

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday Of The
Resurrection Of The Lord

8:00 AM
10:00 AM

Gathering: Christ The Lord Is Risen Today
BB 165

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118)

*This day was made by the Lord; let us
rejoice, let us be glad! This day was
made by the Lord; let us rejoice in
salvation.*

Sprinkling Rite: *God, you have moved upon the
waters, you have sung in the rush of
wind and flame; and in your love,
you have called us sons and
daughters, make us people of the
water and your name.*

Preparation Jesus Is Risen BB 177

Mass Parts Storrington Mass

Communion: Bread For The World BB 346

Recessional: Hai Thee, Festival Day BB 737



Out of respect for the Lord and in
consideration of fellow parishioners,
please remember to silence or turn off
your cell phones during Mass. Thank
you!

PLEASE HELP US!

As you leave church, kindly take your Bulletin with you
- or return it to the basket at the entrance of the Church,
return your music book and Mass card to their proper
place, and pick up after yourself as you leave.

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

Our Parish needs to take in \$9700.00 each week in
order to make ends meet. This amount represents an
adjusted budget offertory of \$8500.00 per week plus the
combination of budgeted Property and Fuel second
collections (\$4800.00 per month divided into 4 weeks or
\$1200.00 weekly). 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. Consider signing up for electronic giving (see
below). Especially in these trying times, your Parish
depends on your responsible stewardship and support!

**COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR
APRIL 2, 2023
WILL APPEAR IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN**



Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish uses **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. 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 COLLECTIONS

April 9	Easter & Needs of Parish
April 16	Fuel
April 23	No Second Collection
April 30	NH Catholic Appeal
May 7	Property Management
May 14	Catholic Communications

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	\$18.75	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

✠ PARISH NEWS ✠

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

The Secular Franciscans of the Greccio Fraternity in Derry, NH are extremely grateful to the parishioners of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish for their very generous donations to help the homeless people in our area. Thanks to **YOU**, we have collected **over 500 pairs of socks, 100 T shirts, 300 pairs of underwear**, and many more items in children's and miscellaneous wear. We have delivered these items to shelters in Exeter, Portsmouth, and Haverhill which were delighted and grateful indeed! Thank you from Susan Ronan, ofs and Mary Galpin, ofs



The Sanctuary Light
at **Mary Mother of the Church**
and at **Holy Angels Church**
will burn this week in thanksgiving for
All Singers and Musicians,
past and present, at
St. Luke the Evangelist Parish
in Newton and Plaistow

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 603-382-8324 or by email at jtremlay@stluketheevangelist.net. If you're new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. Registration forms can also be found on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>.

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

The regularly scheduled St. Luke the Evangelist MOSJ meeting on April 15 is canceled. Sts. Mary & Joseph Parish and the Men of St. Joseph of Salem NH is offering hospitality by inviting men of our parish to join them on **Saturday, April 15 from 8:00 to 9:30 AM** at St. Julie Hall (located at the bottom of St. Joseph's parking lot), 40 Main Street, Salem NH. They will share a delicious breakfast with us and Deacon Geoff Ashman will be the guest speaker. The breakfast is free. Contact Mike Rametta at 978-361-5946 by April 2 if you plan to attend.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – NO MASS

The Parish Office will be **closed on Easter Monday, April 10**. The Office will reopen at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, April 11. **There is NO daily Mass on Easter Monday, April 10 in Newton.**

BLESSING OF MOTHERS

A special blessing of mothers will be given at all Masses on the weekend of **Mother's Day, May 14, 2023.**



MARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH

Did you know that ALL Catholics are required to be married in the Church as a condition of the validity of their marriage?

Any Catholic married in a civil ceremony (JP) or in any religious ceremony other than a Catholic one (unless specifically excepted by the Bishop) is not living out the Sacrament of Marriage in its fullness according to the teaching of the Church. Contact Fr. Albert at the parish office for more information.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

We appreciate the gracious support of our bulletin by our Advertisers. Please be sure to support our advertisers by calling them first! If you have a business and would like to place an ad in our bulletin, call 1-800-333-3166.

