



**TIME &  
CHANNEL NEWS**

**Charleston / Huntington, WV**

WVAH channel 11 (Fox)  
6:30 a.m.

**Indianapolis, IN**

WNDY channel 23 (MyINDY)  
6:30 a.m.

WHMB channel 40 (LeSEA)  
9:30 a.m.

**Johnstown-Altoona, PA**

WWCP channel 8 (Fox)  
6:30 a.m.

**Madison, WI**

WMTV channel 15.2 (CW)  
6:30 a.m.

**Wausau / Rhinelander, WI**

WSAW channel 7 (CBS)  
6:00 a.m.

WZAW channels 7.3, 33/55 (Fox)  
5:30 a.m.

**Youngstown, OH**

WBCB channel 21.2 (CW)  
9:00 a.m.

## More Than a Welcome Mat

In the World Heritage site of Antigua, Guatemala, and less famously elsewhere, the centuries-old tradition of adorning streets with *alfombras* (carpets) commemorates the joys and sorrows of Holy Week. From a distance, intricately woven rugs laid end to end appear to adorn the streets. Close up, onlookers see that brightly tinted sawdust, salt, ash, flora, or other materials create the *alfombras*. Intricate geometric patterns in the designs combine with portrayals of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Cross, and other symbols of our faith.



**Fr. Mark Payne  
Chaplain**

It might take months to plan and prepare stencils to duplicate a design on pavement. Many families and other groups work together to “create something new” each year, and we remember that Jesus came to change the world. Some families might resurrect a design passed along from one generation to the next, and that, too, seems a wonderfully appropriate way to express our hope in the Resurrected Lord.



Outlining the design in chalk and filling it in starts during Holy Week. Depending on the size of the *alfombra*, its complexity, and the number of people working on it, the finishing touches might not appear until Good Friday—just in the nick of time.

A procession then follows the route of the carpets and tramples them underfoot. In Antigua, huge floats depicting the Stations of the Cross are carried along the route, accompanied by musicians playing funeral music. It can take more than 12 hours to cover the whole route. After the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the Lord endured an excruciating journey for us. His life given on the Cross trampled the power of sin.

Like ash in an *alfombra*, your donation in the Ashes to Easter fund drive will help to bring the beauty of our Catholic faith into homes, at least for a short time. Pledges to give monthly will go even farther. Together we can roll out a glorious carpet to welcome the Lord.

*Fr. Mark*

## Ashes to Easter Fund Drive



*Have you made your  
Lenten offering?*

# The Lord's Spectacular Light

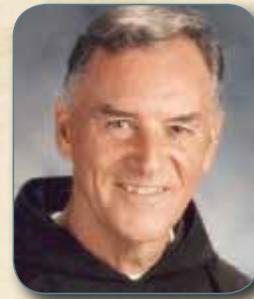
Back in the days before TV's dazzling commercials, huge illuminated and animated signs for outdoor advertising appeared. People called them "spectaculars" and marveled at the sights! Lights turned on and off to change the poses of elfin figures whose spears pointed to "Wrigley Spearmint," real steam rose from a giant cup of coffee, soap bubbles floated into the air from a Super Suds ad, and more.

Jesus came as Light for us and showed us how to put faith into action. He worked some spectacular miracles along the way, but His small gestures reveal the way that He wants faith to animate our everyday lives.

When scribes and Pharisees asked if Jesus agreed with the punishment slated in law for a woman caught in adultery, Jesus started doodling on the ground with His finger. By that simple gesture, could the Lord have portrayed any more clearly that the conundrums they posed had become tedious?

As Jesus approached the dark hours of His Passion and death, Scripture invites us into the room for the last

Passover meal shared with His friends. At the table, Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.



**Fr. Tony Scannell**  
Chaplain

The Apostles failed to understand the farewell gift that Jesus had just given to them. They ate the bread, drank the wine, and proceeded to argue about which one was greatest.

