

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

21 APRIL 2019

Readings for Sunday, April 21: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-9.

On this day of days we offer a joyful sacrifice of praise to the Father who raised his Son from the dead. Let us be intent upon the life Christ offers us, Christ our Passover who has been sacrificed.

Readings for Sunday, April 28: Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16; Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; John 20:19-31.

St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish Special Day of Prayer is Monday.
Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament: Monday after 9:00 A.M. Mass to 4:00 PM in the Chapel.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Date</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
22 Apr. MON. 9:00 AM	Jack Birmingham	Wife, Shirley
24 Apr. WED. 9:00 AM	Phyllis Neill	Fr. Gregory J. Hickey
25 Apr. THU. 9:00 AM	Stanley & Philomena Weil	Bruce & Patti
26 Apr. FRI. 9:00 AM	56 th Wedding Anniversary - John & Henrietta Everts	
27 Apr. SAT. 4:00 PM	People of St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother Parish	
28 Apr. SUN. 9:00 AM	Decd. Member of St. Gabriel Women's Society	St. Gabriel Women's Society



ETERNAL REST grant unto them, O Lord. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.
PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING of the parish especially those in homes and hospitals.
REMEMBER OUR TROOPS: Pray that God will bless and protect our young men and women in the military.

DONATIONS being accepted for door prizes for Ladies Tea on April 28. We had some very lovely, new donated items last year and are asking again for your generosity. New items and gift cards can be dropped off at the church office. Last date for donations is Monday, April 22.

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today!



THE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP leads the recitation of the Rosary every Sunday before the 9:00 AM Mass. They also pray the Rosary before the 9:00 AM weekday Masses. All are welcome to join in these Marian Devotions.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - April 27/28:
<u>4:00 PM Mass</u>
Celebrant - Fr. Hickey
Lector - Melanie Warzeski
Extraordinary Ministers - Vincent Tamaro, Mara Tamaro, John Bracaglia, George Siver
Altar Server - Michael Holmes
Greeters - Patty Wade and Monica Bauer
<u>9:00 AM Mass</u>
Celebrant - Fr. Ortega
Lector - Rocco D'Emilio
Extraordinary Ministers - Kathy Bernhard, Chris Gerasimowicz, Cristin Bucciaglia
Altar Server - Domenic Gerasimowicz
Greeters - Sylvia and Tom Marcheskie

REFLECTIONS FROM THE DESK OF FR. GREGORY J. HICKEY

Recognizing Jesus

Happy Easter to all! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The following article was written by Sister Mary McGlone, C.S.J.

Sister has given me permission to reprint her article for Easter Sunday.

The article was published in the National Catholic Reporter on April 5-18, 2019
Vo. 54, No. 13, pg. 19. The editor has also given permission to reprint the article.

Having prayed our way through Holy Week, we are only too aware that the disciples, particularly the men among them performed poorly during the events of Jesus' passion. Unsurprisingly, they didn't do a lot better with the Resurrection. The Gospel for the Easter Vigil (Luke 24:1-12) tells us that women were the only ones to visit Jesus' tomb. They found it empty and believed the angel who reminded them that Jesus had foretold this. The eleven leading men with whom the women shared their news assumed it was all nonsense. Only Peter took them seriously enough to go see for himself, and he returned amazed, but still as confused as ever about the women's testimony.

The Easter Sunday morning Gospel (John 20:1-9) reveals that of all of them, only Mary Magdalene spoke the truth about the disciples' immediate situation. That happened rather inadvertently when she admitted that "they" had taken the Lord and "we" do not know where he is. The disciples were in a state of confusion – at best.

The Gospel for Easter Sunday afternoon (Luke 24:13-36) returns to Luke's narrative and Jesus' surprise encounter with two disciples leaving Jerusalem for the town of Emmaus. They were on a journey of 7 miles; geographically and symbolically, they expected it to be all downhill.

Luke doesn't explain their motives for travel, but it's a good guess that they were fleeing the scene of death and the threat of danger. Traditional images of the pair depict them as two men, but Luke never specifies. The fact that only Cleopas is named leads some to suggest that his companion was a woman, perhaps his wife who seems to have been one of the four women whom John says kept vigil by Jesus' cross. Luke's interest is in letting us know how they came to recognize the risen Lord.

This pair whether travelling alone or as part of a large group of pilgrims returning home after the holy days, were deep in conversation and debate with one another. Then Jesus, who generally avoided getting involved in others' arguments, interrupted them and asked why they were so agitated

They stopped long enough for him to appreciate how their faces reflected their broken hearts. Then Cleopas, thinking that Jesus must have been the most unobservant of Jews in Jerusalem, asked how anyone could be unaware of the things they were discussing. Jesus listened as Cleopas explained how Jesus the prophet had been handed over by the religious leaders and crucified. Cleopas explained that they had gambled all their hope on Jesus and it had come to worse than naught. He mentioned the women at the tomb and the men who went and found the tomb just as empty. Then, summarizing everything, he finished saying: "Him they did not see."