RETROUVAILLE

A Lifeline For Married Couples

Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vi) means rediscovery in French. This program helps couples put their broken pieces back together and rediscover their love for each other. This program starts with a weekend which teaches couples a new form of communication called Dialogue and lets couples know that they are not alone. Our next Retrouvaille weekends are **June 9-11, 2023, August 18-29, 2023, and November 10-11, 2023**. For more information, email 3023@halpourmarriage.org.

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.

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, April 9

6:00 AM Easter Vespers & Benediction *Newton*

Monday, April 10

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO DAILY MASS IN NEWTON

Wednesday, April 12

Holy Angels Church
Open All Day For Prayer

Thursday, April 13

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*

Saturday, April 15

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, April 16

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Gr. K to 6 *Plaistow*
2:30 PM Divine Mercy Hour *Newton*
6:00 PM Vespers *Newton*

RESTROOM BREAKS DURING MASS

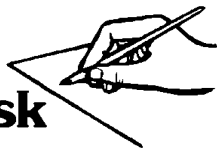
Attention Parents

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!

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.

From the Pastor's Desk



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed until Spring 2023. This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, April 8 ~ Holy Saturday – 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; Ex 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11; Mt 28:1-10

8:00 PM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Sunday, April 9 ~ Easter – Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

10:00 AM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Monday, April 10 ~ Monday within Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15
No Mass

Tuesday, April 11 ~ Tuesday within Octave of Easter

Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

8:00 AM Adelaide Sullivan (Birthday Remembrance)
by Jeanne Sullivan
Plaistow

Wednesday, April 12 ~ Wednesday w/i Octave of Easter

Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

6:30 PM Thomas Francis Taylor by the Parish
Plaistow

Thursday, April 13 ~ Thursday within Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

8:00 PM All Souls Intentions
Newton

Friday, April 14 ~ Friday within Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14
No Mass

Saturday, April 15 ~ 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 Carol Flaherty (12th Anniversary)
by her family
Plaistow

Sunday, April 16 ~ Second Sunday of Easter

(Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Acts 2:42-47; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

8:00 AM Joan Burge by the Burge family
Newton

10:00 AM Eva, Raymond, Stephen & Elaine Huberdeau
by their family



WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry, and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.**

In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date. **Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.**



St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/ or **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow** and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners & friends to do the same.

BUSTED HALO

Busted Halo is a unique media resource sponsored by the Paulist Fathers of the US that utilizes a relevant and accessible voice to help people understand the Catholic faith, put it into practice in their everyday lives, and share it with others. Check out their site, podcasts and videos at www.bustedhalo.com.

THE GOD MINUTE

Every morning a small group of priests, religious, and lay people start their day in prayer. Soft music, sacred scripture, and a thoughtful reflection are weaved into a 10-minute prayer called "The God Minute." It's then uploaded for you to access and pray along with us on your own time. And it's free. Listen with your coffee in the morning, while driving to work, or taking a walk. See how easy and beautiful prayer can be! www.thegodminute.org

TAX TIME SUGGESTION

Did you know? If you are 72 or older and need to take a "required minimum distribution (RMD)" from an IRA retirement account, a direct distribution to a qualified charitable organization, such as Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish, can save you money on your taxes. Such a donation will count toward your required minimum distribution but will be excluded from taxable income. Ask your tax preparer or IRA trustee for more details.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2022, **please call Jackie** at the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is available from Project Rachel Ministry. Call 603-6630192 or email ProjectRachel@rcbm.org for Project Rachel in New Hampshire.