When the topic of greatness had come up before, Jesus advised striving for the humility of a child. This time, our

Lord stooped to wash off dirt and animal dung that inevitably got into sandals as His friends traveled on foot. Jesus showed what becoming a humble servant meant.

Later, onlookers taunted Jesus to come down from the Cross. They wanted something flashy. In outwardly unspectacular but marvelous ways, we are blessed through the Sign of the Cross.

When we gather for Mass, the Word of God enlightens us. We celebrate as bread and wine become the Lord's Body and Blood. At the end of Lent, the Easter candle is brought into the darkened church, and we hear the marvelous words, "Light of Christ!"

***"I am so happy that I found your Mass. It means so much to me when I am unable to get out to church, especially in the winter."***

*~Dorothy*



***"It is a pleasure watching the Mass on TV on Sunday mornings before I go to work!"***

*~Jacqueline*



***"Watching the Mass, we feel better and full of hope."***

*~Irma and Ed*



***"James and I have been told about your Mass on Sundays by a dear friend. We are on limited income but want to send this small thanks."***

*~James and Ann*



**Ashes to Easter Fund Drive**



Using his own struggle as an example, St. Paul encouraged the faithful to keep pushing toward the goal of eternity with our Resurrected Lord. His letter to the Philippians offers encouragement to pursue whatever lies ahead in life with the righteousness that comes through faith.

Your generosity in the Ashes to Easter Fund Drive will help to reach the goal of providing Sunday Mass and Catholic publications to the faithful who join you in prayer through Heart of the Nation. Your gift or a pledge to give monthly will become a blessing in the lives of people at home, in hospitals, in prisons, and other places. Please donate any amount that you can to experience Lenten sacrifice leading to Easter joy.

## Lenten Prayer

Lord Jesus, may the  
love that I give  
reflect Your  
compassion for me.  
With gentleness of  
heart, may I live,  
here and in  
heavenly glory.  
Amen.

## Prayer to the Risen Lord

Thank You for the  
measured days  
of Your life on Earth,  
when You made each  
moment count.

Please help me  
to have faith and  
love for all it's worth,  
for no struggle  
looms greater  
than love in You  
surmounts.

Thank You for the  
Cross You bore  
with mercy divine,  
yet knowing the  
deepest fear.

With hope in Your  
love outpoured,  
may Easter define  
each path I choose  
to follow  
upon this earthly  
sphere.

Amen.

# The Longest Day

In Biblical times, a servant would wash the feet of an honored guest arriving for a meal. The Apostles had skipped the ritual with Jesus. Then the Lord got up from the Last Supper, tied a towel around His waist, and began washing the feet of His friends.



Peter objected. He didn't want the Son of God to act like a lowly servant. Jesus said to go along with it and wait for understanding. Around the table again, the Lord announced the betrayal by one of them that would soon take Him from their midst. Peter wanted to go with Jesus and could not imagine denying the Lord, no matter what!

Liturgically, we regard the three days from the evening of Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday as one, while recalling events leading from the darkness of the night of betrayal to the light of the Resurrection. After evening Mass on Holy Thursday, the Altar remains bare and the Tabernacle empty. Consecrated Hosts are placed on a specially adorned Altar of Repose for Eucharistic Adoration. On Good Friday, the liturgy encompasses the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion using Hosts from Thursday. The hope-filled Easter Vigil begins our celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord.

# Sunday of Divine Mercy

Known as the "Apostle of Divine Mercy," St. Faustina Kowalska had numerous visions of Jesus. His instructions to her led to our annual celebration of the Sunday of Divine Mercy (April 28, 2019).

Appearing with rays emanating from His heart, the Lord said that He desired a Feast of Mercy. On the feast day, He would forgive and grant complete remission of punishment to the faithful who went to Confession and received Holy Communion. Catholics are free to believe and act upon the promise, although the Church does not regard the private revelations to St. Faustina as dogma. The Church has, however, made the Sunday of Divine Mercy an occasion for seeking indulgences.

