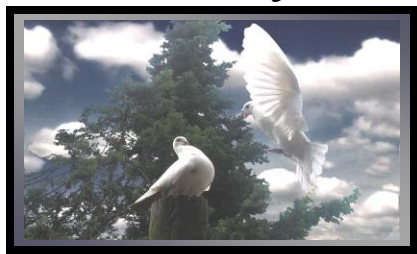


The Resurrection of the Lord



Easter Sunday

Why We Do What We Do

The Empty Tomb. That is the summary of most of the Easter Sunday gospel readings. Especially at the morning masses. (Easter, like most major feasts, has a number of options of readings). We use these readings because that is what was happening on the First Easter Sunday morning in Jerusalem.

Up until that evening, Jesus has only appeared to Mary Magdalene, a couple other women near the tomb, and two disciples on the road to Emmaus. (Mk 16:9-13; Lk 24:13-35; Jn 20:11-18) In today's gospel from Luke, Jesus has not been seen, but Peter "saw the burial cloths alone; then he went home amazed at what had happened." (Lk 24:12) The other apostles are in a state of disbelief (v. 11). We might have been also. Each follower of Christ experienced Easter differently just as each of us experiences it differently. Christ revealed Himself to each of them in different ways at different times.

We are invited to experience Easter as it was first experienced. As it unfolded. Not the whole story at once. Easter and Christmas are so important, so impossible to fully experience in one day, that the Church devotes eight days to each. The week after Easter is celebrated as if it is one day. For eight days the gospels are about Easter Sunday events. Each mass is celebrated as if it is one continuous whole.

Some days of life seem to occur in slow motion. Other days zoom by. The octave (eight days) of Easter allow us to slow down our experience of Easter and to savor each word, each story, each gift that Christ gives us through His resurrection. This way Easter can soak through our cluttered minds, penetrate through our spiritual skin, and surround us with the loving arms of Christ. This way Easter can rouse us from apathy and boredom, lift us up from doubt and despair, and call us out of our tombs.

Easter makes us pay attention. An empty tomb, a missing body, and grief-stricken apostles—still in shock from Good Friday—help us enter into the chaos of the First Easter morning. We can better understand when we remember no one had ever seen what they saw.

When Jesus appears on Easter Sunday night, the apostles could not be sure what they were seeing in the midst of their anguish, confusion, and exhaustion. Jesus reassures them: "Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself." (Lk 24:39) He then eats some food as further proof. Thomas is missing and will not believe until he sees the Risen Christ with his own eyes. The Second Sunday of Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday but also affectionately known as "Doubting Thomas Sunday" since almost always the Gospel relates his experience.

Each of us can identify with one, or maybe more, of the Resurrection witnesses. Each of us is called to imitate their response: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." (Matt 28:19) And to remember the Cross and the Empty Tomb are signs of hope and reminders that "I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Matt 28:20)

Prayer

Our Easter prayer should be one of praise and thanksgiving. And trust and confidence. If Jesus can overcome the grave and triumph over sin and death, imagine what else He can do. Are you willing to trust in His power and compassion? In His love and concern for your wellbeing?

"I will extol you, my God and king; I will bless your name forever. Every day I will bless you; I will praise your name forever. Great is the Lord and worthy of high praise; God's grandeur is beyond understanding. . . Your reign is a reign for all ages, your dominion for all generations. The Lord is trustworthy in every word, and faithful in every work. The Lord supports all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down." (Ps 145: 1-3, 13-14)



"2010" Weekly Budget.....\$5,350.00
Offertory collected March 28th will be posted in the 4/11/10 bulletin
Difference.....\$

Second Collections

Second collection from March 28th will be posted in the April 11th bulletin.

Campaign '10 Pledges:

Total donations made (from pledges) as of 03/21/10.....\$ 91,753.33
March 21st Collection will be posted in the April 11th bulletin.
New Campaign total donations from pledges.....\$91,753.33

Next Week's Second Collection

Next week's second collection will be for our St. Vincent de Paul Society.

STEWARDSHIP



After all Christ has done for us, how can we say no to His call to love and to serve? Through our Baptism we have received the Holy Spirit and spiritual gifts and fruits beyond our imagination. We have abilities, talents, hobbies, and interests that Christ wishes to put to use for His kingdom and His glory. And not just once in a while. Constantly.

As the Scriptures call us to sacrificial giving of our treasure, they also call us to sacrificial giving of our time and talent. Service is part of the witness of our faith, our belief, our desire to say "thank you" to Christ for all He has done for us. It is sad that some do not serve at all and begrudge the Church asking for help. Our baptism calls us to serve! Christ calls us to serve!

Imagine if the apostles or the saints said they didn't have time. Where would we be without their leadership and example? Without their "yes" to Christ and cooperation with His grace? We have become like most other parishes where the few do all the work. How sad.

Everyone has something to offer. Even a couple hours a month.

A couple people recently have suggested we "pay" people to clean the Church, our classrooms, our kitchen/café or to do other things that in the past members did willingly and generously, asking nothing in return. How sad. We have more families than ever and yet percentage-wise a lot less answering the call. A lot less that feel so attached and so committed that they would do anything to help. We need new blood!

We haven't been able to do everything we wanted this year because we didn't have enough helpers to do the most important projects.

Please take greater ownership of your parish. This is your house! You are not renters. You are owners. It's your house to take care of. Christ has given you His house. Part of our responsibility is taking care of what He gives us.

"Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead." (Jas 2:17)

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2010

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough.

Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

Why do you seek the Living One among the dead?

