

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday Of The Resurrection Of The Lord

Gathering: Christ The Lord Is Risen Today BB 178

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145)

*Sing a joyful song to the Lord! Alleluia!
Let the heavens and earth rejoice!
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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 185

Mass Parts: Mass Of The Resurrection

Communion: Ye Sons And Daughters BB 176

Recessional: Hail Thee, Festival Day BB 737

✠ 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
MARCH 24, 2024
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.

You can also use your smart phone to scan the QR code below. The link will take you directly to Parish Giving so you can donate.



UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

March 31 Needs of the Parish
April 7 Property Management



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. Thanks for being attentive and respectful! F. Albert.

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

ST. LUKE FOOD PANTRY

On behalf of the local families that the St Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry serves, we would like to thank you for your continued support. Items we are most in need of include pasta and sauce, ramen noodles, peanut butter and jelly, soups, canned fruit and vegetables, cereal, crackers, snack items, cookies and treats for kids, pancake mix and syrup, canned meats, tuna and canned fish. These are staple food items which we use all the time and never have enough of. Other items we have requested include toiletries, toilet paper, paper towels, pet food, laundry soap, dish soap and cleaners.

Gifts cards or checks made out to St Luke Food Pantry are always useful and welcomed.

Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Joe and Marie Farren

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.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2023, **please call Jackie** at the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**

**2023 NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL
PLEDGE REMINDER**

Thanks to over 10,000 donors, the 2023 New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) received over \$3.7 million to support Community Services program ministries throughout the Diocese. If you have made a pledge to the NHCA, we encourage, if possible, that all pledges be fulfilled by March 31, 2024. If you have a question about the status of your pledge, please reach out to Anne Marie Ashford in the Development office at 603-663-0152 or aashford@rcbm.org. We thank you again for your support of the appeal.

END OF LIFE PLANNING

Three Beliefs is a document from the Diocese of Manchester that gives valuable assistance to Catholics and others on end-of-life issues. *Three Beliefs* explains Catholic teaching on life-sustaining treatment and care and includes the New Hampshire Advance Directive form modified in such a way to make it consistent with both Catholic teaching and New Hampshire law. *Three Beliefs* contains a helpful FAQ section and wallet cards that include important information for healthcare providers.

The New Hampshire Advance Directive form was revised by a law that is consistent with Catholic teaching and the changes to the New Hampshire form. If you completed an advance directive before 2021 and your intentions for your end-of-life care have not changed, you do not need to complete a new form as long as your advance directive was valid when it was executed. For example, if you completed the October 2007 version of *Three Beliefs* and signed the document before two witnesses or a notary public or justice of the peace, you do not need to complete a new advance directive form.

Copies of *Three Beliefs* are available at the church entrance. También están disponibles ediciones en Español.

CREMATION?

While burial or entombment of the body remains the preference and is encouraged by the Church, cremation may be chosen for sufficient reason. The Revised Code of Canon Law states: "*The Church earnestly recommends the pious custom of burial be retained but it does not forbid cremation, unless this is chosen for reasons which are contrary to Christian teaching.*" (CIC, c. 1176.3)

Cremated remains are to be buried or inurned. They should not be buried on private land, but are to be buried in a cemetery or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground is not permitted. If burial takes place at sea, according to local custom, the cremated remains are to be kept intact in a solid and durable container and not scattered.

Keeping the cremated remains in a private home, funeral home, or any other place is not considered to be the reverent disposition that the Church requires. The integrity of the cremated remains is always to be respected.

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, March 31

6:00 PM Easter Evening Prayer *Newton*

Monday, April 1

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO DAILY MASS IN NEWTON

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus *Plaistow*

Wednesday, April 3

Holy Angels Church Open
All Day For Prayer

Thursday, April 4

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration *Newton*
10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting *Plaistow*

Saturday, April 6

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

Sunday, April 7

10:00 AM Religious Ed – Grades K to 6 *Plaistow*
1:30 PM Divine Mercy Prayer Service *Newton*
6:00 PM Easter Evening Prayer *Newton*

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.

