

The Community of St. Joseph Cathedral & Holy Cross Church

St. Joseph Cathedral 212 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215 | 614-224-1295 **Holy Cross Church** 204 S. Fifth Street, Columbus, OH 43215 | 614-224-3416 www.sjchcc.org

"The tomb of Christ, who is living, The glory of Jesus' resurrection; bright angels attesting, The shroud and napkin resting.

Yes, Christ my hope is arisen; to Galilee he goes before you."

-Victimae paschali laudes

THE COMMUNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS CHURCH

- + Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes Bishop of Columbus
- + Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell Bishop Emeritus of Columbus
 - + Most Reverend James A. Griffin Bishop Emeritus of Columbus

PRIESTS Reverend JCP Sullivan

Cathedral Rector

Reverend Michael Hinterschied

Parochial Vicar

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SCHEDULING MASS INTENTIONS

One of the greatest acts of charity is to pray for the living and the dead, and the greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. Mass stipends (offerings) are \$10.00 each; only one offering per Mass. All Masses are scheduled by calling the Parish Office. Contact Cathedral office at 614-224-1295.

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS: APRIL

FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

MASS INTENTIONS

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

Sunday, April 21

9:00 a.m. Soul of Diane Sordelet

St. Joseph Cathedral

Sunday, April 21

10:30 a.m. Soul Ruth D. Infante (Leonelli)

12:30 p.m. Leo Heisler

5:15 p.m. The People of St. Joseph Cathedral

and Holy Cross Church

St. Joseph Cathedral

Monday, April 22

12:05 p.m. Darlene Thomas

Tuesday, April 23

12:05 p.m. Soul of Linda Sanchez Tello

Wednesday, April 24

12:05 p.m. Soul of Mark Sample

Thursday, April 25

12:05 p.m. Intention of Bishop James A. Griffin

Friday, April 26

12:05 p.m. Soul of Edward Milliner

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

Saturday, April 27

11:30 a.m. Soul of Warren Roberts

WEEKLY READINGS

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Easter

Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18

Monday, April 22, 2024

Acts 11:1-18; John 10:1-10

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 ~ St. George and St. Adalbert

Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 ~ Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Acts 12:24–13:5a; John 12:44-50

Thursday, April 25, 2024 ~ Saint Mark

1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20

Friday, April 26, 2024

Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Acts 13:44-52; John 14:7-14

THIS SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 21						
	HCC 9:00 a.m.	SJC 10:30 a.m.	SJC 12:30 p.m.	SJC 5:15 p.m.		
MC						
Altar Servers	TBA	Bonnie Maupin	Zachary Smith	Trevor Foley		
		Dan Jurgens	Antonio Tomasi	Nate Foley		
		Lisa Emrich	Laura Battocletti			
Lector - One	TBA	Fritz Hardin	Donna Lent	Josie Gonot		
Lector - Two	TBA	Ron Pizzuti	Lisa Ernst	Ed Huekel		
Eucharistic Minister	TBA	Ann Pizzuti	Marilyn Tomasi	Ed Huekel		
Hospitality/Ushers	ТВА	Steve Horner	Kevin Ernst	Robert Schoenfeld		
		Evelina Horner	Marilyn Tomasi	Linda Ruth		
		Pam Jurgens	Claire Viviano			
		Sandy Stover				

OUTREACH TO HELPING THE HOMELESS AND NEEDY IN DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS

Twice-Daily Food Distribution at Saint Joseph Cathedral ~ 614-224-1295
Saint Lawrence Haven, on the grounds of Holy Cross Church ~ Heather Swiger at hswiger@columbuscatholic.org
Joint Office for Inner-city Needs (J.O.I.N.) ~ 614-241-2530

SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL MUSIC

Office of Compline – 9:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the Month. The next one is May 5, 2024

OFFICES, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

For Diocesan Offices, please call 614-228-2457 during regular business hours or visit www.columbuscatholic.org.

