

## April 6, 2014: Fifth Sunday of Lent



Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." — Jn 11:25-27

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass (©2001, 1998, 1992 CCC)

## LITURGY

### MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

**Sunday, April 6 (Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45)**

8:00 am- David Kostelnik

10:30 am- Louis & Tillie Schott

**Monday, April 7, St. John Baptist de la Salle, Priest (Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11)**

7:00 am- Hubert & Millie Gerlich

10:00 am- Joe Konvicka, Benefactor (H'ville Rehab)

**Tuesday, April 8 (Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30)**

7:00 am- Henry & Lois Cejka

**Wednesday, April 9 (Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8:31-42)**

7:00 am- Robert Kloppenberg

8:05 am- Deceased members of Joe Kuhn & Anton Kainer Families

12:05 pm- August & Emilia Linhart

**Thursday, April 10 (Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59)**

7:00 am- Bernie & Stephen Bludau

10:00 am- Right to Life Donors & Supporters (Stevens)

**Friday, April 11, St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr (Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42)**

### *Day of Abstinence from Meat*

7:00 am- Joe, Agnes, Henry & Maxine Koenig

8:05 am- Anton & Leona Machicek's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

12:05 pm- Mary & Floyd Simmons, & Floyd, Jr.

6:00 pm- Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, April 12 (Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56)**

5:30 pm- Shawn & Ryan Drozd

**Sunday, April 13, Palm Sunday (Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54)**

8:00 am- Pam Dornak

10:30 am- For our Parish Family

**Church Bulletin Sponsor:** Bob Kubena in memory of August & Emilia Linhart, Mary & Floyd Simmons, & Floyd, Jr.

**Radio Broadcast Sponsor:** In honor of Bohumir & Mary Ann Pustejovsky's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by their children.

**Our Gift to God:** Envelopes-\$5,286.50; Rice Bowl-\$1,437; Catholic Relief Services-\$524; Loose-\$1,543; Children's-\$50; Church Endowment Env.-\$108; School Endowment Env.-\$358; Cemetery Envelopes-\$25.

*Please pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall!*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY, APRIL 6

- Blessing of expectant mothers at all weekend Masses.
- Bluebonnet Youth Ranch Spring Fling, Yoakum Com. Center. Doors open 10 am. Food, music, entertainment.
- KJZT District I meeting, Family Center. Registration 11:30 a.m. followed by meal.
- Jr. KJZT, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Cafeteria.
- Parish Mission, 7:00-8:15 p.m., Church.

### MONDAY, APRIL 7

- Rosary & Evening Praise, 5:30 p.m., Church.
- Adult Choir Practice, 5:45 p.m., SHCS Band Hall.
- Parish Mission, 7:00-8:15 p.m., Church.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 8

- Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., K.C. Hall of Fame Room.
- Christian Mothers Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Mary's House.
- Parish Mission, 7:00-8:15 p.m., Church.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

- CCD: K-12<sup>th</sup> Grades, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 10

- Parish Penance Service, 5:30 p.m., Church.
- RCIA, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Youth House.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 11

- Stations of the Cross, 6:00 p.m., Church.
- Fish Fry, K.C. Hall. Dine in 5:00-7:00 p.m. Drive thru 5:00-6:30 p.m. Tickets \$8.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 13

- Youth Night Holy Hour, 5:00 p.m., Church. Fellowship in Youth House 6:00-7:30 p.m.

**Among our sick:** Donna Avant, Lorene Christ, Wilbert Kalinec, Mary Bonorden, Josephine Muniz, Vivian Janak, Bobbie Lee Drozd, Donna Steffek, Lisa Grissom, Richard Grahmann, Colin Grahmann, Emil Hermes, Georgia Schaefer, Pat Hanslik, Leroy Loth, Barbara Kubena, Kathy Davis, Russell Janak, Elrose Ehler, Marilyn Palmquist, Doug Blumberg, Terry Mitchon Bludau, Amanda Gutierrez, Melissa Pilat, Becky Pekar, Kyle Stellige, Victor Vasek, Barbara Gummelt, Louise Tesch, Robert Butschek, Karen Kahanek, Harvey Drozd, Monte Staha, Marie Hermes, Karen Perez, Doris Anders, Kynlee Klekar, Jack Crandall, Georgie Meyer, Theresa Hemmi, nursing home residents, & the homebound.

