

**Sunday, April 12, 2020
Easter Sunday Of The
Resurrection Of The Lord**

During these anxious and challenging days, I want to thank you for your prayers and ongoing support of the ministries of our Parish. Even though you are not physically present at the celebration of the Liturgy, you and your family are in our hearts as we pray for you and with you. I also thank you for your concern for the poor and forgotten through your support of our Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry.

In the coming days and weeks, we will be severely challenged as a Parish community in terms of finances. We do not have any cash reserves on which to fall, and salaries, supplies and utilities continue to be a part of the operations of our Parish.

I have already consulted with members of our Finance Council and have put in place various cost saving strategies to help us ride out the Corona storm. I am deeply grateful for your continuing support of the work of our Parish, even in your absence. Your ongoing support will mean that the Parish can continue the work of ministry for the present and will help us look toward a future when we are all together again.

If you would like assistance in making electronic contributions, please see the Parish Giving section in the right-hand column of this page.

May God console us, heal us and bless us in the days to come.

Father Albert, obl. SB

RESTROOM BREAKS DURING MASS

Attention Parents

Please be sure to accompany your young children when they need to use the restroom during Mass. This is for their safety and your peace of mind. Thank you for your assistance.

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in \$7,000.00 each week in order to make ends meet. Thank you for your generosity to our parish! Your weekly contribution helps ensure that the parish remains a vibrant community. Please remember to submit your weekly gift even if you will be away. We depend upon your support!

**NO PUBLIC MASS ON
APRIL 5, 2020
MAILED AND ELECTRONIC DONATION
AMOUNTS WILL APPEAR
IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN**

PARISH GIVING

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish has engaged *Parish Giving* to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make your offertory and other contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. It allows you to select contribution amounts and special collections right from your own computer or smart phone. You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend. Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

April 12, 2020	Easter AND Needs of Parish
April 19, 2020	Fuel
April 26, 2020	No Second Collection

**Out of respect, please remember to
silence or turn off
your cell phones during Mass.
Thank you!**



**Suggested Weekly Contribution
Based on Income**

Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/ weekly	3% Commitment annually/ weekly
\$100,000	\$5,000/ \$100	\$3,000/ \$60
\$75,000	\$3,750/ \$75	\$2,250/ \$45
\$60,000	\$3,000/ \$60	\$1,800/ \$36
\$50,000	\$2,500/ \$50	\$1,500/ \$30
\$40,000	\$2,000/ \$40	\$1,200/ \$24
\$30,000	\$1,500/ \$30	\$900/ \$18
\$25,000	\$1,250/ \$25	\$750/ \$15
\$15,000	\$750/ \$15	\$450/ \$9

**Suggested Weekly Contribution
Based on a Percentage Increase**

Your Current Offertory Contribution	25% Increase	30% Increase	40% Increase
\$75.00	\$93.75	\$97.50	\$105.00
\$50.00	\$62.50	\$65.00	\$70.00
\$40.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$56.00
\$35.00	\$43.75	\$45.50	\$49.00
\$30.00	\$37.50	\$39.00	\$42.00
\$25.00	\$31.25	\$32.50	\$35.00
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$28.00
\$15.00	\$18.70	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

✠ PARISH NEWS ✠

PAINT THE TOWN!

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Our Parish community continues with our Capital Campaign. Our next projects include exterior painting for the church and Parish house in Newton. We'd also like to paint the interior sanctuary of the church in Newton and complete some electrical upgrades to the church.

Other possible projects include work on our Plaistow and Newton parking lots, and ramp access to the church in Plaistow.

Can you help?

Any contribution is welcome. Make checks payable to
Saint Luke the Evangelist – Capital Campaign.

SANCTUARY CANDLES

The Sanctuary Candles in both Newton and Plaistow may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00. Please call the Parish Office at 382-8324.

VIGIL LIGHT

The Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother Icon in Newton may be also be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00.

FOR OUR RECORDS

We need your help to keep our records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, or address changes in your family, please notify the Parish Office at jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net or call 603-382-8324. If you are new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. You can also find a registration form on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile.com is the same market platform as Amazon.com, but with the added benefit of allowing customers to donate 0.5% of the price of items purchased to a charitable organization. Please register today to start shopping and donating at www.amazon.com. For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose:

St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2019, **please call Jackie** at the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE! <http://stlukenh.org>

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

Food or care items are always needed – donations can be dropped off at Church or are welcome at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Cash donations for food are always welcome – make checks payable to **St. Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry**. All donations to the Food Pantry go toward helping the needy of our communities.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Friday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

For more information, call the St. Luke Food Pantry at **603-819-4949**.

