

**April 24, 2011: Easter Sunday – The Resurrection of the Lord**



“Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ Behold, I have told you.” — Mt 28:1-7

**LITURGY**

**MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS**

**Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord (Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9)**

6:30 am- Genevieve Schulte  
8:00 am- James Grahmann  
10:30 am- Eugene Novak  
5:00 pm- Lupe Barrera (Spanish Mass)

**Monday, April 25 (Acts 2:14, 22-33/Mt 28:8-15)**

7:00 am- Emilie Bitala  
10:00 am- Agnes Seitz (H'ville Rehab)

**Tuesday, April 26 (Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18)**

7:00 am- Thelma & Ann Spies

**Wednesday, April 27 (Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35)**

7:00 am- Gus Werner, Jr.  
8:05 am- Milada Netardus

**Thursday, April 27 (Acts 3:11-26/Lk 24:35-48)**

7:00 am- Linda Fishbeck  
10:00 am- Special Intention (Stevens)

**Friday, April 29 (Acts 4:1-12/Jn 21:1-14)**

7:00 am- Ruth Grubert  
8:05 am- Frank D. Gutierrez

**Saturday, April 30 (Acts 4:13-21/Mk 16:9-15)**

5:30 pm- Living & deceased members of Adolf Zappe Family

**Sunday, May 1 (Acts 2:42-47/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31)**

8:00 am- For our Parish Family  
10:30 am- Victor & Alma Brosch (First Communion)



Bulletin Sponsor: In memory of Dr. Donald Peterson by Leo & Evelyn Hoffer.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of Henry J. Sitka by Martha Sitka & family.

Vigil Light: In memory of Alfons & Cecilia Grahmann, & Magdalen Muras.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$4,479.50; Loose-\$1,620.14; Children-\$14; Rice Bowl-\$1,126; Catholic Relief Services-\$525.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Ann Gerlich* of our parish family; and, *Emogene Kahanek*, wife of Leon Kahanek. *May they rest in the peace of Christ.*

Anniversaries:  
Jessie & Elrose Kahanek 55 years April 28

**Calendar Membership: Apr 15:** Lois Nelson, Houston-\$100; **Apr 18:** Doris Fenner-\$50.

**Perpetual Adoration** – an adorer is needed at 3:00 a.m. on Fridays. If you are able to spend this hour with our Lord, please call Charlene Bradbury at 798-3224.

Please pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall!!!!

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 24**

- Easter Egg Hunt after 8:00 a.m. Mass.
- Bake sale after 8:00 a.m. Mass – young adults.
- Covered dish supper in Family Center after Spanish Mass.



**MONDAY, APRIL 25**

- Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. in church.
- Parish Finance Council mtg., 6:00 p.m., Mary's House.
- Parish Advisory Council mtg., 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.
- Dave Ramsey Course, 6:30 p.m., SHCS Band Hall.
- Men's ACTS mtg., 7:00 p.m., St. Joseph's, Yoakum.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 26**

- Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.
- No Adult Education.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27**

- CCD: Grades K-12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
- Scripture Study, 6:00-7:15 p.m., Mary's House.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30**

- First Communion Practice, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

**SUNDAY, MAY 1**

- First Communion, 10:30 a.m. Mass.
- Divine Mercy Holy Hour, 3:00 p.m. in church.
- Holy Rosary Mayfest, Hostyn. Polka Mass 10am. BBQ Pork & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, booths & music.
- Holy Family Festival, Victoria Community Center. BBQ Beef & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction & booths.

**Among our sick:** Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Helen M. Appelt, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Marge Rehm, Renae Ross, Hubert & Mary Grahmann, Odessa & Doug Blumberg, Danielle Grady, John Pavliska, Rose Thumann, Dr. Michael Moore, John D. Henneke, Bill Gohlke, Monica Barnes, Sterlin Ritchie, Brenda Grahmann, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Robert Butschek, Derrick Berger, Alexis Hines, Victor Steffek, Anita Bohuslav, Anita Kallus, Daniel Wick, Josephine Janak, nursing home residents & the homebound.

Promise of Marriage: *Kristy Stiewert & Kyle Prasek* on May 7, 2011.