An indulgence reduces or eliminates the need for purification on Earth or in purgatory as a result of sin. Receiving an indulgence requires freedom from mortal sin, stating to God the desire for an indulgence, and fulfillment of an indulgenced act.



**For the Sunday of Divine Mercy, the indulgenced act is devout prayer with a contrite heart, using words such as "Merciful Jesus, I trust in You!"**

Nothing more is required to seek a partial indulgence. A full indulgence has additional requirements, including complete detachment from all sin—a difficult standard. In the simpler revelation to St. Faustina, the Lord expressed His desire for an occasion allowing the faithful to experience the unfathomable depths of His mercy.



With gratitude, Heart of the Nation welcomes new members to the Circle of the Heart monthly giving club. As a member, you will be included in prayers placed before the altar for every Sunday TV Mass. To join, please mark the box on your donation envelope, and indicate the amount of your pledge. (If you need to change or cancel your pledge, just call, e-mail, or send a note to Heart of the Nation.) **Thank you!**

Dominic Addabbo  
Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Astuto  
Noella Belvedere  
Frances Bias  
Sr. Joan Bocklet  
Yvonne Boyce  
Oma Buchholz  
Theresa L. Casselberry  
Shirley M. Chapman  
Elaine Czaplá  
Anna DeLucia  
Rumalda Elkins  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Eodice

Gerry Fagoaga  
Arlene Faulkner  
Agnes Frisch  
John J. Gaffney  
Donald Galgano  
Enedean Garcia  
Virginia Garzon  
Paula Griggs  
Ricardo Gueretta  
Barbara A. Hemm  
Nancy Herrera  
Nellie Huizar  
Carolyn Jones

Betty Lou Joseph  
Ruth Leon  
Ruth Leykamm  
Jeanne Manns  
Annie Marilao  
Patricia Masczko  
Leila Mavoulian  
Carl McCoy  
Janie Mojica  
Ed Mullen  
Duane Nizinski  
Mary A. Parra  
Mrs. Angelita Portacio

Florence Redig  
Phil Romero, Jr.  
John E. Romphf  
Mr. & Mrs. John Sipple  
Patricia Stromberg  
Phyllis Torres  
Alfred Touma  
Barbara Weist  
Eileen Wheatley  
Jonathan Yazzie

## Did You Know?

Breaking the Eucharistic Host at Mass imitates Christ's sharing of bread at the Last Supper and symbolizes that the "faithful are made one body by receiving Communion from the one Bread of Life" (*Roman Missal*, Instruction 83). In a Mass with a small group, the Host may be broken into enough pieces for everyone.

As Christianity became widespread, the need for local Eucharistic gatherings arose. To maintain Church unity, a bishop broke off small pieces of the consecrated Host to be taken to each outlying area. The small pieces were called *Fermentum* (leaven, in Latin). Each priest receiving a portion of the Host would drop it into the chalice of wine. The ongoing tradition of placing a small piece of the Host in the chalice at Mass also serves as a reminder of the Lord's Resurrection, when He appeared once again in Body and Blood.



Heart of the Nation.  
CATHOLIC MASS

For local time and channel information, please visit [www.HeartoftheNation.org](http://www.HeartoftheNation.org)

OR

### Contact Us:

Heart of the Nation  
P.O. Box 14428  
Milwaukee, WI 53214

Toll-Free: (855) 855-6277

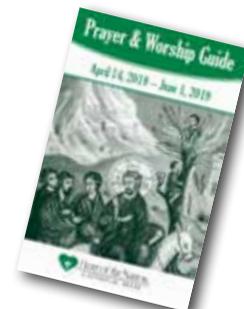
E-mail:

[Mail@HeartoftheNation.org](mailto:Mail@HeartoftheNation.org)



## Prayer & Worship Guide: Order for Yourself Or As a Gift for Someone You Love

Please start a free annual subscription to the large-print *Prayer & Worship Guide*, published 7 times per year by Heart of the Nation. Send it to the person listed below:



Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to **Heart of the Nation**, P.O. Box 14428, Milwaukee, WI 53214.  
Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. **Thank You!**