WHILE AWAY THIS SPRING...

We appreciate all of you who remember to send in your Parish Offertory during the Spring even when on vacation or visiting other parishes. Thank you for remembering that our expenses also continue through the Spring months. We invite others to consider doing the same before or even after you return home.

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

✠ **WEEKLY CALENDAR** ✠

Sunday, April 12
CHURCHES IN NEWTON AND PLAISTOW
OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER
UNTIL 12:00 NOON

Monday, April 13
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, April 14
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN FOR
PRIVATE PRAYER FROM
8:30 AM TO 4:00 PM

Wednesday, April 15
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH OPEN FOR
PRIVATE PRAYER FROM
8:30 AM TO 4:00 PM

Thursday, April 16
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

8:30 AM Adoration Begins *Newton*
8:30 PM Adoration Ends *Newton*

Friday, April 17
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, April 19
CHURCHES IN NEWTON AND PLAISTOW
OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER
UNTIL 12:00 NOON IF NO PUBLIC MASS IS ALLOWED

✠ **MASS INTENTIONS** ✠

Saturday, April 11 ~ Great Vigil of Easter
*Gn 1:1—2:2; Gn 22:1-18; Ex 14:15—15:1; Is 54:5-14;
Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28;
Rom 6:3-11; Mt 28:1-10*
Great Vigil of Easter
No Public Mass

Sunday, April 12 ~ Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9
George Moulaison by his wife, Tess
No Public Mass
Barbara Vitale by her children
No Public Mass

Monday, April 13 ~ Monday within Octave of Easter
Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15
No Public Mass

Tuesday, April 14 ~ Tuesday within Octave of Easter
Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18
John, Sr. & Mary Duhamel by Edward Duhamel
No Public Mass

Wednesday, April 15 ~ Wednesday within Octave of Easter
Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35
Bill Knowles (Birthday Remembrance)
by his wife, Marjorie Knowles
No Public Mass

Thursday, April 16 ~ Thursday within Octave of Easter
Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48
Nancy Cotter by Cathy Smith
No Public Mass

Friday April 17 ~ Friday within Octave of Easter
Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14
No Mass

Saturday, April 18 ~ Saturday within Octave of Easter
Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15 (Day)
Acts 2:42-47; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31 (Vigil)
4:00 PM Jo Chudzicki by Pat Zakiewicz
Plaistow (IF public Mass allowed)

Sunday, April 19 ~ Divine Mercy Sunday / Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:42-47; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31
8:00 AM Joan Burge and Angelina Antczak
by the Burge family
Newton (IF public Mass is allowed)
10:00 AM In Thanksgiving to St. Michael the Archangel
Plaistow (IF public Mass is allowed)

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



We're looking for new members! Have you ever wondered just what the St. Vincent de Paul Society is all about? Plan to join us at our next scheduled meeting **Wednesday, May 20 at 7:00 PM** in the Holy Angels Church Hall for some light refreshments and information on how you can become a member of this vibrant, caring group of people. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have. See you on April 15!

If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324 x315.

**Hear, OH LORD, and answer me
for I am poor and needy.**

PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠

ST. GIANNA'S PLACE BANQUET

You are invited to the 2nd Annual St. Gianna's Place Fundraising Banquet on **April 22** at the Event Center in Nashua, NH. Appetizers and cash bar begin at 5:45 PM and dinner will be served at 6:45 PM. There is no fee to attend, but reservations are required. Please call 247-8654 or 770-9288 to reserve your seat.

RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who has been Baptized and received Eucharist, but has not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation? The adult Confirmation process is an opportunity to complete the Sacraments of Initiation. If you would like to prepare for Confirmation, or if you have questions, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, May 3, 2020** in the Parish Office living room. All parents planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism are welcome. Families wishing to celebrate Baptism in the Church must be registered (according to Church Canon Law) and practicing (attending Sunday Mass) for 3 full months before a Baptism can be scheduled. The use of the envelope system is always optional; however, it does guarantee a manner of accountability. For most families, the Pastor or staff can easily verify attendance during these three months. Church Canon Law also regulates baptismal sponsors (godparents). Sponsors must be at least 16, fully initiated (having received Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation), and be practicing Catholics living Christian lives consistent with the Church's teaching. Please see Fr. Albert with questions.