### Penance Services for Lent:

**Monday, April 7:** St. Joseph, Moulton – 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 8:** St. Joseph, Yoakum – 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, April 10:** Sacred Heart, H'ville – 5:30 p.m.

If you would like to contribute towards the Easter Flowers, you may place your donation in an envelope with your name and drop it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Rectory.



**Picnic Raffle donors are needed.** Please call or come by the Rectory if you are able to donate a prize.

**From the Desk of Msgr. John**

Thank you to everyone who helped to make my 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination Celebration such a wonderful and memorable occasion. The music at the Mass was beautiful. Thank you to all who participated in the Mass in any way.

The reception and supper was terrific! Thank you to all who set up and decorated the hall, who prepared and served the food, and who participated in the program. Also, thank you to the singers and musicians at the hall.

Finally, thank you to all for the prayers and good wishes, the gifts to the Seminary Burse and to the Capital Campaign, and other gifts. I feel so very blessed to be the pastor of our four parishes.

My family of three aunts and many cousins was well represented.

We will have our Lenten Parish Mission by Fr. Bob Hogan on April 5th-8th. The topics of the Mission will be –

Jesus, Revealer of God's Love (having a relationship with Jesus, experiencing His transforming love, how to pray).

Jesus as Savior and Lord (repentance, healing, the cross, discipleship).

Jesus as the Christ, the Giver of the Holy Spirit (the risen Lord imparting the Spirit; role of the Holy Spirit in our lives).

CCD News ~~

April 9: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade students & parents Last Supper, Family Center. Penance for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders, Church.

April 16: Stations of the Cross for 2<sup>nd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades.

Sacred Heart School News ~~

April 17: Early dismissal at 2:00 p.m.

April 18 & 21: Classes dismissed for Easter.

Youth News: Thank you to all the youth who participated in serving for Msgr. John's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination last Sunday. **YOUTH NIGHT** - Sunday, April 13, 5:00-7:30 p.m. Please come for our last youth night of the semester! Also, be sure to register for the summer trip to Steubenville on the Bayou on the official website! If you need instructions on how to register, email [troy@splashwaywaterpark.com](mailto:troy@splashwaywaterpark.com). We are still accepting applications for the summer trip; however, time is running out. We hope to be providing information on fundraising opportunities in coming announcements. God bless!!

Anniversaries:

Leroy & Marjorie Rychlik	51 years	April 6
Jay & Suzanne Pavlicek	25 years	April 8
Virgil & Betty Gutierrez	35 years	April 11
Anton & Leona Machicek	50 years	April 11
Robert & Loraine Butschek	66 years	April 12

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Kayleigh Foster*, granddaughter of Carolyn Foster; and, *Glenn Rabel*, son of Marvin & Lillian Rabel. *May they and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

March Baptisms: Hillary Grace, daughter of Nathan & Jill Etzler; Donnie Leon, son of Donnie Hart, II; MacKenzie Sara, daughter of Phillip & Christina Barton; Jacob Luke & Maryn Renee, children of Jason & Nicole Bell; Gage Dwayne, son of Ryan & Janna Tobola; Sawyer Sloan, daughter of Clayton & Chelsea Wimberly; Charlie Duane, son of Justin & Jessica Boleware.

Welcome to the Parish: Ryan & Kelly Bludau, and daughters Rory, Kaisley & Raley.

Don't forget to turn in your Calendar Membership! Daily weekday drawings will be held April 7-May 23 with final drawing at the Parish Picnic on May 25.

Raffle tickets (\$100 each) for a 2014 Chevy Silverado LT 1500 4x4 crew cab truck are available for purchase at the Rectory. The truck is on display at Grafe's and will be given away at the Parish Picnic on May 25th.

Lenten Silent Retreat & Day of Fasting, Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm, St. Mary's Church. Bread & water will be provided. Families are welcome. For information call Lorrie Adamek 293-1300 or 293-6190.