The Sanctuary Light
at Mary Mother of the Church
will burn this week in Thanksgiving for
**All Musicians and Singers,
Past and Present, of
St. Luke the Evangelist Parish**



The Sanctuary Light
at Holy Angels Church
will burn this week in Thanksgiving for
**All Musicians and Singers,
Past and Present, of
St. Luke the Evangelist Parish**



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.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, March 30 ~ Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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; Mk 16:1-7 (Vigil)

8:00 PM Great Vigil of Easter
Plaistow

Sunday, March 31 ~ Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

10:00 AM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Monday, April 1 ~ Monday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15

No Mass

Tuesday, April 2 ~ Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

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

8:00 AM Richard W. Sullivan (Birthday Remembrance)
by Jeanne Sullivan
Plaistow

Wednesday, April 3 ~ Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

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

6:30 PM John and Katie Cotter by Cathy Smith
Plaistow

Thursday, April 4 ~ Thursday within the Octave of Easter

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

8:00 AM All Souls Intentions
Newton

Friday, April 5 ~ Friday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

No Mass

Saturday, April 6 ~ Saturday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15 (Day)

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Kevin Gallant (31st Anniversary)
by Patricia Gallant and family
Plaistow

Sunday, April 7 ~ Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

8:00 AM Joyce Rennick by Barbara and Jack Brotz
Newton

10:00 AM George and Mary Ballard
by Charlie and Lisa Angwin
Plaistow





WELCOME IN CHRIST!

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish invites all to a deeper love of Jesus and to a fullness of communion with the Church. The **rites of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** is a process where adults and older children are welcomed into the Catholic Church. Some have never been Baptized, others never received Eucharist or

Confirmation, and others arrive at our door after a long faith journey.

Do you know someone who is thinking about becoming part of our Catholic community? Are you the non-Catholic spouse of a parishioner who is wondering about full communion with the Church? Are you an adult Catholic who for whatever reason, "missed" one or more of the sacraments of initiation while growing up? Do you have children over 7 years of age who were never Baptized, or older children who "missed" sacraments?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (and its adapted form for children) welcomes all kinds of people into the Catholic family. The RCIA is for any adult who is unbaptized and recognizes a need for spirituality in their life, or Baptized and raised in another Christian tradition but interested in learning about the Catholic faith, or Baptized in the Catholic faith, but never received any formal religious training.

Children of all ages are welcome and participate in age appropriate meetings for their RCIA experience.

Contact Father Albert or Cathy Smith in the Parish Office at 603.382.8324 for more information.

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 jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net. If you're new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Parents – Please mark your calendars and save these dates!

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Plaistow, NH invites children to attend **SCUBA Vacation Bible Camp from June 17 to June 21, 2024.**

Kids will participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building game, engage in fun snack eating experiences, take part in one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them to trust Jesus, and each day make a craft to take home and play with all summer.

SCUBA Vacation Bible Camp is for kids from age 4 to 12 and will run from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon each day. For more information, call Joyce at 603-382-8324, ext. 303.

ADORERS NEEDED AT 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 is a great source of grace for us as a parish family. We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord. Adoration takes place each Thursday in Newton from 8:30 AM to 8:30 PM. We also need people at all times so we can have 2 people at each hour. 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 a 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.

HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed from December 2023 until Spring 2024. 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.

✘ PARISH DIRECTORY ✘

Parish Office	603-382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	603-382-8324 x 314
St. Luke's Outreach Ministry	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



MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

**Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
St. Jude Council #6617**

The Knights of Columbus and Saint Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry would like to thank our parishioners for the ongoing support to feed those in need. Shopping lists and bags are provided on the 3rd week of every month with the general collection of non-perishable items happening the following (4th) weekend. Food donations can also be left in the plastic totes at the rear of either church or brought to the Parish Office any time they are open. Prefer not to shop? Gift cards or checks can be made out to Saint Luke Food Pantry anytime. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
HAPPENINGS**

The Knights invite you to a weekly Rosary on Thursdays at 7:00 PM in Mary, Mother of the Church in Newton. Prayers are offered for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine, along with Respect for Life and other intentions that are offered by those in attendance. We are currently planning our 2024 St. Jude Golf Open which will be held in early June. This year's Open will assist a single mother who suffered a severe stroke and another single mother who is raising two daughters with severe medical issues. If you would like more information about the Open, please visit our website at www.kofc6617.org.

We are always looking for help. If you would like to help or want more information on the Knights, contact Peter Richards at 603-382-4315.

**THE KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS
ST. JUDE COUNCIL
#6617**



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

COLLECTION COUNTERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few good people to help us with one of our "hidden ministries," the counting of our Parish collections. Volunteers are needed to help count and document collections each week. The counts are usually done on Monday mornings from 9:00 – 10:30 and occasionally on a Tuesday morning when holidays occur. If you think that you might enjoy the company of this dedicated group while sharing in this important ministry, please speak to Fr. Albert for more information.

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 Sarto Center in Hookset, NH. To find out more, contact Mark Collopy at 603-833-7341.



**Saint Luke the Evangelist
OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of St. Luke's Outreach Ministry! 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. Luke's Outreach Ministry 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 17 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 St. Luke's Outreach Ministry, call 603-382-8324 x315.

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



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.