ST. ANDREW DINNERS

St. Andrew was the first of the Apostles to hear Jesus' call to follow him. We would like to invite men in our diocese who are considering a vocation to the priesthood or would simply like some help hearing the Lord's call for their life, to an evening of prayer, conversation with the Vocations Team, and dinner. These evenings will take place for different age groups on **Fridays from 6:00 to 8:00 PM** at the Joseph House (279 Cartier Street) in Manchester. Please RSVP to Becky Vinson at vinson@rcbm.org or 663-0153 if you would like to attend.

May 1: Young Men Ages 13-18

May 8: Men Ages 19-60



ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. This time of prayer and intercession is not only a source of great grace for the individual, but it is a great source of grace for us as a parish family, as well.

We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord, **but** we need more people so there will be at least two people at each hour. We are also looking for people who would be able to substitute.

**Newton – Thursday
8:30 AM – 8:30 PM**

If you can commit to one hour a week in Adoration of our Lord, or if you can be a substitute, please contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

The Church in Plaistow is open all day on Wednesdays for people to stop by and pray before the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle.

✠ PARISH DIRECTORY ✠

Parish Office	382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	819-4949
Preschool	382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Thomas Kondel	tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvbarczak@comcast.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

**ALL ABOARD FOR FUN AT
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**Rocky Railway
Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through**

Make your Reservations early.

Sign up NOW.

The train will depart daily from 9:00 AM to Noon

June 22 to June 26

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish

Call 603-382-8324 x 305 for more information.

**CRAFTERS AND ARTISTS WANTED
FOR CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**

If you – or someone you know – would like to be considered as a vendor for this year's St. Luke the Evangelist Annual Christmas Craft Fair, **applications need to be received by Monday, April 20.** We expect to be oversubscribed, so don't delay!

Work must be original and executed by the applicants, and may include food and/or beverages (no baked goods).

1st – Please save the date of our Parish Fair: **Saturday November 7 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.**

2nd – To apply, please contact the Craft Fair at: stlukenhfair@gmail.com. Applications are also available at <http://stlukenh.org> under "News and Events."

Don't miss out on participating in this popular and well-attended event!

SEACOAST VETERANS CONFERENCE
Saturday, May 9, 2020

All Veterans are cordially invited to the 10th Annual Seacoast Veterans Conference on **Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM.** Guest speaker is Ginger Munson. There will be resource tables, alternative therapies information, VA HealthCare enrollment (bring DD214), and a shred truck. To register, visit www.SeacoastVeteransConference.com or call Jaime Yates at 603-430-6983.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you or someone you know is in the hospital and wants to receive a visit, please contact the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. If you or someone you know faces a hospital admission, make sure they know to inform the hospital that they are Catholic and are members of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish. If a person cannot make this information known at the time of admission, a family member may be able to make that information known to the hospital staff.

**IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT
CORONAVIRUS AND COVID-19**

There's a lot in the news lately about coronavirus and COVID-19. Here is some information you can use to help protect yourself and the people you care about.

What is coronavirus and COVID-19?

Coronavirus is a type of virus that causes respiratory illness – an infection of the airways and lungs. COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus. It's part of the same family or coronaviruses that includes the common cold.

What are the symptoms?

The most common early symptoms appear between 2 and 14 days after infection. Symptoms can be mild to severe. They include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

How does the virus spread?

Like many other viruses, coronavirus seems to spread from person-to-person through a cough, sneeze, or kiss.

How to protect yourself:

Frequent hand-washing is the most effective way to protect yourself from infection. Other good health habits to practice include covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough and sneeze, and cleaning frequently touched items such as phones, keyboards, and doorknobs to help remove germs.