Adoration in the chapel resumes on Easter Sunday at 6 pm



**Easter Flowers Donations:** S.E. & Mary Golsch-\$10; John & Charlene Pillow-\$20; Gilbert & Bea Butschek-\$20; Gail & Willis Jones in memory of Al & Joyce Wagner-\$40; AJ & Jo Kutac in memory of Newton & Freida Renken, & Stanley Kutac-\$15; Guntram & Elaine Janak Family in memory of Guntram, Annie & Dwayne Janak, & Alvin Sr., Annie & Alvin Jr. Schneider-\$20; Leo & Evelyn Hoffer in memory of Leo & Minnie Hoffer, & Alvin & Annie Schneider-\$100; Victor

& Lucille Vasek in memory of Robert & Rosa Helmcamp-\$10; Leona Labay in memory of V.C. Labay-\$20; Charles & Irene Matula in memory of deceased relatives-\$25.

From the Desk of Father John

*He is risen!* From the empty tomb on that first day of the week, the women brought good news to the Apostles. It was *the* Good News of hope, forgiveness, peace, and eternal life.

This is such Good News that Catholics celebrate Easter not just on a single day, but all year long, in different ways. We celebrate the Resurrection every Sunday, the “little Easter” of our week. We also celebrate it for the seven weeks of the Easter season, which is considered one single feast day, called the “Great Sunday.”

The Easter season lasts fifty days, beginning on Easter Sunday and ending on Pentecost Sunday. We celebrate Ascension part way through – forty days after Easter. Because the date for Easter changes every year, the dates for the other feasts do as well.

The joy of the Easter season is reflected in our words:

+Two “Alleluias” are added to the dismissal at Mass: we hear *The Mass is ended, go in peace, Alleluia, Alleluia*, and we respond, *Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

+In Eastern European cultures, it is typical to greet others with “*Christ is risen,*” to which the response is, “*He is risen indeed!*”

A recent addition to the Sacred Heart School was the covering for the batting cages located behind the Vocational Shop. The roof was donated by Vic Roeber, the Randy Fojt family and the Sacred Heart Indian Booster Club. Let us remember all of our benefactors in our prayers.

**Religious Education (CCD) -- Office 798-3124**  
**Angela McConnell, Coordinator**

**April 27:** End of year catechist meeting.

**April 30:** First Communion practice 9:00 a.m.

**May 1:** First Communion, 10:30 a.m. Mass.

**May 4:** Closing Mass & May Crowning. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade youth involvement Mass.

**May 22:** HHS Baccalaureate, 10:30 a.m. Mass.

**Sacred Heart Catholic School (Office: 798-4251)**

**April 25:** No school.

**May 15:** SHCS Baccalaureate, 10:30 a.m. Mass.



**The Youth ConneXion**  
**Greg & Kris Hermes 798-0655**



**Music Practice:** Teens, young adult & young at heart, meet at the Youth House at 6:00 p.m. on Mondays.

Catholic Daughters- please mail your 2011 dues to Anita Steffek, 549 C R 186, Hallettsville. Please make your \$20 check payable to Catholic Daughters. *Thank you!*

**Prayer for Rain:** Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We place our trust in You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises, and the hearts of men and all living things will be made glad. Amen.

**Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord –**



Easter symbols are all about life. The lilies that bloom radiate living beauty. Easter eggs symbolize the life that breaks out of the tomb.

The Easter candle burns brightly as a sign that light conquers darkness, a light that brings life to all. Water is needed by every living thing. Even secular symbols like rabbits and chicks point to abundant life - the phrase, “they multiply like rabbits,” describes a proliferation of life.

The cross that graces so many Easter cards as well as the Easter candle itself, also reminds us that Easter is about death - and transformation. The symbols of life have within themselves the power of death. The lily gives up its bloom and the plant dies back retreating into the bulb that nourished it. The egg pours out its life and the shell is left behind. The fire that is contained in the Easter candle can just as easily roar into a refining conflagration. Water, which all life needs, can also destroy. And the cross at its inception was an instrument of death and hardly a symbol of life.

This is the hard truth of the Easter message. Life comes at a price, and eternal life at the costliest price of all: the death of the only-begotten Son. Christ's death brings life, and is so radically transformative that even the very instrument of His death is seen today as a sign of life for all.

