

He is Risen!



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*Mass Intentions*  
 for the Week  
 ©JPPC

**EASTER SUNDAY  
 APRIL 21, 2019**

**HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20**

*Easter Vigil*  
 8:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

*The Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

**EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 22**

*Monday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Sean T. Healey—Birthday Remembrance

**TUESDAY, APRIL 23**

*Tuesday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24**

*Wednesday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Normand J. Demers—Memorial

**THURSDAY, APRIL 25**

*Thursday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:00PM Emily & Frederick Miller—Memorial

**FRIDAY, APRIL 26**

*Friday within the Octave of Easter*  
 7:30AM Dec'd of Zaino & Mattiace Families—Memorial

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27**

*Saturday within the Octave of Easter*  
 8:30AM Brian, Clarence & Noella Larocque—Memorial  
*Mass of Anticipation for the 2nd Sunday of Easter*  
 5:00PM John R. Bigonette—1st Anniversary

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28**

*Second Sunday of Easter*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM George V. McKenna—Memorial  
 10:30AM Carlo Roberti—1st Anniversary  
 5:00PM Susan Metzger—Memorial





Dear Parishioners:

A Happy Easter! “*Now we are those witnesses!*” These words of the Apostle Peter echo in our hearts this Easter. We are now the witnesses to Christ’s Resurrection because we have come to know Him. We can truly attest as did Simon Peter that in the Holy Eucharist “*we have eaten and drunk with Him after His Resurrection from the dead*” and have received the mission “*to proclaim this to His people.*”

For some, this time is the beginning of “Spring Break” or “Spring Vacation.” However, for people of faith we celebrate Christ’s Resurrection, and the life of the world to come. We rejoice in the empty tomb of Easter and announce to the world the good news that “*Christ is Risen, Indeed!*”

The Resurrection is a historic and transcendent event and the faith-filled conviction which has shaped our history, our world and all our lives. Even in the midst of the marketing of the secular Easter with its spring themes, silly bunnies and egg hunts, we must never let our Christian faith in the Risen Christ weaken.

St. Peter’s words remind us that from the beginning of the Church this Easter faith has been communicated by those who could truly be witnesses. Just consider the many thousands of adults across the globe who come forward at Easter seeking Baptism or reception into full communion in the Church.

They all have very different stories and yet, invariably, on their path to faith each one has met a witness – we might say, a witness to the

Resurrection! Such a witness can be found in a husband or a wife; a friend or family member; a colleague at work, or a neighbor next door; a priest or a religious sister, but one who gave testimony to the Risen Christ alive and living among us.

St. Pope Paul VI famously commented that “*modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.*”

In this era of ‘fake news’, and amidst so much moral confusion, there is a growing thirst for authentic witnesses. St. Pope Paul VI also wisely observed that people today – tacitly and often aloud, but always forcefully – ask Christians: “*Do you really believe what you are proclaiming? Do you live what you believe?*”

By virtue of our own baptism, each one of us has been given the mission to become witnesses to Christ’s Resurrection in the world. We must be ready to give the reason for our hope to so many around us, most especially to those who are in such desperate need of hope, faith and love.

On this Easter day, we are called anew to recognize this vital mission entrusted to us and to see to it that: “*Now we are those witnesses.*” We must as Catholic disciples authentically bear witness to the Risen Christ in word and deed. For the Risen Christ is no ghost nor mere mortal but the Son of God who conquered sin and death.

A famous letter of an anonymous contemporary of St. Justin Martyr in the early

Church, was meant to be read by the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius, described the way Christians live as not being devised by “*any speculation or deliberation of inquisitive men; nor do they, like some, proclaim themselves the advocates of any merely human doctrines.*”

As the inheritors of so great a faith, we must continue to bear witness to the reality of Christ’s Resurrection. It is no “*mere human doctrine*”, but the greatest event in history. It is a living force for all time, making Christ present both objectively in the Sacraments, and personally in those who accept Him as Lord and Savior.

Thus, any indifference to the Resurrection is not an option for those who claim the name Christian. In fact, everything that exists and moves in the Church - Her Sacraments, doctrines, institutions, and good works - draws its strength from Christ’s Resurrection

Thus with St. John Chrysostom we can proclaim: “*O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages.*” A Blessed Easter!

*Father Healey*



**Why do we look forward to the Resurrection?**

Most people probably hope and do everything they can to get to heaven, but how many of us look forward to the Resurrection? One might say: “we are in heaven, what more do we need?” Answering this question brings to light the great significance and awe-filled event that is the Resurrection of Christ, and the reality of heaven. Further, it makes us appreciate what we pray in the Creed every week: “I look forward to the resurrection of the dead.”

First of all, how do we know anything at all? We know things about ourselves and the world through our five senses; through our bodies. Without a body we cannot receive any new information. Many of us probably have an idea of heaven with clouds in which the saints are looking down on us, but this is only a poetic expression of heaven. The saints do not look down on us because they do not have their bodies yet. In fact, the only reason why saints know what happens here and are able to intercede on our behalf is because God directly infuses knowledge into them. They too, however, await the resurrection at the end of time when Christ comes again so that they will be *supremely* perfectly happy.

