

MARCH 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Very Rev. Rob Adams, STL

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Adoration: Tuesday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

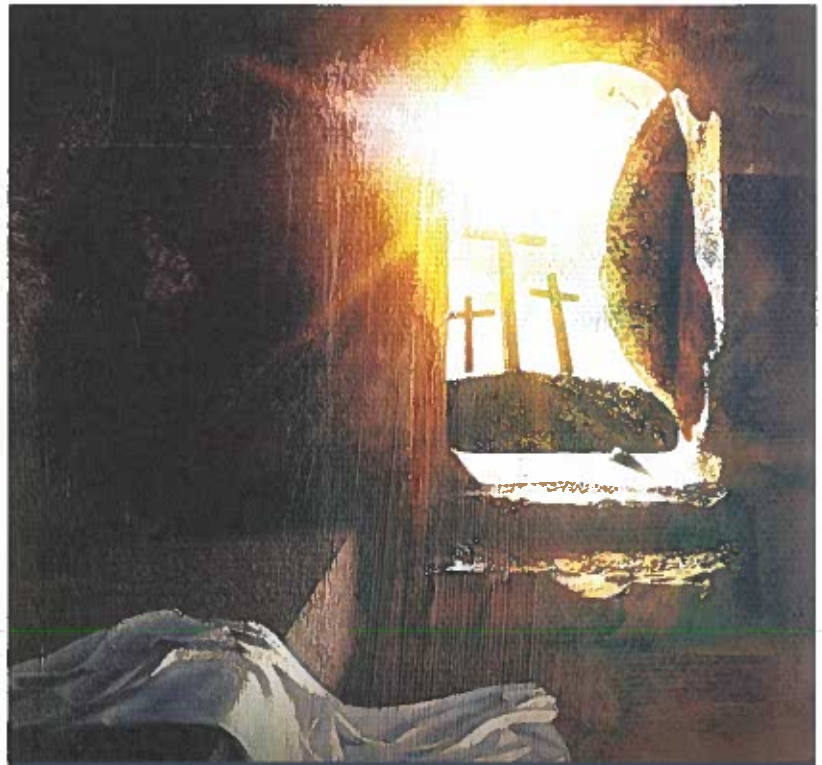
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

BAPTISM - 2 WEEKS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.

MARRIAGE PREP - 6 MONTHS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.



EASTER SUNDAY

He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. - Jn 20:5-7



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

03-24-2023.....\$
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
Surplus/Deficit.....\$

YTD
 Offertory.....\$118,333
 Budget.....\$102,600
Surplus/Deficit.....\$15,733

Totals will be updated in the
 04/07/2024 bulletin.



Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Colossians 3:1-4
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
John 20:1-9

On this day of days we offer a joyful sacrifice of praise to the Father who raised his Son from the dead. Let us be intent upon the life Christ offers us, Christ our Passover who has been sacrificed.

**Readings may be found
 in the Saint Augustine
 Hymnal Number 953**

Hello everyone,

Happy Easter! I want to congratulate Billy Lester on getting baptized and receiving the sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Billy has been very faithful to daily Mass and prayers, and I am so happy to see him become a Catholic!

This week is the Octave of Easter, also known as Bright Week. The holiness of the Easter celebration spills over into the whole week. Usually priests take this week off to rest, but I wanted to make Mass available for anyone who would like to come pray during this special time. Please note that we will not have Mass or Adoration on Tuesday the 2nd.

Fr. Rob

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, March 30	9:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass	For the People
Sunday, March 31	10:30 am Easter Mass	For the People
Monday, April 1	No Mass	
Tuesday, April 2	No Mass/No Adoration	
Wednesday, April 3	Noon Mass	For the Newly Baptized
Thursday, April 4	Noon Mass	For Vocations
Friday, April 5	Noon Mass	+Mark Cooper
Saturday, April 6	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Dody Ristrom
Sunday, April 7	10:30 am Mass 1:00 pm	For the People For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

LECTOR ROTATION - Below are the names and dates of the lector rotation.

03/31 David Hicks
 04/07 Russ Cassidy
 04/14 Doyle May

"If you cannot make your assigned date, feel free to contact a fill in for yourself or contact Sidney Cline at 606-424-8118".

UPDATE: Thank you for your prayers for Fayla Frix, Elon Justice Frix's sister in law. She received the liver transplant and is doing well. Please continue to pray for her recovery.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Outside Chicago, there is a small cemetery in the woods behind Mundelein Seminary, where I was a student. One night I was exploring it. I looked up and was shocked to see an imposing seventeen-foot angel towering over me and preparing to blow a trumpet. Adrenaline rushed through me. I gasped and uttered, "Oh my God!" Quickly I realized it was in fact a massive bronze statue. I tried to calm myself down. But it still freaked me out.