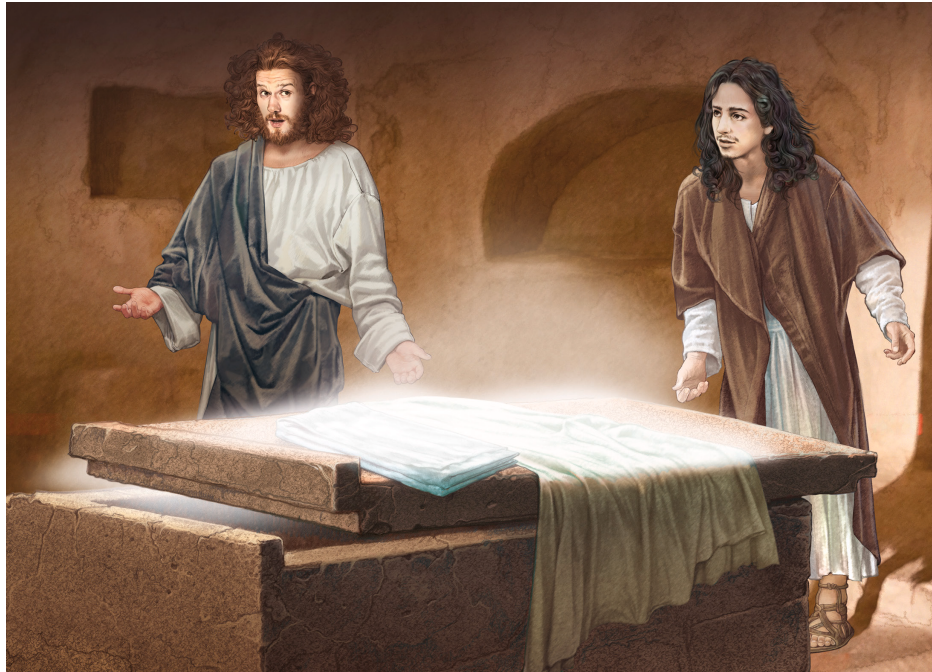
Keep yourself informed by going to www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST JUDE COUNCIL # 6617
GIVE YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY
1 HOUR A MONTH

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant part of the St Luke the Evangelist Parish. We welcome any practicing Catholic man 18 or older to join the Knights, whose main purpose is charitable works in support of our parish and community. Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight or you can now join on-line. Go to www.kofc.org/joinus. Your Council is involved in many activities from collecting money for people with intellectual disabilities through the Tootsie Roll Drive to the annual St Jude Golf Open which raises money for parish families in need. The list is as long as you want it to be. Do you have a certain passion you would like to get involved in? Come join us and make it a reality!

We are Catholic men. We live by principles informed by faith. We are sons, fathers, husbands, and grandfathers. Join us on life's greatest adventure to discover the man God calls you to be. Feel free to call Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at dans49@comcast.net, or catch him at the 8:00 AM Sunday Mass in Newton. For more information about the Knights, go to www.kofc.org/un/en/todays-knights/what-we-do.html

EASTER SUNDAY



Living Our Salvation

Lord of heaven and earth,
the Resurrection of your Son is a promise
that you will not abandon us to sin
and death
but will transform all creation
until it has at last become your
perfect kingdom.
Continue the work you have begun.
Refashion us now, today.

Liberate us from whatever is luring us
into the grave.

Share your life-giving power with us
so that we will rejoice in your love,
live in hope of our future together,
act with the unwavering courage of Jesus,
and marvel at all you accomplish.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, April 12, 2020