EUCCHARISTIC 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	603-382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	603-382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	603-819-4949
Preschool	603-382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	603-382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szczapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

❖ Community News ❖



SAINT JUDE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus of our Parish are sponsoring a monthly food drive to support the Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry. A list of items needed, along with a paper shopping bag, will be distributed at the end of Masses on the 3rd weekend of each month to those who wish to participate. We ask that you bring back the non-perishable food items the following weekend (4th weekend of the month). You are also welcome to drop off donations at the Parish Office during normal business hours or at one of our Parish churches. Monetary donations are also welcome (make checks payable to Saint Luke Food Pantry), or gift cards to local supermarkets. Thank you for reaching out to help families in our community who need assistance. The Knights and the Food Pantry appreciate your generosity and support.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A Men's AA Step Meeting is being on Sunday mornings from 7:00 to 8:00 AM at the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish Hall in Plaistow, NH (Holy Angels). Bring your own coffee. For more information, call 617-921-9899.

CURSILLO

If you have a desire to know Jesus more closely, a Cursillo is for you. The Cursillo weekend is a short course in Christianity. The purpose of the weekend is to facilitate a meaningful personal encounter with Christ and his body, the Church. The three day weekend is also the bridge connecting the faithful with the supportive post-Cursillo community, where we live our faith joyfully with our fellow Christians. Cursillo weekends are being offered at the Sato Center in Hookset, NH. To find out more, contact Mark Collopy at 603-833-7341 or explore www.nhcursillo.org.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13
6PM

TOPIC:

**MY BODY,
GOD'S VOICE**
AN ANTHROPOLOGY
OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE

6-6:15P: DIVINE MERCY
NOVENA
IN THE SANCTUARY
6:15-7P: SOCIAL
IN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL
7-7:30P: TALK BY FR. VON
7:30-8P: DISCUSSION &
UPCOMING EVENTS

second of a four-part series!
young adults (18-39 years old)
BYOB
two Oddball Brewing drafts available
(21+, ID required)



SPEAKER:
FR. VON
DEROSIA
IS PASTOR
AT ST. PATRICK
CHURCH.
ADDRESS:
SAINT PATRICK
CHURCH
12 MAIN ST
PELHAM, NH
03076

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! Please know that your "dropped dollars" are being used wisely to help the poor in our area. Your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Drop-a-Dollar in the St. Vincent de Paul box
on your way out of church.

Remember ~ 100% of your donation is used to help
those who need a hand up, not a handout.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 PM.**
We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. **New
members are always welcome!**

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.**



DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH US

The Knights of Columbus are a vital and vibrant
part of St Luke the Evangelist Parish.

We welcome any practicing Catholic man,
18 or older, to join the Knights.

We are sons, fathers, husbands and grandfathers,
whose main purpose is charitable works in support
of our parish and community.

Where there is a need, there is a Knight.

Joining is simple – talk to a brother Knight, contact

Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803, email him at

dans49@comcast.net or you can now join online:

www.kofc.org/joinus

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617
WWW.KOFC6617.ORG**





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 Magdalene'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. Your child this week learned that Jesus is risen on Easter. 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 son or daughter 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 7-9): Both Sunday Gospels that are a part of this lesson taught your young person 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.