When Jesus could get a word in edgewise, he snapped them to attention by calling them foolish and slow to believe. Through all the time he had been with them – whether over the years or the course of the few miles they had walked together – they hadn't recognized who he was.

Perhaps their hearts had to be broken before they were capable of letting go of the narrow religious ideals they had cherished. Their image of an omnipotent, ever-victorious God had left no room for Jesus' unique revelation of divine self-giving and suffering love.

Luke constructs this story as a liturgy. The disciples' brokenhearted conversation and Jesus' description of them as foolish and sluggish of heart called them to believe in something bigger than their closed ideas and limited hopes. That served as a penitential rite, calling them to believe in God rather than cling to their perceptions.

The Liturgy of the Word, as it were, was Jesus' refocusing of their understanding of their Scriptures and tradition. Like the crowds who marveled that Jesus spoke with authority, the two disciples found that their hearts were burning as he explained the Scriptures from the vantage point of God's great love.

Sharing the word left them hungering for more. They begged him to remain with them. He did so by bringing them back to the table of self-giving love. Breaking the bread with them, he taught them how to remain in his presence

by doing what he did. With that, they recognized who he was and had always been. Though he disappeared they were ready to spread the news that he would find them anytime they opened their hearts to a larger perception of God's ways and every time they joined in the communion of his self-giving love.

Sister Mary McGlone, C.S.J. is a Sister of Saint Joseph of Carondelet. She holds a Ph.D. in Historical Theology from St. Louis University. Sister has written extensively and has worked here in the United States as well as in Peru. She is currently writing a history of the Sisters of Saint Joseph in the United States.

Parish Support

Due to an early printing schedule, the figures from the April 14 collection will be printed in the April 28 bulletin.

"CONSIDER REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL." For further information, please call the parish office.

"ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK"

ON THE THIRD DAY
The Master's Mercantile
610-705-0130



Raffle Drawing

PARISH LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKET based on the PA Pick 3 Evening Number. Winning ticket number must be the exact number drawn for the PA Pick 3 Evening

Number. Tickets are \$5.00 each and are sold on a monthly basis. The prize for the winning ticket is \$50.00 on weekdays and \$100.00 on Sundays and one specially-designated weekday. Tickets are available after the Masses on weekends and at the parish office on weekdays. **This is our major fund raiser for the parish. We encourage each family to purchase at least one ticket each month. Your support is greatly appreciated.**

PRAYER FOR AN END TO INFANTICIDE - The U.S. Senate recently failed to pass the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act – legislation that prohibits infanticide by ensuring that a child born alive following an attempted abortion would receive the same degree of care to preserve her or his life and health as would be given to any other child born alive at the same gestational age. Please join in prayer for an end to infanticide: *"Jesus, Lord of Life, transform the hearts of all elected leaders to recognize that infanticide is wrong and must not be tolerated. Open hearts and minds to recognize and defend the precious gift of every human life."*

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST hosted by the Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club on Sunday, April 28 from 8:00AM to 12:00 PM at West End Fire Co., Stowe. Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, milk & coffee. \$7.00 - adults; \$6.00 - seniors; \$5.00 - children 4-12 years; children under 4 eat for free.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 28 - Devotions at St. Eleanor's Catholic Church, Colledgeville at 3:00 PM. Don't miss the amazing special graces.

ANNUAL PRO-LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT sponsored by Valley Forge Chapter, Knights of Columbus on Friday, May 3 at Twin Ponds Golf Course, Gilbertsville. Event includes breakfast, lunch, banquet dinner, golf and individual/team skill prizes. Cost per golfer - \$100. Dinner only tickets - \$35. Contact Gary Huster (610-972-0356 or thebighue@aol.com) or Mark Nunan (610-754-7185 or marknunan@dejazzd.com). All proceeds benefit local crisis pregnancy centers.

FAUSTINA: MESSENGER OF DIVINE MERCY, a St. Luke production will be presented by the National Centre for Padre Pio. This professional production runs 90 minutes and is suitable for ages 13 and up. To purchase tickets or more information, go to www.PadrePio.org and click on Events Calendar - May 3rd.

ARCADIA SENIOR LIVING AT LIMERICK POINTE offers state of the art Senior Care: Independent Living, Assisted Living, and Memory Care. An Open House Information Session will be held at St. Teresa of Calcutta Education Center, Schwenksville on Thursday, April 25 between 2 PM-4 PM. For more information call Kati Cohn (610-321-1977, ext. 115).

METANOIA is an active community of Catholic young adults in their 20s and 30s. Upcoming events: Tuesday, April 23 - Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales at 7:30 PM; Sunday, April 28 - Service Project at Manna on Main St., Lansdale, 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM. Visit www.metanoiayoungadults.org for details.