New Beginnings

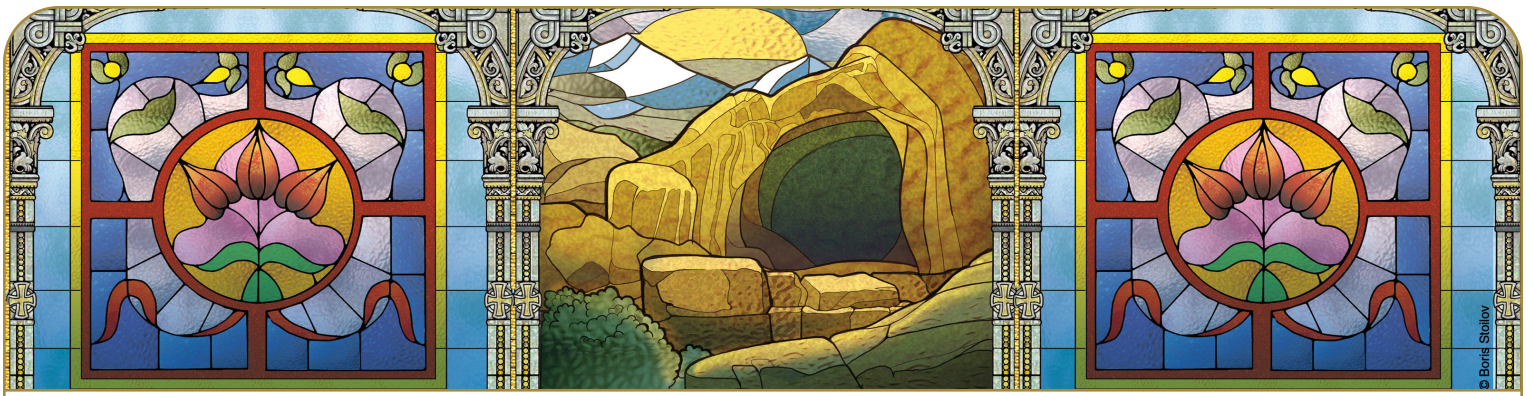


Today's Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37–43; Psalm 118:1–2, 16–17, 22–23; Colossians 3:1–4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b–8; John 20:1–9 or Matthew 28:1–10. Today we rejoice, feast, and spend time with family and friends. Easter Sunday is a day of beginnings. In John's Gospel, two disciples rush to the empty tomb, where it dawns on them that something tremendous has happened. In Matthew's Gospel account, the women are given only a few moments with the Risen Christ before he sends them to evangelize.

The months following Jesus' Resurrection are busy ones. In the passage from the Acts of the Apostles that we hear today, Peter has entered the house of a Gentile. Filled with the Holy Spirit, this Apostle delivers a powerful pro-

clamation of the Gospel, yet before he finishes, the Holy Spirit comes upon everyone else in the room too. Throughout the Easter season we will hear how the Spirit of the Risen Lord leads and empowers Jesus' followers to inspire more and more people to believe in the Resurrection and to make a new beginning of their lives.

It is now our turn. It is our season of new beginnings. God shared the Spirit with us so that we will "seek what is above" and allow the Spirit to further transform us into just and holy people. God shared the Spirit with us so that we will enter people's houses, enter people's lives, and help them to begin anew.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 13 The Empty Tomb

No one disputes that the tomb was empty. The question is how it became empty. By spreading a false report, some of the religious authorities hope to prevent people from believing that Jesus rose from the dead. When Peter speaks to the crowd, however, he doesn't use the empty tomb as proof of Jesus' Resurrection, but refers instead to the Scriptures and his encounter with the Risen Jesus. How would you explain the true meaning of the empty tomb? *Today's Readings: Acts 2:14, 22–33; Psalm 16:1–2a and 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; Matthew 28:8–15.*

Tuesday, April 14 The Spirit of the Risen Lord

Mary Magdalene must let go of Jesus as she knew him in order to encounter him in a new way. Having been crucified and raised, Jesus is no longer confined to time and space, but is now present among and even within his followers through the gift of the Holy Spirit. All who accept this gift become brothers and sisters of the Risen Lord and sons and daughters of God the Father. Send a note of welcome to anyone in your community who was baptized at the Easter Vigil. *Today's Readings: Acts 2:36–41; Psalm 33:4–5, 18–19, 20 and 22; John 20:11–18.*

Wednesday, April 15 Amazement

The two disciples leaving Jerusalem are amazed by the women's report of the empty tomb. They grow increasingly astonished as the Risen Christ opens the Word and breaks bread with them—and then vanishes. Also astonished are the people in the temple who see the disabled man jumping about and praising God. These stories invite us to rejoice at the enduring power of Christ in the world. *Today's Readings: Acts 3:1–10; Psalm 105:1–2, 3–4, 6–7, 8–9; Luke 24:13–35.*

Thursday, April 16 Witnesses

Jesus' followers witnessed his mighty deeds. Two of his disciples witnessed the Risen Lord as they headed to Emmaus. Still more disciples heard the Risen Christ speak words of peace to them and prepare them to minister in his name. A man in the temple area experienced the Risen Lord acting through Peter. Peter urged the people who witnessed that healing to acknowledge the saving power of the Risen Lord. Thank someone who has been an especially strong Christian witness for you. *Today's Readings: Acts 3:11–26; Psalm 8:2ab and 5, 6–7, 8–9; Luke 24:35–48.*

Friday, April 17 Bolder than Ever

Peter seems as impulsive as ever as he dives into the water to swim to the Risen Lord. This man of action then rushes to drag over the net laden with fish when Jesus asks for more food. The Holy Spirit strengthens this natural tendency of Jesus' lead disciple. After a night in the custody of religious authorities who wish to silence him, Peter goes on to speak as boldly as ever. Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you do something brave today. *Today's Readings: Acts 4:1–12; Psalm 118:1–2 and 4, 22–24, 25–27a; John 21:1–14.*