5th Sunday of Lent – "The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth." His heart had started to beat again. His lungs were breathing the air once more. The blood had begun to flow through his veins for the first time in four days. Lazarus rose from the grave, a living paradox: literally a dead man walking. This resurrection at the hands of Christ was an undeniable testimony to a power even greater than death.

For all our technological prowess and all our medical expertise, humanity has yet to pull off a stunt like this. Near death experiences we've heard plenty about. But four days gone? Even his sisters didn't want to approach their brother in a state like that, "Lord, by now there will be a stench." But Jesus wasn't concerned. Can you hear Him yelling, "Lazarus, come out!" Can you see the deceased man emerging from the tomb? What a sight! What a miracle! What a God.

Nothing is beyond the reach of our God. Nothing can trump His power, not even death itself. This was confirmed for us on the first Easter Sunday when, unlike Lazarus, Jesus rose by His own power. And now, He wants to bless us with this same power! "I am the resurrection and the life," He told Martha. "Whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die." Then, He asked her a question that applies to us as well: "Do you believe this?" As we continue our journey towards the great triumph of Easter, may we have the faith to answer with Martha, "Yes, Lord, I have come to believe."

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

April 2014

## Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Fr. John C. Peters, Pastor

### One Minute Meditations

#### St. Maria Faustina

Born Helena Kowalska in Poland, Faustina was 20 years old when she joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. She began to receive messages from Jesus which she recorded in her diary at his request.



These messages emphasized Jesus' mercy and forgiveness for sins acknowledged and confessed. On May 5, 2000, five days after St. Faustina's canonization, the Vatican declared the Second Sunday of Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday, as Jesus had asked of Faustina.

#### Jesus loves me

The beloved children's song, "Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so," speaks of unshakable faith in Christ's love. Easter, as at no other time of the year, is testament to that love. Let our faith be like that of little children who know without doubt that Jesus loves us.

*"Show me the path I should walk, for I entrust my life to you"*  
(Psalm 143:8b).



## We are: priest, prophet, and king

The Israelites anointed their priests and kings with oil as a sign that they were set apart for special work. When we were baptized, we were also anointed with oil to show that we have been set apart for Christ and share in his threefold roles as priest, prophet and king.

**Priest.** A priest mediates between God and humans and offers sacrifices on behalf of others. We accept our baptismal priesthood when we pray intercessory prayers, when we perform penitential acts for other people, and when we regularly participate in the Mass fully and joyfully.

**Prophet.** A prophet is a messenger sent by God to speak for God. The message is credible because the prophet

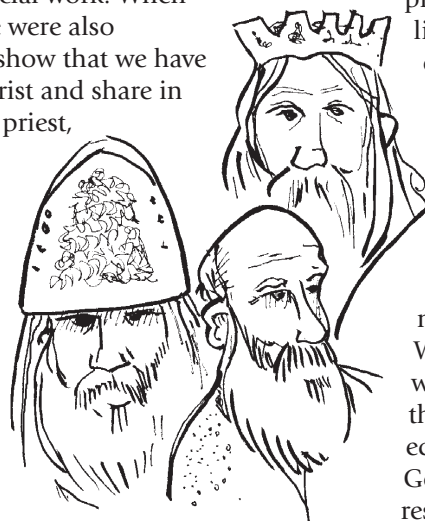
lives a holy life and also calls people to conversion. We share in Jesus'

prophetic ministry by living our faith, teaching others about God and his love, and by spreading Jesus' Gospel messages.

**King.** Kings protect their people from harm, exercise leadership, and act as models and examples. We are servant kings when we participate in the leadership and education of those within God's Church, when we resist bad influences and live lives of virtue, and

when we work to lead others to salvation.

By living our faith, participating in our parish and in the Sacraments, we help to build the reign of God.

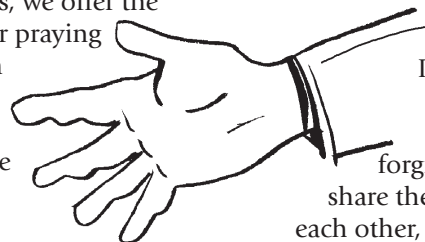


## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do we offer peace at Mass?