LOW-GLUTEN* HOSTS will be served at All Masses. Worshippers can receive low-gluten Holy Communion from the center aisle

(please identify yourself) to the Celebrant. * Contains less than 0.01% gluten content & meets the standard set by the Holy See and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

St. Joseph Cathedral & Holy Cross Church Please Keep These Parishioners in Your Prayers

Tim Acton, John Ankrom, Ed Chong, Barbara Cicua, Christopher Clark, Dorothy Deems, Larry Edwards, Theresa Elliott, Peter Garrett's Mother, Robert & Peggy Halley, Edith Ingram, Dr. Lianna Goetz, Brittany Grinder, Kim Haring, Ruth Harper, Chris and Anna Katanyuta, Denise Lager, Teresa Mallon, Colleen Olson, Kathy Perkins, Marie Naseman, Maria Paras, Linda Pauley, The Pemberton Family, Maribeth Riepenhoff, John Ryan, Susan Bateman Severs, David Simmons, Sarah Stollenwerk, Sandra Valencia and James Worley

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS)

Please contact Carol at the Cathedra at 614-224-1295.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY (CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS)

Please email Mandy at weddings@saintjosephcathedral.org.

New Parishioner Registration For the Cathedral & Holy Cross

Welcome to Saint Joseph Cathedral, the Mother Church of the Diocese of Columbus! We are glad that you are here and invite you to become part of our parish family to be nourished by both Word and Sacrament, and also to become involved in one or more of our parish ministries. To become a registered member you can pick up a form by the main entrance of our historic church, visit our website, or contact us through the Parish Office. Welcome!

FUNERAL MINISTRY (CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS)

For parishioners who have died, the family should contact the rector at St. Joseph Cathedral at 614-224-1295 before meeting with the funeral director.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK (CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS)

Those wishing Holy Communion in the Home due to illness, confinement or visits to the hospital or nursing center, please call 614-224-1295.

Scripture Speaks: "I Am the Good Shepherd"

GAYLE SOMERS



Today, Jesus speaks of Himself as "the Good Shepherd," an identification that reaches back all the way to Moses and forward all the way to every bishop's staff. How?

Gospel (Read Jn 10:11-18)

In St. John's Gospel, after a long description of Jesus' healing of a man born blind (with all the disputation it caused among Jewish leaders) in the preceding chapter, Jesus begins speaking of Himself as "the Good Shepherd." Any Jew listening to this kind of talk would immediately be immersed in the vast Old

Testament context of God's relationship with shepherds. Recall that when He first appeared to Moses at the burning bush, Moses was shepherding a flock (see Ex 3:1). It was Moses' shepherd staff that God used as the focal point for many of the miraculous works He did in Egypt to convince Pharaoh to free His people.

Later, when it was time for a new king of Israel to be chosen, the prophet, Samuel, was directed to David, a mere shepherd boy. In spite of his youth, David's heart belonged to God, and he was willing to risk his life to defeat Goliath, the mighty Philistine warrior who taunted and terrified the men of Israel. When David lobbied hard to be allowed to undertake this dangerous mission, he drew on his experience of being a shepherd who defended his flock from wild animals: "The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine" (see 1 Sam 17:27).

David's courage came from his confidence in God; armed with only a shepherd's slingshot and five smooth stones, he defeated the giant of a man who had threatened to enslave all Israel (see 1 Sam 17:9). The five stones of David foreshadow the five wounds of Jesus (feet, hands, side) that defeated our terrifying enemy, the devil—the one who likewise sought to enslave all men.

Finally, during the time of the Exile, when the Jews experienced punishment in a foreign land for their covenant infidelity, God promised through the prophet, Ezekiel, that someday He Himself would shepherd His flock (see Ezek 34:11-16), leading them out of captivity and back to the green pastures of the Promised Land. God also promised to send His people another servant like David: "And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them...and be their shepherd" (see Ezek 34:23).