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**– Fr. Tommy's Corner –**

**The Creed (part IV) –** Another noteworthy word that has been restored because of its theological preciseness is “incarnate.” Currently we profess: “by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary and became man.” In the new translation we will say: “and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.” To be “incarnate” means to literally “be in-fleshed” or to become a human being. And Jesus became incarnate (became a human being) at the moment of his conception in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is at the moment of his conception that he “became man.” The Latin words “incarnatus est” were improperly translated as “born of.” If we think through the implications of what the current translation say, we would seem to be professing that Jesus did not become man until he was born. This is a very wrong and dangerous path to go down because we would be denying the humanity of unborn children. Therefore, properly translating “incarnate” guards the true belief that as Jesus “became man” at conception, so do all unborn children enjoy the dignity of a human person at their conception. After this significant

change, the Creed flows with minor changes in word choice to the end.



Happy  
Easter!!!



**Parish Financial Report – February, 2011**

Parish Income:

Sunday Collections	\$ 28,541.00
Other Donations	3,152.66
Family Center Rentals	280.00
Religious Articles	1,205.80
Interest	<u>18,048.91</u>
Total Parish Income	<u>\$ 51,228.37</u>

School Income:

Student Fees	\$ 625.00
PreK Tuition	7,500.00
K-12 <sup>th</sup> Tuition	47,530.00
Extended Care	2,420.00
Catholic Education Envelopes	2,935.00
Memorials	435.00
Extravaganza	50,487.50
Interest	13,665.07
Academic Meets	204.75
Miscellaneous	312.30
Book Fair	<u>1,623.67</u>
Total School Income	<u>\$127,738.29</u>

Parish Expense:

Salaries	\$ 7,232.88
Utilities	1,464.88
Church Expense	1,846.95
Rectory Expense	161.43
Office Expense	1,468.49
Religious Articles	1,650.80
Building Insurance	1,719.97
Family Center Expense	243.51
Medical Insurance	1,899.00
Priest's Pension	1,047.00
Repairs & Maintenance	<u>344.91</u>
Total Parish Expense	<u>\$ 19,079.82</u>

School Expense:

Salaries	\$ 78,167.25
Contracted Services	514.52
Office & Teaching Expense	1,045.05
Postage	152.22
Staff Development	254.71
Testing Expense	181.96
Utilities	3,991.82
Plant Repairs	2,643.20
Custodial Supplies	170.68
Bus & Vehicle Expense	2,051.06
Payroll Taxes	5,796.71
Medical Insurance	14,069.40
Retirement	3,450.00
Property Insurance	2,706.72
Convent Expense	615.54
Capital Expenditures	37,534.68
Technology	960.33
Book Fair Expense	1,623.67
Extravaganza	11,163.42

Miscellaneous	<u>1,437.66</u>
Total School Expense	<u>\$168,530.60</u>
<b>Parish Income</b>	<b>\$ 178,966.66</b>
<b>Parish Expense</b>	<b><u>- 187,610.42</u></b>
<b>Parish Deficit</b>	<b><u>\$ (8,643.76)</u></b>

**SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND**

In memory of Genevieve Schulte: Michael & Janice Jares 20.00  
Ositha Cykala & Marilyn Van Hoozer 25.00

**SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND**

In memory of Rudy Petru:

Forrest & Carol Sevcik	15.00
Dorothy Kouba	10.00
Robert & Barbara Grahmann	10.00
Anthony & Rachel Siegel	10.00
Leonard & Georgia Marek	10.00
John & Arlene Steffek	10.00
Clyde & Edna Wehmann	10.00
Larry & Barbara Janak, Patrick & Pamela Bujnoch	15.00
Leo & Elizabeth Janak	10.00
Marvin & Susan Bujnoch	15.00
Charles & Delores Sommer	20.00
Evelyn & John Herman	20.00
Macklin & Dolly Johnson	25.00
Bohumir & Mary Ann Pustejovsky	10.00
Knights of Columbus Council 2433	25.00
Ervin & Terry Bludau	20.00

In memory of Milada Netardus:

