowning at the 11am Mass
- 5/31— Registration Deadline

Final PREP Classes

Our final PREP class for grades 1st—6th is today, April 6 (except for CGS & 2nd grade). Blessings and thanks be to God for our wonderful Catechists, staff, and volunteers for their devotion and dedication to the passing on of our Catholic Faith to the next generation. CGS and 2nd grade will have their final class on Sunday, April 27.

KofC Scholarship Opportunities

The Knights of Columbus have several scholarships available (presented by Council #10502 and Assembly #973). Eligible only for high school seniors who meet the requirements. See hskofc10502.org for more information and to submit your application. Deadline is April 19.

Missing Pyxes

Several of the church's pyxes have disappeared. If you happened to have borrowed one and still have it, please return the pyx to the sacristy. There is a basket in the black cabinet where it may be left. Thank you!

EMHC Mandatory Training

The Diocese of Harrisburg requires all Extraordinary Ministers to attend a Mandated Diocesan Training. Attendance is required to continue serving in this ministry, or for those wishing to become part of this ministry. If you already have a mandate, you are not required to attend the training. This will take place on Thursday, May 1, at 7pm here at the Church of the Holy Spirit. You must register at the following link: https://hbgdiocese.formstack.com/forms/extraordinary_minister_training. The Parish will cover the cost of the training. For any questions or information, please contact Deacon Jorge at deacon@hspalmyra.com.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PARISH MISSION!

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Seder Meal

Please join us as we celebrate a Passover Ceremony, recalling the ancient liturgical practice of the Israelites that commemorates their escape from Egypt. This meal will be on Palm Sunday, April 13, at 6pm in Agape Hall. Sign up in the narthex, and please bring your own silverware to the event.

Ministry Liaison/ PREP Secretary Position

We are looking for devoted volunteers who are willing to give some time to this position. This position works closely with the leads of the parish ministries, as well as with the PREP coordinators. Other duties include office secretarial work, parish registration, communication with the ministries, and sacramental records. If interested in volunteering, please email pastor@hspalmyra.com.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12, at 11am, rain or shine. All children 12 years old and under are welcome to participate. There will be a coloring contest, punch and cookies, plus a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Fish Fry 2025

Our last day for our parish Fish Fry this year will be this coming Friday, April 11, from 3pm—7pm. Dine-in, to go, and online curbside to go is available. Featuring N. Atlantic Haddock (Baked or Fried), crab cakes, shrimp, clam strips, pierogi, soup, & mac-n-cheese.

Catholic Relief Support Second Collection

This week our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, supports displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously to this collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need.

FROM OUR DISCIPLE MAKER SURVEY

Question: The Church is critical in my relationship with God?

Responses: 154

- ✘ 58 % Strongly Agree
- ✘ 24% Agree
- ✘ 8% Neither Agree nor Disagree
- ✘ 5% Disagree
- ✘ 4% I Don't Know

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