So, when Jesus announces, "I am the Good Shepherd," He is drawing on this rich Old Covenant preparation to identify Himself as the Divine ("I am" is God's Holy covenant Name) Son of David, who has come to care for God's flock. He will not only lead the flock but will also be willing to die for them. This is the true test of a shepherd's love! The "hired man" flees from that kind of devotion to the sheep; he is not willing to die for them. Jesus, however, says, "I lay down My life. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down on My own in order to take it up again." His enemies would soon appear to be taking His life from Him, as they arrest and crucify Him. Yet we know that Jesus could have called down a legion of angels to deliver Him, had He so desired. Instead, He freely gave His life so that the murderous assault against Him could be transformed into liberation for all men—not just for the Jews, but for all God's sheep, including those who "do not belong to this fold" (the Gentiles). This is the Good Shepherd for whom the whole world has been waiting.

Is it any wonder, then, that today's successors to those whom Jesus put in charge of God's flock after His departure (the Pope and bishops) carry the shepherd's staff? Jesus, the Good Shepherd, continues to speak to and guide God's flock, the Church, through them. This He does by a charism of the Holy Spirit. No human being can do a work like this on his own. However, by Jesus' commission, His apostles were to be in this world as He was. The sheep have not been left to fend for themselves. If we follow the shepherd's staff carried by the Pope and the bishops in union with him, we shall find green pasture for our souls. Possible response: Lord Jesus, help me remember that I am a sheep and You are the Shepherd, that I need to follow and not try to lead.

First Reading (Read Acts 4:8-12)

In this passage, we can see for ourselves that Jesus truly did give His own charism of leadership to the apostles He had chosen to be His presence in the world. Peter and John had just cured a cripple on their way to the Tempe to pray, and they got hauled before the Jewish authorities to explain themselves. Peter tells them that the miracle, although done through their human action, was accomplished "in the Name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified." It is in that Name alone that men find salvation, although the message of salvation (preaching the Gospel) and the means of it (baptism) are delivered through human agency, just as we find everywhere in the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter also reminds his accusers that they had rejected Jesus. He quotes from Psalm 118, which is a reflection on how God chooses to do His great work in the world by means of reversal. With God, things are not as they seem. Peter appropriately refers to his accusers as "builders," because, as administrators of the Temple in Jerusalem, they oversaw a lengthy construction project there that lasted many years. The "stone" they rejected, Jesus, actually became the "cornerstone" of the new Temple of His Body, the place of true communion between God and man.

It is interesting to ponder a similar rejection of a "stone" in our own Christian history. When Jesus gave the keys of the kingdom of His Church to Simon, changing his name to "Peter," or "rock," He said: "Upon this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (see Mt 16:18). Both our Orthodox and Protestant brothers in the faith have rejected this stone, at least for a time. Someday, all believers will recognize that the rejected "rock" of Peter has **always** been the cornerstone upon which Jesus kept His promise to protect His flock from wolves.

Possible response: Heavenly Father, sometimes I want to reject a "stone" upon which You want to build something in my life. Help me be willing to slow down and take a second look.

Psalm (Read Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29)

The psalmist reflects upon the goodness, mercy, and kindness of the LORD. God gives His flock safe refuge; He answers the cry of those who call upon Him. He is the One who works wonders of reversal in the world's history: "The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone." The Jews rejected Jesus because, although a man, He called Himself by God's own Name: "I am." How could an ordinary human being be God? Interestingly, in verses not included in today's Gospel reading, the Jews were outraged by Jesus' claim to be Israel's Good Shepherd: "There was a division among the Jews because of these words. Many of them said, 'He has a demon, and He is mad; why listen to Him?" [Similar things have been said about the Church's claim that Peter's successor, the Pope, is the Vicar of Christ, speaking with His Voice in matters of dogma and morals.]

Nevertheless, the psalmist understands that God takes the "wisdom" of this world and stands it on its head: "By the LORD has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes."

Possible response: The psalm is, itself, a response to our other readings. Read it again prayerfully to make it your own.