Saint Luke the Evangelist

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Saint Vincent de Paul Society is now **SAINT LUKE OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Our ministry to families and individuals continues as a Parish based ministry. We are committed more than ever to assisting families and individuals. Call us at the Parish Office at 603 382 8325 ext. 315.

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Basically, not much. Our mission to assist needy people in our area goes on, our commitment to Christ-centered compassion is still the same.

What has changed is that we are now a Ministry of Saint Luke the Evangelist in name and no longer affiliated with a Saint Vincent de Paul regional or national group.



Any contribution to the Saint Luke Outreach Ministry stays in our local community for people who need us! You can help by dropping a dollar in our Outreach Ministry box at the church entrance, or by making out your check to **Saint Luke Outreach Ministry**. Thank you for helping us help others.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Dear Parishioners,

The Knights of Columbus would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the St Luke Evangelist Food Pantry , Joe & Marie Farren and all the volunteers that spend many countless hours working to provide food for those most in need in our parish.

The Town of Plaistow dedicated its 2024 Annual Report to the Food Pantry with a beautiful write up included in the Annual Report describing how fortunate the town and the parish are to have such a resource.

We , the Knights, are honored to assist the Food Pantry in a number of ways including financial donations, buying new freezers, providing volunteers, purchasing food baskets for each holiday and food collection at Sunday mass.

We, the parish, are so lucky to have such a dedicated team at the Food Pantry led by Marie and Joe for so many years.

Thank you, Joe and Marie, for the dedication you bring to the Food Pantry every day.

God bless you and all your team members.

St. Jude Council 6617

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PLAISTOW COUNCIL

29th ANNUAL ST JUDE OPEN- June 1st



The Knights of Columbus St Jude Council 6617 is running their 29th annual St Jude Open on June 1st at 7:30am at Apple Hill Golf Course in East Kingston. This event is the largest fundraiser for the Knights each year. This year we will be helping two local families struggling both financially and with significant medical issues.

This event sells out every year. We currently have openings for four teams of four golfers. The cost for a foursome is \$540.

For \$135/player you get:

- 18 holes golf with cart
- Steak tip lunch
- Gifts/raffles/contests

In addition, you can help by:

- Sponsor a hole or have your employer sponsor a hole for \$100
- Sponsor a hole in the name/memory of a loved one for \$100.
- There are also \$300 and \$500 sponsorships available
- Come volunteer the day of the tournament; help is always needed and appreciated.

Please be part of a wonderful local community event with the goal of helping others in need. Please contact Dan Sullivan @ 603.770.4803 dans49@comcast.net to register, and/or get a brochure for golf, and/or to be a sponsor.





DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY SERVICE

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

SUNDAY APRIL 7th - MARY MOTHER CHURCH, NEWTON NH
BEGINNING AT 1:30 pm

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated the first Sunday after Easter. It is because of Saint Faustina, a Polish religious sister who witnessed apparitions that has sparked a great movement, and a strong and significant focus on the mercy of Christ. 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 service, in the courtyard (weather permitting) at the Mary Mother Church in Newton NH beginning at 1:30 p.m.

We will begin with polish snacks and fellowship, followed by by a prayer service for Divine Mercy. The service will include:

History of the Divine Mercy Image
Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Litany of Divine Mercy

All are invited and encouraged to join.

In the event of in-climate weather the service will be moved inside the church.

The Menu will consist of:

Kielbasa
Pirogi
Placki Ziemniaczane (Potato Pancakes)
Bacon wrapped dates
Makowiec* (Polish Poppyseed Roll)
Chrusciki** (Polish "bows" – cookies)
Individual packaged snacks directly from Poland
Bottled water with flavor packages

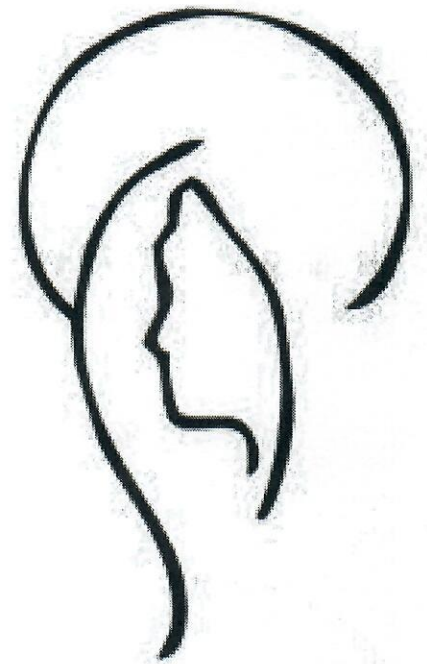
*Makowiec (pronounced: Mak-ov-yetz) is a strudel-like, yeast poppy seed cake that's one of Poland's most popular desserts. It's main attraction is the filling spun inside, made of finely-ground poppy seeds, honey, butter, raisins and walnuts.