As we begin to celebrate Easter today, this image might seem a bit unnerving. But please recall that for the first disciples on the morning of the resurrection, it was precisely that. It wasn't joyful at first, it was terrifying. It wasn't peaceful, it was unsettling. In that Jerusalem cemetery, something otherworldly had happened. Angels announced that he was no longer dead, but alive. They had blown their trumpets, so to speak, and Jesus had risen. Soon the disciples' shock in that dark cemetery would turn into joy.

We all have our own places of the dead, too, don't we? Deceased loved ones. Our tired patterns of blame. Relationships stuck in resentment. Indifference to the poor. Lost dreams. Despair about our future. Fear of sickness and death. These are our "cemeteries" where we don't expect much to happen. Today we enter — if we dare — those places with the

disciples. See the mighty angel standing there, trumpet ready to blare! — Father John Muir ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

A Happy Ending Isn't the Whole Story

"Is there a happy ending?"

When my kids were young, we never made it past the first whiff of any narrative tension before I got this question. As soon as whatever princess or furry woodland animal who was the hero of the story got into any small scrape, they wanted that reassurance, "Is there a happy ending?"

I can't say I blame them. Don't we all feel that way sometimes? We enter into a relationship with someone or some situation, and we just want to protect ourselves. We want to know it's not going to go badly — or, if it does, that we will be able to come back from it. It's a human instinct, a reflex. Our inclination to protect ourselves makes it so that we sometimes want to press fast-forward on the bad stuff and skip straight ahead to the happily-ever-after.

Easter is the ultimate happy ending. It's the day of miracles. The day when all the stones roll away and all the sins are forgiven. It's the day that puts everything right.

But if we learned anything from this week — from the Passion and death of the Lord — it's that we can't press fast-forward on the hardships of life. That tension, that loss, that fear — it's crucial, isn't it? As Catholics, we are who we are because of Easter. But Easter doesn't happen without Good Friday.

So, does the story of salvation have a happy ending? We know it does. But we also remember that the ending isn't all that matters. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Terry Reed, cancer and kidney failure

Sharon Collins, cancer

Alex Wells, car accident

Sidney Tackett

Kayla Frix, Elon Justice Frix's sister in law, liver transplant

Wilson Vanzant, Lisa Scalf's stepdad

Sister Kathy Avery

Ransom McCoy, Lindsay May's dad

Jimmie Goss

Tim Deskins

Christine Misczenski, Steve Misczenski's mother

Melba Schmidt, Kenny Schmidt's mother

Ryan Altman, Helen Altman's grandson

Steve Misczenski, Sr. (cancer)

Erica Hunt, Lisa Scalf's friend (kidney failure)