Second Reading (Read 1 Jn 3:1-2)

When we absorb our other readings today, are we not ready to say with St. John in this epistle: "See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God"? To be in God's flock, to be one of the sheep for whom Jesus died, is to be lifted up out of this world, even though we are still in it. It is to sink our roots down deep into the reality of God's reversals. Here, St. John touches on another topsy-turvy truth, one that defies all imagination: "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." Did ever a sheep expect to become like the Shepherd? "By the LORD has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes" (Ps 118:23).

Possible response: Lord Jesus, I know that You are shepherding me toward a transformation into perfect Love, as You are Yourself. I barely know how to thank You for this. Words fail.

image: By Stained glass: Alfred Handel, d. 1946[2], photo: Toby Hudson [CC BY-SA 3.0] or GFDL], from Wikimedia Commons

Rejoice, It's Still Easter!

CHRISTINA M. SORRENTINO



"Yes, Christ is truly risen, and we are witnesses of this. We proclaim this witness to the world, so that the joy which is ours will reach countless other hearts, kindling in them the light of the hope which does not disappoint." — St. John Paul II. 2000

Good news! Easter didn't end on Sunday. As Catholics, we celebrate Christ's Resurrection for an entire seven-week liturgical season. (One week longer than our season of Lenten penitence and preparation!) I encourage you to bask in the joy and light of the Resurrection for the whole 50-day season this year.

This time of joy, "kindling...in the light of hope," recalling the miraculous event of our Lord's triumph over sin and death begins with the Easter Octave, from Easter Sunday to Divine Mercy Sunday, and continues until Pentecost Sunday.

We begin the season with the Easter Vigil, held on the evening of Holy Saturday. It is the Liturgy of all Liturgies beginning with the lighting of the Easter fire in the darkness. Catholics around the world celebrate this most solemn day of the Resurrection, which is central to Christianity. Without the Resurrection, all other aspects of the faith fall apart. After the Paschal candle is lit, everyone else lights their tapers one by one until the entire church is aglow, representing the Light of Christ spreading throughout the world. My favorite part of the Easter Vigil is chanting the Exsultet, the Easter Proclamation. It has always been my favorite part of the Mass because of the beautiful imagery contrasting light and darkness, as illustrated in the following verse:

Therefore, O Lord, we pray you that this candle, hallowed to the honor of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven.¹

The last day of the Easter Octave is marked by Divine Mercy Sunday which presents Catholics with the opportunity to receive a plenary indulgence—one of two types of indulgences.² This type removes *all* temporal punishment due to sin, while a partial indulgence only removes *some* of the temporal punishment.

It is important to understand that an indulgence is a "remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven." (CCC 1471) Indulgences are unlike confession in that they pertain to the effects of sins that have already been forgiven. The Church teaches that these sins, though forgiven by God, leave a temporal effect or "stain" on the soul. The temporal punishment which indulgences remit is this temporary stain left on the soul due to past sin.

According to The Gift of The Indulgence published by the Apostolic Penitentiary, a plenary indulgence can be gained by:

- Being in a state of grace, completely detached from sin (even venial sin)
- Receiving the Sacrament of Confession
- Receiving the Eucharist
- Praying for the intentions of the Pope³

However, Fr. Chris Alar of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception explains how an indulgence granted on Divine Mercy Sunday is unique. To gain this indulgence, a Catholic must receive the Sacrament of Confession before or during the weekend of Divine Mercy Sunday as well as receive Holy Communion during Divine Mercy weekend. Fr. Chris explains that

Jesus extends a special grace to His Church on Divine Mercy Sunday and grants "freedom from all sin and punishments" without completing the other requirements necessary for receiving all other indulgences. Such a wealth of mercy!

So, beyond attending Easter Mass and preparing to receive the indulgence offered on Divine Mercy Sunday, how can we best celebrate Easter throughout the whole season?

I would encourage you to take time each day to reflect on the meaning of Christ's Resurrection and its significance in our lives and for all of humanity. Whether first thing in the morning, on your drives throughout the day, or perhaps before bed, I recommend meditating on Easter-related passages from Scripture and from the saints.

