

## The Communicator March 26, 2024

Palm Sunday was so lovely. We had celebratory palms, our darling young crucifer, wonderful readers for the Passion Narrative and, of course, the marvelous **Rev. Gillian Ball** as our guest priest. **Father Doug** is doing better but is still not up to the rigors of a full service. He reports that so far 15 minutes out of a prone position is about as much as he can handle. But.... Father Doug beautifully decorated the church with palms in preparation for Sunday's service. Magical.



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**Palm Sunday** is always an awe-filled service as we go from the joyous light of Jesus' celebratory entry into Jerusalem to the impending, oh so dark, crucifixion only days away on **Good Friday**. The starkness of Mark's Passion Narrative brings the story to life. No matter how many times one hears it there is always the deep, existential sadness of Christ alone on the Cross. Gillian, thank you for your powerful sermon on the Passion... Haunting in both its beauty and tragedy.

At the same time we were in worship at Saint Michael and All Angels for Palm Sunday, our friend **Jim Papp's** funeral was being held in Alpuyecá. **Bishop Treviño** celebrated the funeral Eucharist; the Rev. **Tamara Newell** and **Susan Kirago** represented **SMAAA**. Our thoughts are with **Robert Carbajal** as he continues to mourn his beloved husband, our friend, **Jim**. The Icon of Tenderness on the altar is one Jim "wrote" many years ago at a retreat at La Mancha. Tamara wrote that Bishop Treviño



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quite beautifully combined Palm Sunday with the funeral — weaving them together seamlessly. Jim would have loved and appreciated that honed skill. He would also have felt deeply honored to have his funeral celebrated by the Bishop he adored.

Thursday's "Yoga with Ann and Lupita" had 16 participants! - not counting **Ann!** - and three regulars were missing! Obviously yoga is a great success. If you're not already in the class, we hope you'll give it a try. 11-12:30 every Thursday!



**We still have lots of artificial turf available :-(. It's great for roof patios, a balcony, interior patios, yards, whatever. Amigo loves it and gives it his Stamp of Approval. 200p/square meter. We would love it if someone should take it off our hands by Easter!!**

**The Good Friday service will be 12 noon.** There is no Easter without Good Friday and we hope many of you will be there. It is a powerful Liturgy.

**AND...Easter Sunday** is just around the corner! There will be the annual **Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Story** for the youngsters (9:30). Kids, Bring your baskets!!!! Thank

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you **Debbie and Suzie Jeffress!!!!** We are excited this Easter to even have a baptism. Easter Baptisms are a tradition going back to the earliest history of the church.

**Santiago Adrian Hernandez Diaz**, our young acolyte, is our candidate for Baptism Sunday. Please come and celebrate Easter with us, Santi's Baptism, and an Easter brunch following the service! The Brunch will be given by Santi's parents, **Casey and Cesar**, his Godparents, **Sonia and Charly Moctezuma** and his honorary and most grateful extended family, **Onagh Ash** and **Carol Hopkins**. **Sunday Easter service begins at 10:45.**

Easter flowers are being given by members of the church for loved ones who have passed into the **Greater Presence of our God**. The Eucharist will be given in their names. If you have not given the names of your loved one(s) and would like to give flowers, please WhatsApp me names, birth and death dates by Thursday at the latest. There will be an insert in the Bulletin with the names of all the Remembered Departed. Any gift, no matter how small, is a sufficient donation.

Remember, **Holy Week, Semana Santa, isn't just** a beach week, it **is the holiest week** of the year. Please spend some part of your Semana Santa at Saint Michael's. You will be welcomed with joyous open arms. Thank you!!!