John Fliehm, stroke

Wanda Baker

Jeffrey Scalf, Lisa's son

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Ron Saros

Kenny Blackburn

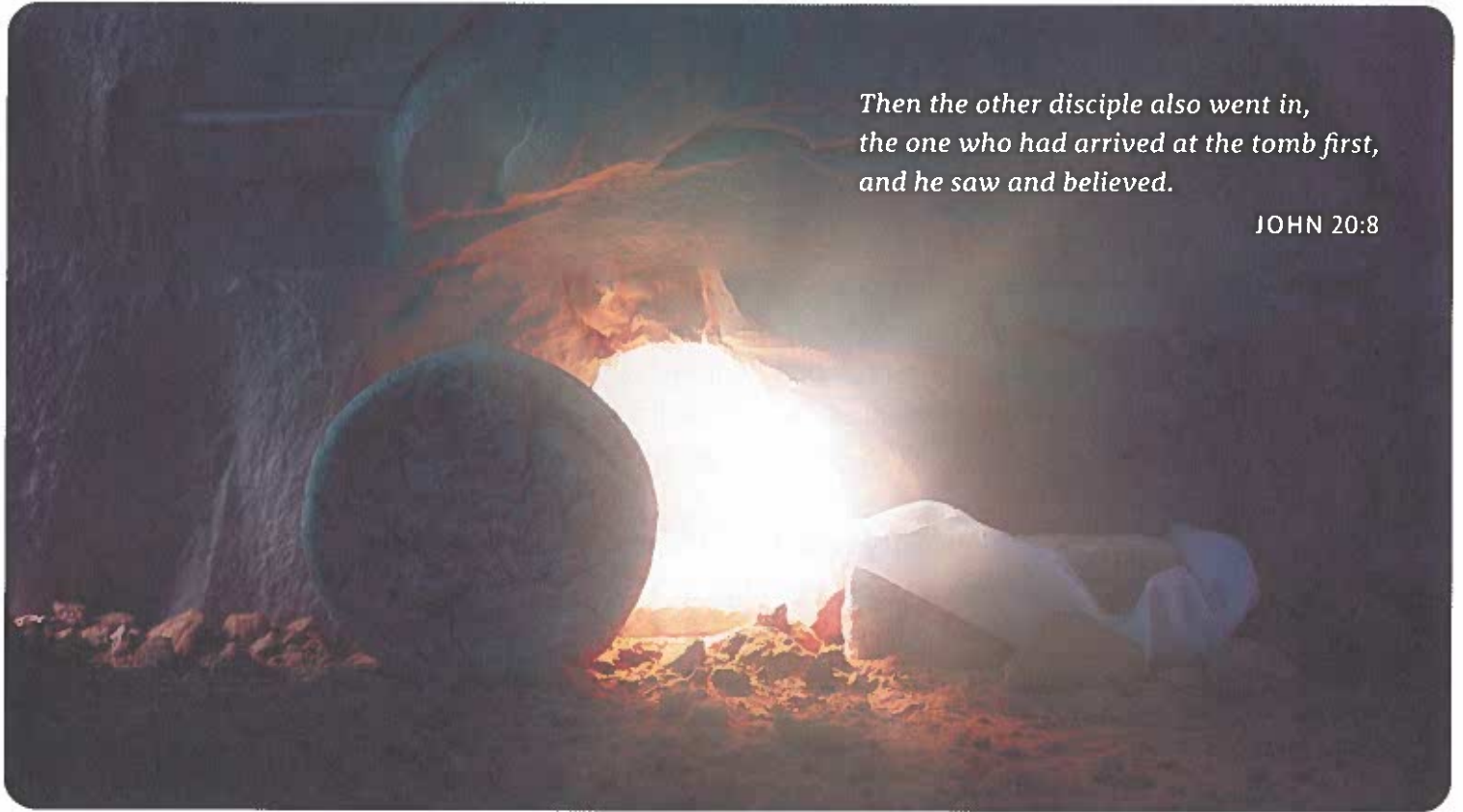
Helen Altman

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

VOTIVE CANDLES:

Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



*Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.*

JOHN 20:8

Life without a Blankie

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Faith can have the look of high dives and learning to ride a bike without training wheels and life without one's "blankie." All are confrontations with the specter of death asking us to have faith. From youth to old age, our lives seem to be laced with the loss of control, and unless we embrace such moments, not only will we never really grow up, neither will we ever become people of faith who live in the resurrection.

The Easter Gospels are about women and men who arrive at the tomb but hesitate going in; it is the home of death. Yet they become believers after they have entered that home of death and discover it to be abandoned. Over the years, I have become convinced that the only way to become a believer in the resurrection is to walk into the tomb yourself and there discover that where you thought death

was present now has been abandoned. That is the pattern of coming to faith.

Usually such moments do not have the look of faith. They tend to seem more akin to death than any promise of new life—like having to move to a new city or a new school, or abandoning an addiction, or confronting a problem through counseling, or aging, or grieving over lost love. They all can have the look of tombs yet they are also where we find the beginnings of new life. Risk it often enough and so discover new life, and we begin to believe in the reality of resurrection—Jesus' and ours. ●

Reflect

*Have you ever experienced life flowing
from what appeared to be a death?*

Dear Padre,

**Where did the idea of an Easter bunny come from?
What about the Easter egg?**

The Easter bunny is really a hare which, according to an Egyptian legend, is a symbol of the moon. Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs after the twenty-first day of March. Put this together, and we have an Easter bunny.

Early Christians gave new meaning to the Roman proverb *Omne vivum ex ovo*, which means, "All life comes from an egg." A hatching chick represented the risen Christ emerging from the shell of a tomb on Easter morning. Consequently, eggs were prohibited during the Lenten fast and were reintroduced at the Easter meal and also shared as decorated gifts. In 1610, a prayer by Pope Paul V blessed the egg "that it may become a wholesome sustenance to Thy faithful servants, eating in thankfulness to Thee, on account of the Resurrection of Our Lord."

In some parts of the world, children carry baskets and torches and sing Easter carols as they go from place to place. They are given brightly colored eggs to put in their baskets. In other places, eggs are carried to church and blessed by the priests. The eggs are taken home and placed in the center of the table as the main dish at the Easter feast. Visitors to the house during Easter week are offered this sacred food of the resurrection. Happy Easter! ●



SVETLANA MARTYNOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6	April 7
<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>
Acts 2:14, 22-33	Acts 2:36-41 Jn 20:11-18	Acts 3:1-10 Lk 24:13-35	Acts 3:11-26 Lk 24:35-48	Acts 4:1-12 Jn 21:1-14	Acts 4:13-21 Mk 16:9-15	<i>(Sunday of Divine Mercy)</i> Acts 4:32-35 1 Jn 5:1-6 Jn 20:19-31

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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

In the light of the Risen Lord, our sufferings are now transfigured. Where there was death, now there is life. Where there was mourning, now there is consolation. In embracing the cross, Jesus bestowed meaning on our sufferings and now we pray that the benefits of that healing will spread throughout the world.

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