One passage worthy for meditation, from an Easter sermon from St. Vincent Ferrer, encourages us to rejoice and reflect:

But the greatest of all [feast days] is Easter Day, the day of the Lord's Resurrection, because today assurance was given to us to obtain eternal and immortal life in soul and body. Christ gave it to us through His Resurrection, which is the cause and the assurance of our resurrection.⁵

St. Vincent points out the connection between Christ's Resurrection and our own. Christ's Resurrection won for us the "assurance of our resurrection"—without His, ours would not exist. He opened the gates of heaven, and they will not be closed again. That is our assurance. But what does our resurrection mean? Ours is the renewal and perfection of the body and the soul, or as St. Vincent puts it, the ability "to obtain eternal and immortal life in soul and body." Our resurrection comes when we are perfected in our souls by growing in holiness with God during this life and afterwards through Purgatory, if needed, as well as in our bodies at the Second Coming. We will be united body and soul at the end of time, and both will be perfected by this very victory of Christ's Resurrection. It is only through Him, through His sacrifice and victory, and through our intentional participation in it that we are "assured of our resurrection."

It is our invitation to accept. It is our victory to share in. Therefore, this Easter season, through your prayerful meditations, ponder how Christ is calling you to prepare for and accept this gift of your resurrection and how He wants you to share in His own right now.

Photo by Bruno van der Kraan on Unsplash

¹United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. (n.d.). Easter Proclamation (Exsultet). Retrieved April 4, 2024, from https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/easter-proclamation-exsultet

²Catholic Exchange. (n.d.). What is a Plenary Indulgence? Retrieved April 4, 2024, from https://catholicexchange.com/what-is-a-plenary-indulgence/

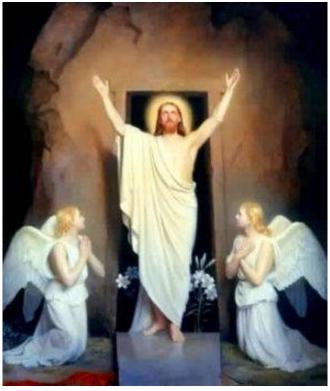
³Vatican. (2000, January 29). Apostolic Penitentiary: The Gift of the Indulgence. Retrieved April 4, 2024, from https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/tribunals/apost_penit/documents/rc_trib_appen_pro_20000129_indulgence_en.html

⁴EWTN. (n.d.). How to Obtain the Unique Plenary Indulgence Jesus Offers on Divine Mercy Sunday. Retrieved April 4, 2024, from https://ewtn.co.uk/chpop-how-to-obtain-the-unique-plenary-indulgence-jesus-offers-on-divine-mercy-sunday/

⁵St. Vincent Ferrer Priory. (n.d.). B009: The Divine Mercy Devotion. Retrieved April 4, 2024, from https://www.svfsermons.org/B009 %20Easter2.htm

How can We Celebrate the Easter Season More Fully?

ROMAN CATHOLIC SPIRITUAL DIRECTION



Dear Father John.

The wonderful season of Easter is upon us. Lent has been a great time to prepare for the victory of the cross over death. Thank-you Jesus Christ, Holy Redeemer. What are appropriate things we can do to celebrate Easter, especially for the entire season?

I love this question! Ever since I was ordained, I have been struck every year by the decrease in daily Mass attendance as soon as Lent ends. I am not trying to say that everyone is obliged to go to Mass on a daily basis (though it's certainly not a bad idea, if you can work it out), but I often wonder if the benefits of our Lenten spiritual disciplines are sometimes eviscerated by our Easter laxity. Lent, after all, is only six weeks long, while the liturgical season of Easter lasts for eight weeks. What would happen if we lived the Easter season with as much fervor as we live Lent? Your question gives us a chance to reflect on this.

The Color of Easter

Every liturgical season has its color – both physically (violet for Lent, white for Easter, for example, as shown in the sacred vestments used for Mass), but also spiritually. Trying to echo in our own spiritual lives the color of the seasons is a wise practice. For the saints, it happens almost without thinking – they are simply in tune with the spiritual rhythms of the Church. For the rest of us, a concerted effort can help.