Saturday, April 18 Dealing with Disbelief

The extended ending of Mark's Gospel account is reassuring to those who struggle to believe in the Risen Lord. Even Jesus' closest followers did not initially believe in the Resurrection. Jesus had to appear to them and empower them with his Spirit. Once that happened, it became "impossible" for them not to share the story of Christ. Read and reflect on a Gospel passage for this week. Imagine you are one of those early disciples. Ask God to strengthen your faith. *Today's Readings: Acts 4:13–21; Psalm 118:1 and 14–15ab, 16–18, 19–21; Mark 16:9–15.*



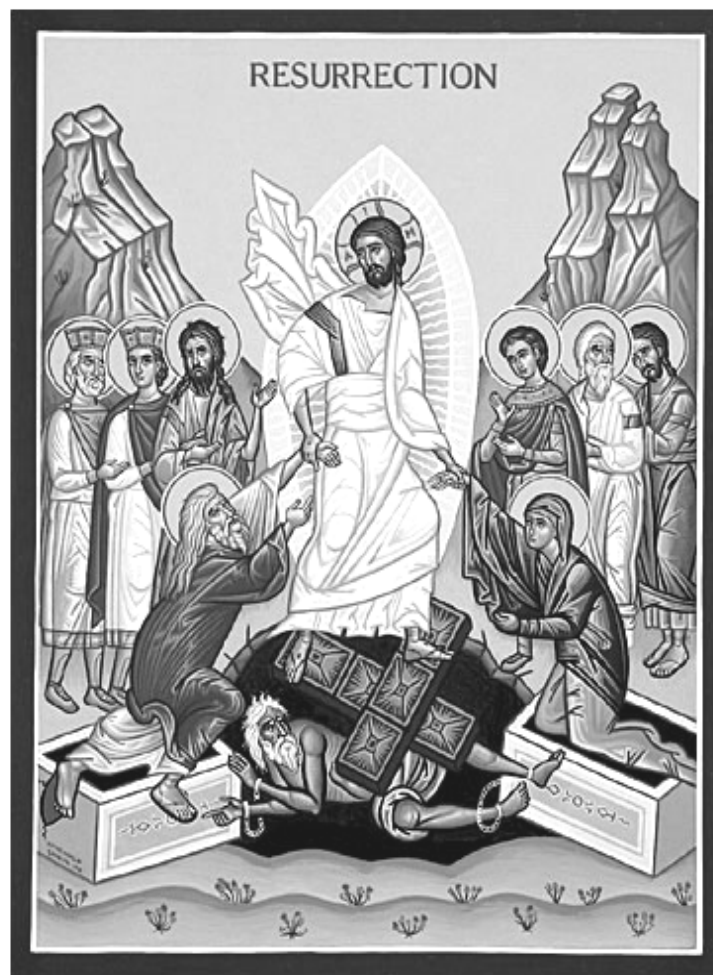
THE 50 DAYS OF EASTER A SENSE OF THE SEASON

First, we kept the forty days, with praying, fasting and giving alms. Then we celebrated the three days of Christ's passion, dying and rising. Now we delight in the fifty days, with rejoicing, feasting and giving witness! The season of Easter is fifty days long. It is a time of unbridled joy, of exuberant rejoicing. The church tells us, "The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one 'great Sunday.' These above all others are days for the singing of the Alleluia." (*General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar*, #22).

Why is Easter-time fifty days? The ancient cultures that gave us the Bible had great respect for numbers. They believed that numbers contained hints about God and the meaning of life. The number seven was thought to contain fullness: There are seven days in the week, according to God's original way of ordering time, creating all that there is and resting. So if you multiply 7 times 7, you have "fullness times fullness."

But wait! 7×7 is 49! With God, there is always more—more than we can ever imagine. So our holy season of Easter is even more than "fullness times fullness." It's "fullness times fullness" and then some: $7 \times 7 + 1$. That's what love is like: more than we can ever imagine. That's what heaven is going to be like: more than we can ever imagine.

The fifty days are days for looking for the risen Lord among us, for hearing in each other's stories of rising from the big and small deaths, days when we experience something of Christ's triumphs. That's why we look to the newly baptized, robed in bright new clothes and oily with gladness: At Easter, they died and rose with Christ! Now they take their places with us. Together, like the apostles who were so full of the Spirit that people thought they were drunk, we rush about with good and giddy news: Death is not the last word! Life and love are forever! And slowly, painstakingly, we work together, together with Christ, to change this world into the world to come. **Christ is Risen!** Sing Alleluia!





CHRIST IS RISEN! ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ

**A WARM WELCOME TO VISITORS
AND TRAVELERS**

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

For Catholics: As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. **In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession** except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (Canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

For our fellow Christians: We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions that separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (JN 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily NOT admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 § 3).