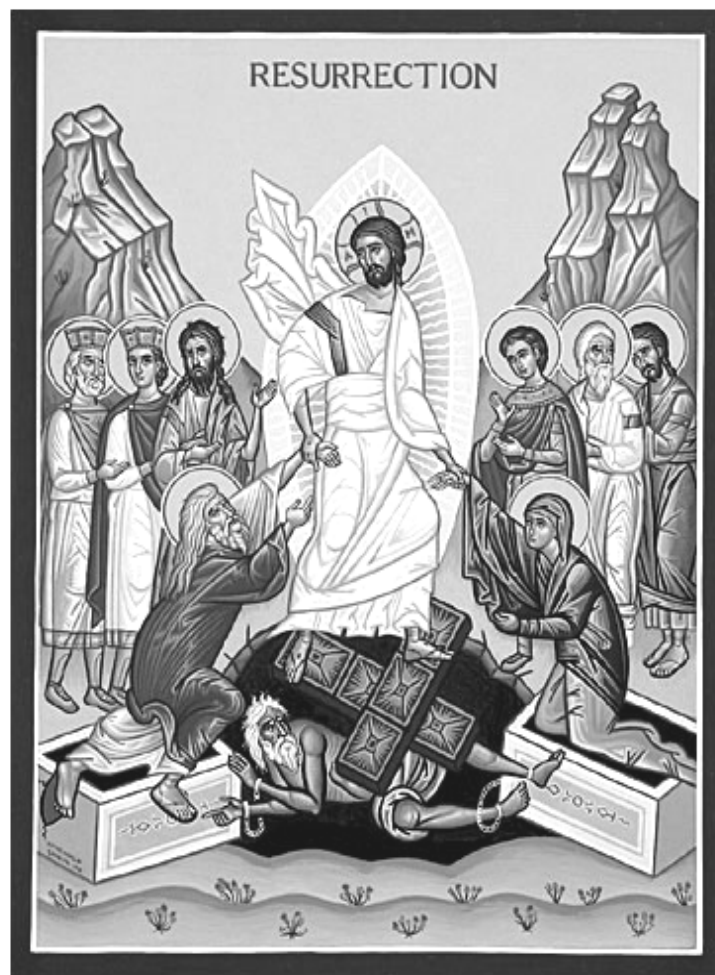
THE 50 DAYS OF EASTER A SENSE OF THE SEASON

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!



Easter Fast, Easter Feast

Have you ever been so emotional that you lost your appetite? Some brides and grooms get butterflies in their stomachs and have trouble eating the food at their own receptions. Because many mourners don't feel like eating, it's an old custom to tempt them to eat by bringing them a hearty meal.

On Good Friday and Holy Saturday, the Christian people lose their appetites. These are the days of the Easter fast. We keep any meals as sparse and simple as possible. We don't eat meat or other festive foods. We don't eat out, because we don't want to make anyone work on our holiest days.

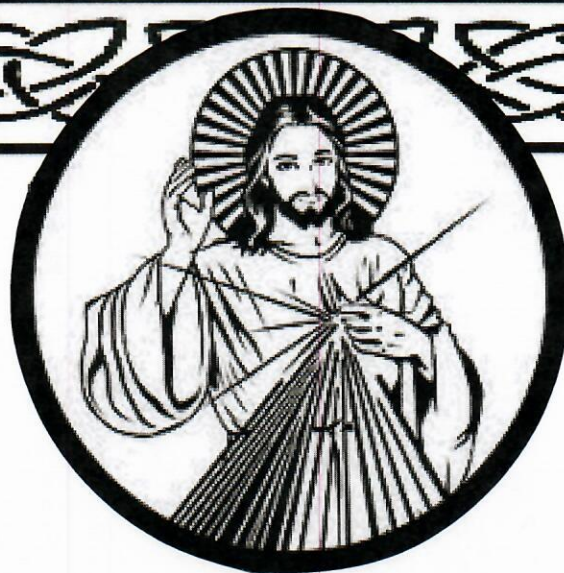
In the presence of the cross of Christ—our tree of life—we pretend that we're in paradise. Only this time, we refuse to eat. We show God that we won't make the same mistake twice!

On Easter Eve, after the Vigil, the fast is over and the Easter feast can begin. Rainbow-colored eggs remind us of God's life-giving promise to Noah. Meats and sausages remind us of the paschal lamb that saved the people from slavery, of the fatted calf that Sarah and Abraham served to their guests, or of the calf served by the happy father when his prodigal son finally came home.

Sweet dairy dishes—cheesecake, eggnog and even chocolate bunnies—remind us that God has brought us home to a place the book of Exodus calls "a land flowing with milk and honey." In the words of Psalm 34, just taste and see how good the Lord is!



