

# Parishes observe Holy Week with Easter traditions

**By Elizabeth Lowe**

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Catholic Churches in the Archdiocese of Baltimore celebrated various Easter traditions throughout Holy Week, which began April 13, Palm Sunday.

Before a Palm Sunday liturgy at St. Francis of Assisi, there was a procession from the parish school to the church, which included Monsignor William F. Burke, pastor of the Baltimore parish, students and faculty from the parish school and parents. The group carried balloons and shouted “hooray for Jesus.” After Mass, the parish held its second annual Palm Sunday Easter egg hunt.

On April 19, Holy Saturday, some parishioners throughout the archdiocese brought the food they planned to serve on Easter Sunday to churches to be blessed. Parishes that held blessings included St. Francis of Assisi, Holy Rosary in Fells Point, St. Joseph in Fullerton, Holy Family in Randallstown and St. Margaret in Bel Air.

Also on Holy Saturday, about 50 children ages 1-8 attended the annual Easter egg hunt at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Homeland, a parish tradition for more than 15 years, according to Meghan Cosgrove, the cathedral’s youth minister. The parish’s youth group filled 1,000 eggs with items such as stickers, marshmallows, chocolate eggs and stamps and helped hide them on church property. View a slideshow from the Easter egg hunt.

St. Margaret, St. Joseph in Cockeysville, the Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City and St. Peter the Apostle in Libertytown also organized Easter egg hunts April 19.

Parishioners of St. Matthew in Northwood attended Easter Mass April 20 wearing clothing from their native countries. St. Matthew is a multicultural parish with parishioners from about 45 countries.

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