For those not receiving Holy Communion: All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

For non-Christians: We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: John 20:1-9 and John 20:19-31

This week's Gospel at Home covers two Sundays. The Gospel for Easter tells of Mary of Magdala's visit to the tomb and her discovery that Jesus was not there. The Gospel for the following Sunday describes Jesus' appearance to his disciples, his greeting of peace, and his gift of the Holy Spirit.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Easter celebrates new life. Children see new life in growing things in nature. Sometime during these two weeks take a walk in a park or in the country. Look for signs of new life and talk with your child about the gift of life.

Promise (Grades K-1): In class, your child made two story strips that tell the Gospel stories from Easter and the 2nd Sunday of Easter. Ask them to share the stories with the family and talk about the joy Mary Magdalene and the followers of Jesus had when they found Jesus was alive. How can your family share Easter joy with others?

Good News (Grades 2-3): Ask your child to tell you what Mary Magdalene found when she went to Jesus' tomb. Share the story of Jesus' visit to his followers. Follow the instructions in the last page of the Good News booklet to make an Easter candle for your family. Light your candle—with fire or your imagination—each evening during the season of Easter, and say or sing with your family: "Alleluia."

Venture (Grades 4-6): Your child experienced an Easter Vigil prayer and dramatized the Gospels for both Easter Sunday and the 2nd Sunday of Easter. The class also learned about the conversion of Saint Paul and about the early witnesses to the Resurrection and how those witnesses spread the Good News. If your family attended the Easter Vigil, talk about your favorite parts of the Mass. Say the prayer on the cover of this week's lesson book together and light a candle to signify the start of the Easter season. Talk about ways your family witnesses to Jesus' Resurrection.

Visions (Grades 7-8): Both Sunday Gospels that are a part of this lesson taught your child that Easter faith makes all things new. Part of that Easter faith is the call to be witnesses to Jesus' Resurrection. For the people in the Gospel stories, the great sorrow of their loss was turned to great joy when they realized that Jesus had been raised from the dead. Talk about losses your family has experienced. What did you feel? What did you do? Ask your son or daughter to share how he or she felt while reading the story about Toby. Commit as a family to take time to enjoy one another's company during the days of Easter.

Pray Together

One of the important parts of the Easter Vigil service is the celebration of Baptism and the renewal of your own baptismal promises. If you still have your family's baptismal candles and certificates, display them during the first two weeks of Easter. Say your morning or evening prayer in front of the display and renew your own baptismal vows.



The Society of St. Vincent DePaul, at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, invites you to join our Prayer Shawl Ministry! Even if you are unable to attend meetings, your talents are more than welcome.

Shawls can be made with yarn, quilt fabric, or fleece. They are filled with prayer, care and love. They will be given to anyone in need of comfort or solace.

If you are interested in prayerful camaraderie or just want to contribute your talent, consider joining our committee.

If you know of someone that is in need of comfort and would like to receive a gift from our group, please call to make the request.

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Meeting Schedule:

- First Thursday of each month, except July and August.
- 10 A.M. – 12 Noon
- Parish office building (dining room)
- Material can be supplied

We are honored to provide this service to anyone in need.



Bringing Home the Word

Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of the Lord (A)

April 12, 2020

History's Greatest Event

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Today we celebrate the most important mystery of our faith, the greatest event in the Bible and all of history. Nothing before the events of Easter morning contains their full meaning, and nothing after makes sense without them.

Jesus' conquering of death validated all of his preaching, teaching, and miracles. Now his doctrine of love, forgiveness, faith, and baptism is confirmed, as is God's definitive

revelation for humanity's salvation. In short, the resurrection proves that Jesus wasn't simply a good man, a wise teacher, or a revolutionary. He was all of those things and more—he was the Son of God.

Without the rising of Jesus from the dead, you cannot explain his appearing to the women, apostles, disciples, and crowds before his ascension. You cannot explain the transformation of the timid and baffled apostles into powerful preachers or the conversion of St. Paul from a murdering Pharisee to a persecuted Christian. Without the truth of the resurrection, you cannot explain the courage of any of the martyrs. Indeed, the Romans and Jews took these martyrs seriously. And if either group could have produced a body of evidence or a convincing explanation to debunk the story, they would have.