Peoples State Bank 10.00

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Tommy & Debbie Tumis	20.00
Michael & Angie Biehunko	20.00
Ramona, Alex & Sabrina Bludau	25.00
Christian Mothers Society	25.00
Royce & Joan Dusek	20.00
Bernard & Mary Grahmann	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hermes	20.00
Jim & Bea Jakubek	20.00
Don & Debbie Janssen	20.00
Tom & Peggy Kostelnik	25.00
Bruce & Angela McConnell	35.00
Bohumir & Mary Ann Pustejovsky	10.00
Schwenke-Baumgarten Funeral Home	50.00
Arthur Spies, Jr.	20.00

In memory of Arnold Rother:

Terry & Sarah Wick 15.00

In memory of Mary Butschek:

Pat & Buddy Sanders 100.00

**SACRED HEART CCD PROGRAM**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Vernell Bozka 20.00

**SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND**

In memory of Rudy Petru:

Kubena Funeral Home	20.00
Roland Schaeffer	20.00
David & Mary Polasek	25.00

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Judith Renger	35.00
Gene Renger	35.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Grubert, Jr.	20.00
Pat Zabransky & Helen Zabransky	10.00
Wise Products, Inc., Honey Grove, Tx	100.00

Col. (Ret) Richard Gonzales	50.00
Rita Barber, Inc., Abilene, Tx	25.00
Peoples State Bank	10.00
Michael & Milissa Zamora	20.00
David & Mary Polasek	25.00
Warren & Barbara Grindeland	25.00
Andrew & Laurie Janak	20.00
Larry & Marie Migl	10.00
Anthony & Anna Etzler	10.00

**SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Robert & Leona Steffek	10.00
Golden Crescent Regional Planning Com.	50.00
Jim & Marcie Appelt	10.00
Larry & Judy Appelt	20.00
Allen & Arlene Becan	10.00
Beta Sigma Phi	15.00

In memory of Lupe Barrera:

Kubena Funeral Home	20.00
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**SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND**

In memory of Rudy Petru:

Marvin & Betty Haas	20.00
Robert & Louise Pesek	10.00
Philip & Evelyn Bujnoch	10.00

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Charles & Dorothy Jansky	15.00
Laurence & Carol Bludau	20.00
Dorothy Bujnoch	20.00
Georgia Bujnoch	20.00
Philip & Rosemary Hemmi	5.00
Frances Holley	20.00
Dennis & Cynthia Matula	20.00
Jim & Sandra Mullen	10.00
Charles & Anna Neumeyer	25.00
Anthony & Rachel Siegel	10.00
Grace Steinberg	10.00

In memory of Pam Dornak & Oretha McCord:

Terry & Sarah Wick	30.00
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In memory of Viola Grahmann:

Gene & Trudy Janak	500.00
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**SACRED HEART SCHOOL ALUMNI FUND**

In memory of Rudy Petru:

Virginia Kocian	10.00
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In memory of Lou Kubena:

David & Joyce Smolik	20.00
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**SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND**

In memory of Genevieve Schulte:

Robert & Leona Steffek	10.00
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In memory of Dolores Appelt, Mary Butschek & Milada Netardus:

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Grubert, Jr.	30.00
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In memory of Rudy Petru:

Richard & Frances Henke	10.00
Judy Renger	15.00
Glenn & Donna Leopold	10.00

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Eddie & Barbara Kalinowsky Family	300.00
Shannon & Laura Hrnrcir	50.00
Glenn & Shara Steffek	20.00
James & Lois Simpson	100.00
Henry Joe & Delores Jasek	20.00
Scott & Diane Blaschke	25.00
Franklin & Nola Bohuslav	10.00

William & Charlene Bradbury	10.00
Bill & Virginia Curley	20.00
Bill & Virginia Grafe	20.00
Jeanette S. Henke	15.00
Joe & Ana Henke	25.00
Leo & Dorothy Henke	10.00
Rosemary Hermes	15.00
Ronnie & Shirley Hollas	20.00
Mike & Linda Kossa	20.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Ronnie & Debi Sevcik	10.00
Mike & Helen Technik	20.00
Victor & Mary Ventura	15.00