The color of Easter is joy, the joy of the definitive victory. Christ has taken all sin and evil into his own soul, in a sense, and done away with it. God's mercy has shown itself infinitely stronger than the devil's poison. This is the message so beautifully expressed when the Easter Sequence, sung before the Gospel, is read for the Mass of Our Lord's Resurrection.

What can we do to color our spiritual lives with Easter joy during this liturgical season? I will offer three suggestions, but I also invite our readers to share their own personal and family traditions, and any experiences that have helped them make this season fruitful for growing in holiness.

Liturgical Connection

First, stay connected to the liturgy. The readings for daily Mass during Easter take us on an exciting journey through the Last Supper discourse and through the amazing and frightening experience of the early Church. We should spend time reading commentaries about these biblical passages, meditating on them, and allowing God to speak to our hearts through them. The main message of the liturgical readings throughout Easter is that Christ is still among us, even after his Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension, and he is among us precisely through his Church. I always find it deeply encouraging to read a book or two about the history of the Church, or about the life of a saint, during Easter. It reminds me that my own Christian journey is a part of a much bigger story, and that I am not alone in my defeats and victories.

Rejoice!

Second, find ways to rejoice. This time of year, tends to be quite busy – especially if you have kids in school. Make a point of doing some things that you enjoy. Just as in Lent we denied ourselves some legitimate delights as a way to unite ourselves to Christ's self-sacrifice, so during Easter we should intentionally enjoy the good things of life, as a way to unite ourselves to Christ's victory and triumph. We always have a victory celebration when our team wins the championship – well, Jesus has won the eternal championship, and we are on his team; we need to celebrate that.

Obviously, I am not recommending that you dive into sinful pleasures, or that you over-indulge in self-centered activities. But I am recommending that we intentionally look for ways to rejoice, to enjoy God's goodness such that joy overflows from our spirits, into our emotions, and even into our bodies. Why not make Sunday lunch a truly festive occasion for your family and friends every Sunday of Easter (different family members can be in charge of the menu each week)? Why not make a special trip or two to your favorite museum or take some extra time to enjoy your favorite music or a favorite author? Why not carve out some extra time during Easter for your whole family, or a few of you, to enjoy some activities that you haven't had a chance to do for a long time? Why not reflect Easter joy in your wardrobe when you go to work (tastefully, of course)? If we surround these activities with a spiritual and prayerful intention – celebrating Christ's victory – they become more than vacation activities; they become means of worship. God rejoices to see his children rejoice.

Spread the Light

Third, reach out. Jesus taught us that "there is more joy in giving than receiving" (Acts 20:35). Like the candlelight service during the Easter Vigil, we can share with others the light of Christ's victory that we have received, and roll back the tattered shadows of the kingdom of darkness. Renewing our efforts to bring others closer to Christ, to help others who are in need – those close to us or those far away – can color our lives with Easter joy, if we season those efforts with prayer and faith. Christians should smile more during Easter, because true joy draws forth joy.

I hope these thoughts will inspire you to make some Easter resolutions. Why should Lent be the only time we make resolutions? God has graces in store for us this season, just as he did during Lent. We only need to keep our eyes peeled so that we don't miss them.

What "Easter resolutions" have helped you in the past? Let us know!

+

Art for this post on the season of Easter: *Resurrection of Christ*, Carl Heinrich Bloch, 1875, PD-US author's life plus 100 years or less, Wikimedia Commons.

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

"What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?" ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit.