So today, set aside your Lenten focus on the mocked, beaten, and buried Jesus. Celebrate the resurrection. Christ the Lord—and Christianity—is a reality and a force. Rejoice! Reflect on the truth and power of this day, and allow God's Son to open the tombs of your heart and life. +

***Christ the Lord—and
Christianity—is a reality
and a force. Rejoice!***

A Word from Pope Francis

Today...we see that our journey is not in vain.... Why do you think that everything is hopeless, that no one can take away your own tombstones? Why do you give in to resignation and failure? Easter is the feast of tombstones taken away, rocks rolled aside.

—Easter Vigil homily, April 20, 2019



Sunday Readings

Acts 10:34a, 37–43

This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible...to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance.

**Colossians 3:1–4 or
1 Corinthians 5:6b–8**

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

John 20:1–9

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS REFLECTION

- The resurrection changes everything. How does it change your life?
- Do you celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter or every day?

We Are Made for Joy

By Kathy Coffey

Thou shalt be joyful.

Groans might greet this hypothetical eleventh commandment. Where are we supposed to cram joy on an overloaded to-do list? Does it go before or after the litany of chores, bills, and family obligations? All we want is to make it through the crunch of the workweek, then collapse in exhaustion.

Sad, but true. This stressed state of affairs points clearly toward the need for an eleventh commandment demanding joy. The rationale is this: If we were made for eternal joy, we should start now. We are more than cogs in a machine, toting up hours that feed corporate profits but fail to satisfy our souls. God made us for the everlasting bliss of gazing into his eyes. So if drudgery consumes our time, we should fill our free hours with deep nurture rather than televised fluff.

The acid test is always: How shall we be remembered? Imagine grandchildren saying, “She trudged dutifully, year after year, to all her commitments, but we didn’t see her much.” Or imagine their voices lightening as they recall, “She was so much fun! When we cooked her special chili we laughed and told stories.” “I’ll always remember his pride in his garden, how he’d grin at the first tomatoes, or how he happily took me canoeing.”



These positive attitudes aren't Pollyanna-esque. They are choices as difficult to honor as any of the Ten Commandments. Let's face it, daily news is often depressing. A sample of headlines: “Alabama Boy Kills Family.” “Coronavirus Looks Like a Pandemic.” “Two Teens Dead after Pickup Hits Runners.” The daily media hardly sends us rushing for the tambourines. That's why we need God's strength to remain faithful, confident, and hopeful.

Joy in the Real World

From prison comes an example of one who honored the difficult “eleventh commandment.” There, Fyodor Dostoevsky wrote, “Yes, we are in chains, deprived of liberty, but in our sorrow we are restored to joy, without which we cannot live.... We underground men, we will dig in the entrails of the earth a tragic hymn to the God of joy!”

If convicts can sing praise from the “entrails of the earth,” what about us? We are rich in faith, blessings, comforts, and wealth. Yet our distracted days and frowning faces give little praise to the “God of joy.”

Pursuit of Joy

Before we all start a serious pursuit of joy, a few qualifications: it cannot be sought.

It's a gift. It springs from the conviction that the kingdom of God is near. It's like Lazarus emerging from the tomb, squinting in the sunlight—and laughing. Joy is the appropriate response when we know we are saved, rescued despite failures, happy not in our achievements but in God's fidelity.

The image of a child snoozing in a parent's lap may be a cliché, but it resembles our contentment in God's presence, where we are at all times. Joy spills from the security of knowing every need will be met—not necessarily the way we foresaw, but in God's time and pleasure. Dancing conveys the same joy: arms wide, feet in rhythm, worries set aside.

Contrast that with our postures when burdened by negativity. We must carry ourselves with joy. The living Jesus won't be found in boredom and inertia but in what brings beauty and restores grace. And because he is risen, so are we. Despite suffering, we were made for joy. Maybe that commandment isn't carved on a stone tablet, but we can write it on our hearts. +



Lord, your resurrection pierces the darkness of doubt and fear. May the power of your resurrection help me to deepen my love for you and all people.

—From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 13–18

Monday, Octave of Easter:
Acts 2:14, 22–33 / Mt 28:8–15

Tuesday, Octave of Easter:
Acts 2:36–41 / Jn 20:11–18

Wednesday, Octave of Easter:
Acts 3:1–10 / Lk 24:13–35

Thursday, Octave of Easter:
Acts 3:11–26 / Lk 24:35–48

Friday, Octave of Easter:
Acts 4:1–12 / Jn 21:1–14

Saturday, Octave of Easter:
Acts 4:13–21 / Mk 16:9–15

Bringing Home
the **Word** 

April 12, 2020

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