**Chrusciki (Angel wings) is a traditional sweet crisp pastry made out of dough that has been shaped into thin twisted ribbons, deep-fried and sprinkled with powdered sugar. Common to many European cuisines.

**COME
PRAY THE
ROSARY**



**FIND PEACE,
HEALING,
HOPE**



The Knights of Columbus and other members of our parish for the last five years have gathered every Thursday evening to pray and reflect on the Rosary.

We pray for our intentions, peace in the world, and on the third Thursday of the month, we dedicate the Rosary to Respect Life from inception to natural death. We know you have something to pray for, why not do so with your fellow brothers and sisters of the parish.

Join Us - There is great power in prayer

Every Thursday, 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm at Mary Mother of the Church in Newton



Bringing Home the Word

Easter Sunday (B)
March 31, 2024

Seeing Is Believing

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Clever phrase. But is it accurate? Believing means that we sometimes accept as true something for which we have no positive proof. We might base our belief on the word of someone we consider reliable, but we ourselves have no undeniable evidence. We may use this phrase in everyday conversation and know what we really mean, but when it comes to the resurrection of Jesus, the phrase “seeing is believing” really doesn’t fit well.

In today’s first reading, Peter states that Jesus was visible to some of his followers. What does this mean? It’s clear from most of the Easter narratives

that many people had a profound, life-transforming experience of the risen Jesus. They may not have realized this at first, but they were convinced of it when he allowed them to recognize him. Was it a visual experience? Was it auditory as Paul describes (Acts 9:4)? Or was it touch as Thomas demanded (John 20:25)? Every mystic describes a revelation of Christ as an experience of one or more senses. Saint Bernadette saw our Lady; St. Francis heard a voice. This isn’t to say that the revelations weren’t real. It is to say that our senses are our only way of experiencing it or talking about it. We are, after all, only human. Maybe when referring to the resurrection we should modify this phrase: believing is seeing or hearing or feeling or being somehow convinced that he is really here. And this can be true for all of us. †

Sunday Readings

Acts 10:34a, 37–43

[Peter said,] “He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge.”

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

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.

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.



It’s clear from most of the Easter narratives that many people had a profound, life-transforming experience of the risen Jesus.

A Word from Pope Francis

Brothers, sisters, may we rediscover the enjoyment of the journey, quicken the heartbeat of hope and experience a foretaste of the beauty of heaven! Today, let us summon the energy to advance in goodness towards Goodness itself, which never disappoints.... Today let us believe and profess: “Christ is truly risen from the dead!”

URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE, ROME,
APRIL 9, 2023



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Have you ever had a moment of profound religious insight?
- The risen Christ is with us still; have you experienced him?

Daily Resurrections

Ron Rolheiser, OFM

What the resurrection of Jesus promises is that things can always be new again. It's never too late to start over. Nothing is irrevocable. No betrayal is final. No sin is unforgivable. Every form of death can be overcome. There isn't any loss that can't be redeemed. Every day is virgin. The resurrection assures us that God never gives up on us, even if we give up on ourselves, and that we can regain lost innocence and move beyond bitterness. When Jesus breathes out forgiveness on those who betray him and God raises bodies from the dead, we can begin to believe that in the end, all will be well, including our own lives. However, the challenge of living this out is not just that of believing that Jesus rose physically from the grave, but also,



and perhaps even more importantly, to believe that no matter our age, mistakes, betrayals, wounds, and deaths, we can begin each day afresh. No matter what we've done, our future

is forever pregnant with wonderful new possibility. Resurrection is not just about rising for one singular day after death, but it is also about daily rising from the many mini-graves within which we so often find ourselves.

We are human and cannot avoid falling—into depression, bitterness, sin, betrayal, cynicism, and the tiredness that comes with age. Like Jesus, we too will have our crucifixions. More than one grave awaits us. Yet our faith in the resurrection invites us to live beyond these. As John Shea so aptly put it: “What the resurrection teaches us is not how to live—but how to live again, and again, and again!” †

Source: *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter*, 2004

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From “We Believe in the Resurrection” by Thomas H. Groome

If ours is an Easter faith, then surely all is “changed, changed utterly.” Now no oppression can hold us bound, no evil can finally triumph, no cross is too heavy to carry, no trouble can rob us of hope, no sin can enslave us, no dependency is beyond recovery, no hurt is beyond healing. If we truly believe that “Christ is risen, risen indeed,” then, “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38–39). †

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Lord Jesus, make us people of the light and rise in us that we may be an Easter people, witnessing to your glory, we pray—Amen! Alleluia!

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 1–6

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** 

March 31, 2024

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