In order to be truly happy we need our bodies. Contemporary society depicts the human person as a soul trapped in a body (or for the materialists, a mind trapped in a body). This anthropology may be the source of many of the false dichotomies and gender debates in many circles. For Catholics we are a body/soul composite (while this is a Catholic outlook this also avoids many philosophical problems associated with dualism). Once in heaven, before the Resurrection, all of us will have the *beatific vision*; we will see God as clearly as possible for a human being. Embodiment is not necessary for this vision, but this is an unnatural state for the soul. A soul in heaven is not properly human, because to be human is to have a body. So to be *supremely* perfectly happy we need a body in heaven.

Just some last points: At the Resurrection we will have our same bodies we had on earth (not the same in the sense of the same atoms, since even our atoms change day to day). We are not transformed in any way into angels in heaven (angels do not have material bodies). In heaven our material bodies do not become spiritual in heaven. Instead they are completely subject to our souls (e.g. no temptations) and hence able to do spiritual things.

April 14, 2019

**Collection results were unavailable due to the Easter printing deadline.**

If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

***Thank You for Your Generous Support!***

***Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.***

**Second Collections**  
**This Week: Easter Collection**



**Our Lady of Mercy**  
2019 Parish Goal=\$200,000  
Pledged to Date=\$146,340  
Number of Donors=370  
Average Gift=\$395

***Thank You for Your Generous Support!***  
***Make your Pledge Today!***



**The OLM Parish Office is closed on Monday, April 22, 2019 for the Easter Holiday. It reopens on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 8:00AM.**  
***The OLM Staff wish all parishioners a Happy Easter!***



*We wish all our OLM School faculty, staff, students and families a Happy Easter!*

**Scott W. Fuller**

**Principal**

*Discover the OLM Difference!*

[www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org)



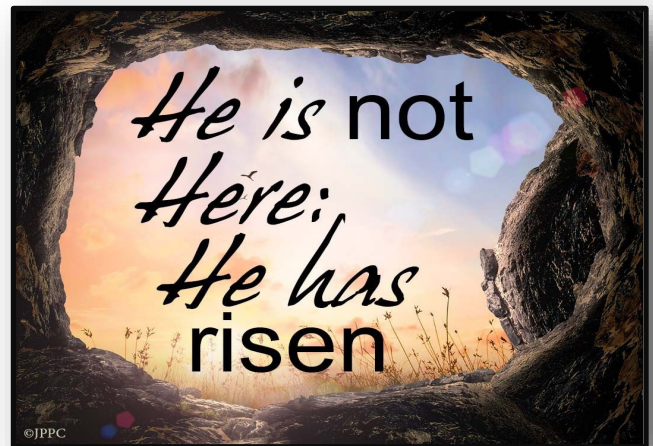
## Outreach Update

- **OLM Food Pantry** is always in great need of non-perishable food items. Please leave items in the Food Box in the vestibule.
- **OLM Bereavement Group** meets **Thursday, May 2nd at 4:00PM in Mercy House.** All those experiencing grief or loss is welcome to join us for prayer, discussion and support.
- **For more information** about OLM Outreach, please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)

## Religious Education NEWS

- **Sunday April 21:** No RE Classes due to Easter
- **Sunday, April 28:** First Communion practices are April 29th and 30th for RE only. May 1st is a combined RE and OLM School practice. Practice is from 4:00-5:00pm
- **Sunday, May 5:** First Communion practices are May 6th and 7th for RE only. May 8th is a combined RE and OLM School practice
- **Saturday, May 11:** First Communion Mass at Noon
- **Sunday, May 12:** First Communion Class May Crowning at 10:30AM Mass

*We wish all our RE students, teachers, aides and families a Happy Easter!*  
**Mickey St. Jean & Doug Green**



# Easter Sunday



**R**eforming our lives during Lent has led us to renewing our baptismal promises at this Easter celebration.

Each Sunday during the Easter season, we should recall our baptism through the rite of blessing and sprinkling holy water.

This is the ideal time of year to celebrate not only baptism but also confirmation and first communion, the sacraments which complete the Christian initiation process begun with baptism.



*This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.*



The holy Paschal work is wrought,  
The Victims praise be told/  
The loving Shepherd back has brought  
The sheep into his fold.  
The Just and Innocent was slain  
To reconcile to God again.

Death from the Lord of life has fled:  
The conflict strange is o'er;  
Behold, he lives that was dead,  
And lives forevermore.  
Mary, you sought him that day;  
Tell what you saw on the way.

I saw the empty cavern's gloom,  
The garments of the prison,  
The Angel guardians of the tomb,  
The glory of the Risen.  
We know that Christ has burst the grave  
Then, victor King, your people save.  
Amen·Alleluja