Living the Paschal Mystery

No, we are not all called to be martyrs. But we are called to be disciples and in that conform ourselves to Christ. In little ways of self-sacrifice- being patient with others and ourselves when we are tired, taking some time to visit a lonely person, doing without something we don't need but would like to have and using the money to help fill the St. Vincent de Paul box-we are strengthened as disciples who are better able to witness to God's love and care. These sacred days are a gift of life indeed. The life we receive is no less than divine life. ~Living Liturgy

Stewardship Thought

In the second reading today, St. Paul reminds the Colossians that they have been raised with Christ, exhorting them to "think about the things above rather than things of earth." We, too, have been raised with Christ. Let us rejoice and be glad!

Saturday April 3, 8:30pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 4, 8:30am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 4, 10:00am.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 4, 11:30 am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 4, 1:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 4, 7:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Monday, April 5, 12:15pm.....	Daily Mass
Tuesday April 6, 12:15 pm.....	Daily Mass
Wednesday, April 7, 12:15pm.....	Daily Mass
Wednesday, April 7, 6:30 pm.....	Rosary
Thursday, April 8, 12:15 pm.....	Communion Service
Friday, April 9, 7:00pm.....	Prayer Group/ Adoration
Saturday April 10, 5:30pm.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 11, 8:30am.....	Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 11, 10:00am.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 11, 11:30 am.....	Cecilia Kolterman (Baptism)
Sunday, April 11, 1:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family
Sunday, April 11, 7:00pm.....	(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family

SCHOLARSHIPS

A reminder that we have two scholarships available through St. Clement's and are currently accepting applications for both. The first is the St. Clement's St. Mary's School Scholarship for current or prospective students of St. Mary's School (K-8). The other is the Sam Defalco Scholarship that will be awarded for the first time this May to a graduating high school senior. For more information, contact the Parish Office.

Easter Triduum



Grant me no more than to be a sacrifice for God...
I am God's wheat and I am being ground by the
teeth of wild beasts to make a pure loaf for
Christ... Entreat Christ for me that by these
means I may become God's sacrifice...
Only let me get to Jesus Christ!...
Let me imitate the Passion of my God.

~Ignatius of Antioch, Letter to the Romans 2:2, 4:1, 2: 5:3; 6:3

Please pray for the people who are suffering:



Donna Thibault - respiratory illness, Barbara Smith-cancer, Marty McKinnon- ovarian cancer, Cayla Johnson-hydrocephalus, Joe Campbell-follicular lymphoma, Tonya Isham-tumor, Curtis Lunt-ill health, Melissa Silva-health, Juanita Rochester-cancer, Chuck Terry- prostate cancer, June Macejkovic-heart condition, Fr. Denis Kolumber-health, Ernie -leukemia, Maria Farias- breast cancer, Jeanne Walraven-health, Jean Seitz-cancer, Angie Defalco-health, Erna Wyatt-health, Jim Rorer-special intention, Michael Llop-brain tumor, Erik Bigelow-special intention, Janice Miller-health, Lou Brown-brain cancer, Jaden Bates-health, Roy Davies- safety, The people of Haiti & Chile-health & safety, Chris Wable-health, Jim Wable-lung cancer, Marilyn Clayton-health, Ashlie Warren-health, Pearl Turner-health, Jenna Proctor-health, Jeff Elder-health, Serge Kastorsky-cancer, Terry Alan-bladder cancer, Lisa Clark-failed surgery, Betty Maddox-health.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1, 5:30 p.m.: First Communion Mass (English)
May 16, 11:30 a.m.: Graduation Mass (English)
1:00 p.m.: Graduation Mass (Spanish)
May 22 and 29 (varying times): First Communion Masses (Spanish)
May 23, 5:00 p.m.: Confirmation with AB Gregory
May 28, 5:00 p.m.: Parish Picnic @ Calhoun REC Center

Spiritual Social



This Wednesday, April 7th will be the first evening that our young adult group will meet under the spiritual direction. If you are between the ages of 19-30, please come and join us. What better way to get to know other young adults in the parish. We hope to see you there.

Archdiocesan News

These are challenging times to be unemployed. Getting a job is a job! The All Saints Job Network will hold a free "JOB SEARCH" WORKSHOP on Sat., April 10, in Kiernan Hall at ALL SAINTS CHURCH, 2443 Mount Vernon Road, Dunwoody. Registration starts at 8:45 a.m. Workshop is from 9 a.m.-12 noon. All are invited. Attendees produce a compelling resume; develop a marketing plan to get the best job search results; learn the critical importance of scripting; prepare for a job interview; learn how to use the most effective tool—networking; and use The Profile to decide what direction to take their career. Contact: allsaintsjobnet@yahoo.com.

The Atlanta Chapter of Georgia Right to Life will hold its second annual PRO-LIFE ORATORY CONTEST for high school juniors and seniors at 7 p.m. on Thurs., April 15, at HOLY SPIRIT PREPARATORY SCHOOL, 4449 Northside Drive, Atlanta. The winner receives a \$100 prize and competes in the state contest May 1. The state winner receives a \$250 prize and a free trip to the National Right to Life contest on June 26 and registration for the National Right to Life convention. The first-place winner of the national contest will receive \$1,000. Contact: Aileen Barreca at (404) 558-3276 or atlchaptergrtl@aol.com.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN GROUP

meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:15 p.m. in room 102 at Transfiguration Church, 1815 Blackwell Road, Marietta. Call Lori MacDonald at (770) 977-1442, ext. 145, to make a reservation for babysitting. Contact: Jeannie at (770) 919-9275 for information.