"It is because of faith that we exchange the present for the future."
+SAINT FIDELIS OF SIGNARINGEN

Monday, April 22 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter

Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10 Jesus said: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers." Although Jesus used this figure of speech, they did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

Meditation: One can legitimately ask what shepherding can teach us about God and our relationship with him. At the end of each day the shepherd brought his sheep into shelter. They knew the voice of their shepherd and came at his beckoning. So familiar was the shepherd and his sheep, that each was called by a distinct name. In the winter the sheep were usually brought to a communal village shelter which was locked and kept secure by a guardian. In the summer months the sheep were usually kept out in the fields and then gathered into a fold at night which was guarded by a shepherd throughout the night. He was literally the door through which the sheep had to pass. The scriptures describe God as a shepherd who brings security and peace to his people. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore (Psalm 120:8). Even the leaders of God's people are called shepherds: they shall lead them out and bring them in; that the congregation of the Lord may not be as sheep which have no shepherd (Numbers 27:17). Just as a shepherd kept watch over his sheep and protected them from danger, so Jesus stands watch over his people as the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls (1 Peter 2:25). Do you know the peace and security of a life fully submitted to God?

Prayer: O God, perfect light of the blessed, by whose gift we celebrate the paschal mysteries on earth, bring us, we pray, to rejoice in the full measure of your grace for ages unending. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The Old Testament often speaks of God as "shepherd" of his people, Israel. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want (Psalm 23:1). Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! (Psalm 80:1) We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture (Psalm 100:3). The Messiah is also pictured as the shepherd of God's people: He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arms (Isaiah 40:11). Jesus says he is the Good Shepherd who will risk his life to seek out and save the stray sheep (Matthew 18:12, Luke 15:4). He is the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls (1 Peter 2:25). Saint Augustine wrote: "He has accomplished what he taught us: He has shown us what He commanded us to do. He laid down his own life for his sheep, that within our mystery he might change his body and blood into food, and nourish the sheep he had redeemed with the food of his own flesh. He has shown us the way we must follow, despite fear of death. He has laid down the pattern to which we must conform ourselves." So ask yourself: Do you look to Jesus the Good Shepherd, to receive the strength and courage you need to live and serve as his disciple?

Tuesday, April 23 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adelbert, Bishop and Martyr

Holy Gospel: John 10:22-30 The feast of the Dedication was taking place in Jerusalem. It was winter. And Jesus walked about in the temple area on the Portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you and you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify to me. But you do not believe, because you are not among my sheep. My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Meditation: Saint Cyril, a Father of the Church, comments on Jesus as our Good Shepherd: "He shows in what manner a shepherd may be proved good; and He teaches that he must be prepared to give up his life fighting in defense of his sheep, which was fulfilled in Christ. For man has departed from the love of God, and fallen into sin, and because of this was, I say, excluded from the divine abode of paradise, and when he was weakened by that disaster, he yielded to the devil tempting him to sin, and death following that sin he became the prey of fierce and ravenous wolves. But after Christ was announced as the True Shepherd of all men, He laid down his life for us (1 John 3:16), fighting for us against that pack of inhuman beasts. He bore the Cross for us, that by His own death he might destroy death. He was condemned for us, that He might deliver all of us from the sentence of punishment: the tyranny of sin being overthrown by our faith: fastening to the Cross the decree that stood against us, as it is written (Colossians 2:14). Therefore as the father of sin had as it were shut up the sheep in hell, giving them to death to feed on, as it is written in the psalms (Ps. XIviii.16), He died for us as truly Good, and truly our Shepherd, so that the dark shadow of death driven away He might join us to the company of the blessed in heaven; and in exchange for abodes that lie far in the depths of the pit, and in the hidden places of the sea, grant us mansions in His Father's House above. Because of this he says to us in another place: Fear not, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you a kingdom (Luke 12:32)."

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, celebrating the mysteries of the Lord's Resurrection, we may merit to receive the joy of our redemption. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer ~ **Saint George:** Extolling your might, O Lord, we humbly implore you, that, as Saint George imitated the Passion of the Lord, so he may lend us ready help in our weakness. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Prayer ~ Saint Adelbert: O God, who bestowed the crown of martyrdom on the Bishop Saint Adalbert, as he burned with zeal for souls, grant, we pray, by his prayers, that the obedience of the block may never fail the shepherds, nor the care of the shepherds be ever lacking to the flock. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus promises the security of peace and protection from evil and the greatest harm that could befall us – eternal destruction. The Lord does not spare us from all trouble. In this life we will experience pain, suffering, sickness, and death. But through these the Lord will lead us to ultimate victory and safety in his everlasting home. Even in the midst of our sufferings we can find a peace and security which no one can give except God alone. We can confidently follow the Lord wherever he leads, trusting that nothing can keep us from God <u>if</u> we trust in him. Which begs the question: Have you placed your life securely in God where it belongs?

