

Some Thoughts for April, 2025

April, of course, is the fourth month of the year. Thank You Dear Lord for this beautiful month-- its lovely blooms and warmer weather. It is named after the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite, and is known for its vibrant spring blooms. The April birth flowers are the sweet pea and the daisy. The April birthstone is the diamond. Lucky me.

Easter this year falls on April 20th. The earliest Easter can fall on is March 22, and the latest it can fall on is April 25. On April 25 we usually celebrate our patron saint, St. Mark, but because it falls on the octave of Easter we will not celebrate it officially with Mass, but we will remember to thank him and honor him in private. We love you St. Mark, please continue to pray for us.

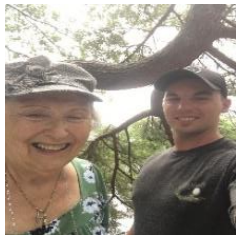
Holy week starts on Palm Sunday, April 13. Holy Thursday, the night of the Last Supper is April 17. Good Friday follows on the 18th. Let us not forget to start our Divine Mercy Novena which starts on Good Friday and ends on the Sunday after Easter, which is Divine Mercy Sunday. I encourage you to read about the indulgence granted for those that participate and receive the sacrament of penance . The remission of purgatory time is really a wonderful gift from our Lord.

On the 11th we celebrate St. Stanislaus Kostka, patron saint of young students and seminarians. He was born in Poland in 1550 and was known for his vigorous opposition to an unjust government. St. Stanislaus please pray for us and that more young men heed the call to study for the priesthood. Lord, please call more workers into the vineyard.

On the 29th we celebrate St. Catherine of Siena. She was a member of the third order of St. Dominic and a mystic. She had great influence in bringing the papacy back to Rome from France in the late 1300's. She is a Doctor of the church. St. Catherine, pray for us and our church. I think she is the perfect saint to pray to for the holy papacy.

As we prepare ourselves for this holy Easter season let us pray for peace in the world, for our church, for our family members and friends that have fallen away from practicing the faith and for a rebirth of faith and worship. Come Holy Spirit, come. Well, all you Grandmas and Grandpas start thinking about where you will hide those Easter eggs for your grandkids. God bless us all this Lenten and Easter season, please give us the graces we need to heed Your word and follow you each and every day!

Love,
Marge



Marge Loenser is a member of Saint Mark's Church in Sea Girt where she is a Lector and a Eucharistic Minister. She has retired from teaching CCD at Saint Mark's. She has been a member of Catholic Women of Zion for about 30 years and is also a member of Mary Queen of Peace Prayer Community for about the same length of time. She writes for a monthly column for Saint Mark's Church Bulletin.