In honor of Richard & Rita Donnelly's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniv.: 1,000.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL LIBRARY FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Ronnie & Katie Steffek	15.00
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**SACRED HEART SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AG SHOP FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Allen & Judith Grones	20.00
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**SACRED HEART SCHOOL BAND FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Arthur Etzler, Jr.	25.00
Buck & Janice Bludau	20.00
Terry & Ervin Bludau	25.00
John & Doris Fenner	20.00
Snow & Irene Matula	25.00
Keith & Joan Mudd	25.00
Jimmie & Sylvia Steffek	25.00

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Bobby, Carol & Cole Bludau	40.00
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**SACRED HEART SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

James & Lisa Adams	100.00
Dennis & Gerardette Haas	15.00
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Orsak	25.00
Bo & Pam Wick	20.00

**REESE & RILEY MANNING SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Joseph & Dorothy Etzler	20.00
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**CAROLYN DWORSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Genevieve Schulte:

Emil & Joyce Hermes	10.00
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In memory of Oretha McCord:

Charles & Kathy Haas	10.00
Dennis & Lisa Dworsky Family	20.00

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Dennis & Lisa Dworsky	20.00
Charles & Kathy Haas	10.00
Emil & Joyce Hermes	10.00

**PAM DORNAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Oretha McCord:

Jimmy & Sylvia Steffek	50.00
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**JEROME HAAS SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Pam Dornak, Mary Butschek, Lou Kubena,

Dolores Appelt, Alfonse Grahmann, Oretha McCord, Dorothy Svetlik & Ethlyne Zappe:

Georgia Haas	80.00
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**DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Tommy & Elsie Grahmann 10.00

Gary & Carol Pustejovsky 10.00

**SACRED HEART EARLY CHILDHOOD & DAYCARE**

In memory of Rudy Petru:

Bob & Jackie Kloppenburg 50.00

James & Mary Honish 10.00

**SACRED HEART CHURCH QUILTING CIRCLE**

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Emmerlin Dworsky 10.00

## The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

### TODAY\*

**Acts 10:34A, 37–43**  
**Colossians 3:1–4**  
**John 20:1–9**

### MONDAY\*\*

**Matthew 28:8–15**  
*"Greetings!"*

### TUESDAY\*\*

**John 20:11–18**  
*"... why are you weeping?"*

### WEDNESDAY\*\*

**Luke 24:13–35**  
*"Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer . . . ?"*

### THURSDAY\*\*

**Luke 24:35–48**  
*"Peace be with you."*

### FRIDAY\*\*

**John 21:1–14**  
*"Cast the net to the right . . ."*

### SATURDAY\*\*

**Mark 16:9–15**  
*"Go into all the world and proclaim the good news . . ."*

## Jesus Is Risen! Indeed He Is!

If you happen to be with members of Eastern Catholic churches during the Easter season you will hear this greeting exchanged frequently: With great excitement the first person says, "The Lord is risen!" The second person replies just as energetically, "Indeed, he is!"

This wonderful greeting conveys just how important the Resurrection is for us Christians. The joy we experience at Easter is great. But according to this familiar Gospel reading from John 20:1–9, it took the Apostles a while to fully understand what was taking place.

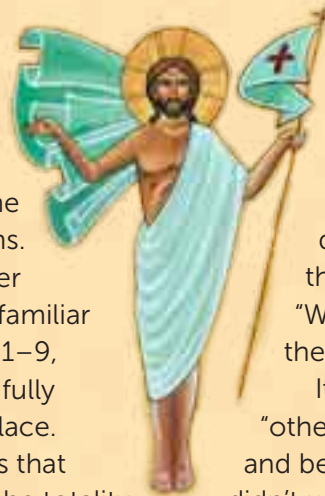
The Gospel reading suggests that Peter didn't quite understand the totality of what was going on. The Gospel tells us that the "other disciple" (unnamed here, but traditionally thought to be the Apostle John) reached the tomb first, a sign that Peter was physically slower.

Then, after Peter had entered the tomb first (a sign of respect, reserved for the elder), he sees, but it is the "other disciple," the faster one, the one who enters second, who sees and believes.

The Gospel says that, they didn't understand that Jesus was to rise from the dead. Nevertheless the "other disciple" believed.

Can't you just imagine the disciples' puzzlement when they arrived at the empty tomb: "What's going on here? Where's the Lord."