TAKE ME HOME, TOO



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY SERVICE

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

SUNDAY APRIL 16th - MARY MOTHER CHURCH, NEWTON NH
BEGINNING AT 2:30 pm

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated the first Sunday after Easter. The Divine Mercy message is simple, "It is that God loves us — all of us. And, He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy."

The Knights of Columbus, Council #6617 will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with a special Hour of Mercy, in the courtyard before the Statue of our Blessed Lady (weather permitting) at the Mary Mother Church in Newton NH beginning at 2:30 p.m beginning with veneration before the Divine Mercy image. The hour-long devotion presided over by members of the Knights and will include scripture readings, Divine Mercy Chaplet sung by Sue Ronan concluding with the litany to the Divine Mercy.

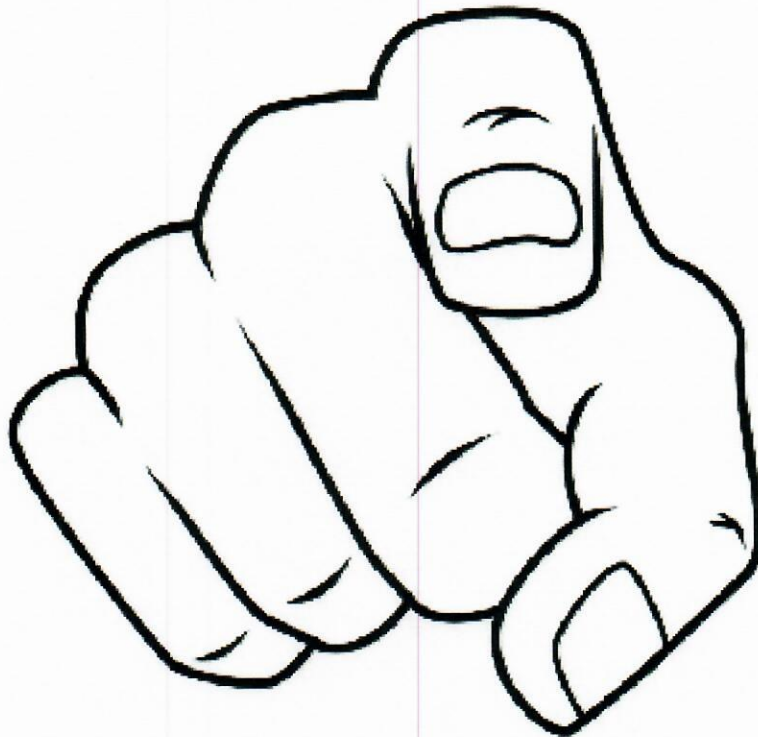
All are invited to join.

In the event of inclement weather the service will be moved inside the church.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. JUDE COUNCIL #6617
www.kofc6617.org



YOU ARE NEEDED



YOU ARE WANTED

WE ARE ALL CALLED FOR SOMETHING. MAYBE YOU ARE BEING CALLED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE, YOUR FAMILY LIFE, YOUR PARISH, YOUR COMMUNITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO JOIN
CONTACT DAN SULLIVAN AT 603-770-4803
OR EMAIL HIM AT dans49@comcast.net

WHY NOT COME JOIN US AT ONE OF OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SEE WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT. THE KNIGHTS MEET THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE CHURCH HALL IN PLAISTOW. MEETINGS BEGIN AT 7:00 pm AND LAST ABOUT AN HOUR.



Bringing Home the Word

Easter Sunday (A)

April 9, 2023

With Mouths Wide Open

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

We normally speak of “eyes wide open,” an experience of seeing and understanding. However, Easter is a time of total astonishment, of standing before mystery with our mouths wide open and not understanding. Even the closest followers of Jesus were dumbfounded. Mary Magdalene didn’t expect to find an empty tomb. Upon seeing it, she presumed that the body had been stolen. The Gospel says that “they did not yet understand” (John 20:9). How could they? The magnitude of the mystery was overwhelming.

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.