During the Mass, we offer the Sign of Peace after praying the Our Father, in preparation for Communion. In the Our Father, we ask God to "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who

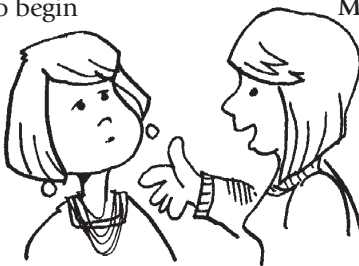
trespass against us." We offer the Sign of Peace in the confidence that if we forgive our neighbors, God will forgive our sins. Since we share the Peace of Christ with each other, the Sign of Peace can also be a sign of spiritual unity.



## Invite a friend to Mass ... really?

Do you invite non-Catholics to Mass? For some it's a good start to learning our faith. For others, it's better to begin slowly. Consider these steps:

**Do life first.** It can be a stretch for someone who doesn't know Christ to find him at Mass the first time. If unused to ritual, Mass may be confusing and seem exclusive because non-Catholics can't receive Communion. Instead, try sharing the warmth of a Christ-centered community by including your friend in a parish dinner or fundraising event where



she can socialize with others who live for Christ.

**Make it small.** Bring your friend along to your Bible study, prayer meeting or small study group. Adult faith formation classes also make good introductions to faith in a small setting for someone unused to formal religion.

**Let it come naturally.** Your friend will let you know when it's time to graduate to Mass. By that point, he will be more comfortable in the parish setting and will have a better idea of what to expect.

### from Scripture

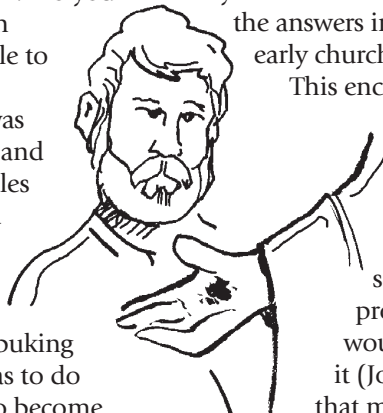
#### John 20:19-31, Doubting Thomas.

Have you ever struggled with doubts or questions about your faith? Do you sometimes feel that tough questions aren't acceptable to people of faith?

Even though Thomas was with Jesus for three years and witnessed amazing miracles first hand, he still needed evidence and first-hand observation before he could accept the Resurrection. Far from rebuking him, Jesus invited Thomas to do whatever was necessary to become convinced of the truth.

It is important to note that in spite of his misgivings, Thomas didn't leave the

group of believers, nor was he excluded by them. As a result, he was able to find the answers in the context of that early church.



This encounter with Thomas suggests that every seeker is welcome to bring his or her doubts to God. He delights in guiding our search for the truth and promised that the Spirit would aid those who seek it (John 16:13). God knows that many faithful people who probe their doubts and fears finally reach the truth - and faith in the truth is what Christ desires for us.

### Q What is required & to keep the Lord's Day holy?

Sunday - the Lord's Day - is the day of the week we set aside just for God. We gather at Mass to listen to his Word and take part in the Eucharist.



Our activities on Sunday should center around thanking God for our blessings and promise of salvation.

One of the best ways we can show God how much we love him is to show love to each other. Sunday is a great day to devote to the care of relatives and friends, which may be tough during the week. Performing works of mercy is also a fitting observation of the day.

Sunday is also a time for the reflection and meditation necessary for our spiritual growth. It can be the one day in the week during which we slow down and listen for the voice of our Father, and actually have a chance of hearing it.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**April 2 - St. Francis of Paola (1507).** After a pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome when he was thirteen, St. Francis became a hermit in a cave. Others joined him and formed the Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi. While he preferred solitude, St. Francis was called to active service and influenced international relations. He was canonized for blending active and contemplative service.

**April 4 - St. Isidore of Seville (636).** Born to a family of three other saints, St. Isidore succeeded his brother as archbishop of Seville. St. Isidore

established seminaries in every diocese, and founded schools that taught every branch of learning. Some of his writings helped shape the spiritual outlook of the Middle Ages.

**April 27 - Divine Mercy Sunday.** In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy." Jesus promised special graces to those who honor him as the King of Mercy and pray The Chaplet of Divine Mercy.



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