It must be nice to be like the "other" disciple, the one who sees, and believes so rapidly, even if he didn't understand completely. Many of us are just like the Apostle Peter: We just aren't that quick. It takes us time to think through what we see and hear in order to understand and believe. The key is to persist in the journey of faith.



### The Faith of the Church

Christ is buried in a new tomb as a sign that he was the bringer of new life, much as the Virgin Mary's womb served to bring him into life as a man. Risen from the dead, Jesus is the first begotten of all who will come after him, the adopted sons of God, whom he has made joint-partners and joint-heirs of the Kingdom (Cf. St. Augustine of Hippo, *Treatise on Faith and Creed*, 11–12).



### Questions of the Week

The Resurrection of Christ is a foundational Christian belief. We believe that Jesus rose from the dead and that we, too, will rise from the dead upon his return. But have you ever thought about why the teaching of the resurrection is so important for us as Christians?

#### Adults

*What are my thoughts about Jesus' Resurrection? What are my hopes and expectations about the resurrection on the last day?*

#### Children

*What will heaven be like? Who are all the people I want to be with in heaven?*

\*Alternate readings exist for this day.  
 \*\*Octave of Easter

## Responding to God's Word . . .

There are no eyewitness testimonies of the Resurrection in any of the four Gospels. If anyone saw what happened, it was never recorded. Yet we believe with confidence that it happened and that through the Resurrection we are ourselves saved.

Peter and the "other" disciple ran to the empty tomb because of the testimony of Mary Magdalene, but they did not believe the news until they had seen with their own eyes, and this belief did not come immediately to everyone.

We are Christ's disciples today because throughout history believing

men and women have served as witnesses of the Resurrection. They told us of the empty tomb, shared with us the meaning of the Gospel, and stayed beside us until we came to believe. We follow Christ because of them. Take a moment now to think about who these people were in your life and offer a prayer of gratitude for them.

In the same fashion, we are called to be witnesses to Christ for others. Because of the witness we give, and the lives we live, others will come to the empty tomb, see for themselves what is there, and come to believe that indeed, the Lord is risen.



### Meditation Moment

A high school student writes: "I had just finished my paper route on Easter morning. As I passed Saint Gall's church, the sun was coming up. I didn't intend to go in for Mass, because I was in the midst of a teenage rejection of the Church. Then it happened! The sun hit the big silver cross in front of the church. I couldn't take my eyes off it. Its fiery brightness made me realize how the apostles must have felt on the first Easter. An unseen force directed my feet up the church steps. I went in, knelt down, and prayed. For the first time in my life, I understood what Easter was all about." (SLIGHTLY ADAPTED)

### For reflection . . .

*What does Easter mean to me? What was my most memorable Easter?*

THE GOSPELS DO NOT EXPLAIN EASTER;  
EASTER EXPLAINS THE GOSPELS.

J. S. WHALE (SLIGHTLY ADAPTED)

FROM *VISION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

### Seeing with the Eyes of Faith

Open my eyes, Lord.  
Help me to see you alive  
in the lives of your disciples. When  
my vision is blinded by the delights  
of this world, help me to see your face.  
Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear the  
cries of the poor and needy who need  
your help—and mine. Help me to listen  
carefully to your words of life. Open  
my hands, Lord. Help me to share  
freely what I have. Help me to  
loosen my grip on material  
things so that I may be open  
to receiving the gifts you  
offer. In Jesus' name,  
we pray. Amen.

*Carry this thought in your heart as a  
guide for your faith journey this week.*

Set your minds on things that  
are above, not on things that  
are on earth, for you have died  
in Christ and will rise in him.  
You will be revealed with him  
in glory.

See Colossians 3:2–4

## SUGGESTIONS

*Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.*

**In the home.** Be quick to forgive and slow to anger when things don't go according to plan. Be a good example for others in your family.

**In the workplace or in school.** Be a witness to the Resurrection through your words and actions. Show your co-workers or classmates how a follower of Jesus acts.

**In the community.** Look for the resurrected Christ in the faces of people you meet. Treat them as you would treat Christ.

### Profile in Faith

#### The Women at the Tomb

The Gospel of Luke tells of the women who came to anoint Jesus with the burial spices only to discover that his tomb was empty. They are named Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. They were the first witnesses to the good news of the Resurrection.

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