When did they finally understand? Actually, it’s more a question of believing than understanding. The Gospel tells us they *came* to believe. They came to believe in him—not that he would conquer death by not dying, but that he would conquer it by dying and then being transformed into a new kind of life, a kind of living that isn’t subject to death. They came to believe this through an experience of him.

We might envy the early followers who had Easter experiences of Jesus. But if we look carefully, we will see that they experienced him in their everyday lives—in community gatherings, in the breaking of the bread. These are the very places where we can experience him in our own lives. The good news of Jesus’ resurrection isn’t just that we shall die and go home with him, but that he is risen and comes home with us. †

*The Gospel says that
“they did not yet
understand” (John 20:9).*

*How could they?
The magnitude of the
mystery was overwhelming.*

A Word from Pope Francis

Let the Easter truce begin. But not to reload the weapons and pick up the fighting again—no!—a truce that will lead to peace, through real negotiation that is also willing to make some sacrifice for the good of the people. Indeed, what victory is there in planting a flag on a pile of rubble?

ANGELUS, ROME, APRIL 10, 2022



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE? TWO? REFLECTION

- Do I notice the signs of new life all around me?
- Do I thank God for simple moments of grace?

Glory and Power—Sing Out!

By Fr. Paul Turner

Beatrice took ill after conducting the music for the Palm Sunday Masses. By Tuesday of Holy Week she was in the hospital, supported by her loving husband and two teenage children. By Wednesday it had become apparent she was in grave danger. She was only in her fifties, but the infection had afflicted her internal organs.

Beatrice directed one of the most professional church choirs in the city. Music at that parish was performed with living faith and excellent musicianship. She had the skills to interpret music and to manage the diverse egos that filled the choir loft—and the pews—of her parish church.

After she lost consciousness, members of the choir gathered at her hospital room to sing. The nursing staff shared their faith and welcomed any attempt at healing. It was all happening too quickly.

She died on Good Friday. It was uncanny. Good Friday. This was a woman who loved the Easter Triduum and helped the community celebrate it with beauty. If there's a beautiful day for someone like that to die, let it be Good Friday.

The night after Easter, mourners gathered for her wake. On Easter Tuesday, 800 people filled the church to celebrate the Mass of Christian burial. The choir sang.

No one likes to “celebrate” a funeral Mass. Yet as the pastor pointed out, the community had experienced Easter twice.

Once on Sunday, and again on Tuesday—when everyone showed that their faith in the resurrection was real enough to touch.

As the Mass drew to a close, the procession formed to leave the church. The choir sang one last anthem: the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s *Messiah*. Still shedding tears of sorrow, the choir was so filled with faith they had to sing what they believed.

On Easter we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. We also profess the belief that he offers us a share in his resurrection. We have all lost people we loved. We have all wondered how we would carry on when someone special has died. Yet somehow we have received the Spirit we

needed to remain faithful to our path.

In spite of our sorrow, we praise the glory and power of God. Perhaps because of our sorrow we praise the glory and power of God. That is the way of Christians. †



The resurrection does not solve our problems about dying and death. It is not the happy ending to our life's struggle, nor is it the big surprise that God has kept in store for us. No, the resurrection is the expression of God's faithfulness to Jesus and to all God's children. Through the resurrection, God has said to Jesus, "You are indeed my beloved Son, and my love is everlasting," and to us God has said, "You indeed are my beloved children, and my love is everlasting." The resurrection is God's way of revealing to us that nothing that belongs to God will ever go to waste.

Henri Nouwen

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, call us out of the darkness and rise in us, that we may be saved and witness to your glory, we pray. Amen! Alleluia!

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 10–15

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 9, 2023

© 2023 Liguori Publications, a ministry of the Redemptorists. One Liguori Drive, Liguori, MO 63057. Scripture quotations in this publication are from the *New American Bible*, revised edition, © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC. The Pope Francis quotation is used with permission and copyright © 2023 *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. All rights reserved. 1-800-325-9521. Liguori.org.