Wednesday, April 24 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr

Holy Gospel: John 12:44-50 Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in the one who sent me, and whoever sees me sees the one who sent me. I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness. And if anyone hears my words and does not observe them, I do not condemn him, for I did not come to condemn the world but to save the world. Whoever rejects me and does not accept my words has something to judge him: the word that I spoke, it will condemn him on the last day, because I did not speak on my own, but the Father who

sent me commanded me what to say and speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. So what I say, I say as the Father told me."

Meditation: God does not leave us in our ignorance and unbelief. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit he helps us to grow in faith, knowledge and understanding of his word. Saint Augustine summed up rather succinctly our need for God's help in the following prayer: "God our Father, we find it difficult to come to you, because our knowledge of you is imperfect. In our ignorance we have imagined you to be our enemy; we have wrongly thought that you take pleasure in punishing our sins; and we have foolishly conceived you to be a tyrant over human life. But since Jesus came among us, he has shown that you are loving, and that our resentment against you was groundless." Do you want to know more of God and his transforming love? Look to Jesus, the Light of God, and in his truth you will find joy, freedom, and wholeness of mind, body and soul.

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, putting off our old self with all its ways, we may live as Christ did, for through the healing paschal remedies you have conformed us to his nature. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer ~ Saint Fidelis: O God, who were pleased to award the palm of martyrdom to Saint Fidelis as, burning with love for you, he propagated the faith, grant, we pray, through his intercession, that, grounded in charity, we may merit to know with him the power of the Resurrection of Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: To see Jesus is to see God. To hear his words is to hear the voice of God. He is the very light of God that has power to overcome the darkness of sin, ignorance, and unbelief. God's light and truth brings healing, pardon, and transformation. This light is not only for the chosen people of Israel, but for the whole world as well. Jesus warns that if we refuse his word or take it lightly, we choose to remain in spiritual darkness. Jesus made it clear that he did not come to condemn us, but rather to bring abundant life and freedom from the oppression of sin, ignorance and evil. We condemn ourselves when we reject God's wisdom and truth. It is one thing to live in ignorance due to lack of knowledge, but another thing to disdain those who teach us true wisdom and knowledge. Jesus says that his word which we have heard will be our judge. Do you believe that God's word has power to change and transform your life?

Thursday, April 25 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter Saint Mark, Evangelist

Holy Gospel: Mark 16:15-20 Jesus appeared to the Eleven and said to them: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents with their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." Then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.

Meditation: Ask yourself: "Lord, what are you saying to me in these scripture passages?" Need some inspiration? Think about this. Saint Mark the Evangelist is honored today. Each of the four gospel accounts gives us a portrait of Jesus, His mission and teaching. Each is different in style, length, and emphasis. But they all have a common thread and purpose -- the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. When the Lord Jesus departed physically from the Apostles, they were not left in sorrow or grief. Instead, they were filled with joy and with great anticipation for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' last words to His Apostles point to His saving mission and to their mission to be witnesses of His saving death and His glorious resurrection and to proclaim the good news of salvation to all the world. God's love and gift of salvation is not just for a few, or for a single nation -- it is for the whole world, and for all who will accept it. The Gospel guides us, inspires us, enlightens us, challenges our way of thinking and our ways of life and invites us to share in the life of Christ. Do you believe in the power of the Gospel teachings - the power to inspire us to conform our lives to Christ?

Prayer: O God, who raised up Saint Mark, your Evangelist, and endowed him with the grace to preach the Gospel, grant, we pray, that we may so profit from his teaching as to follow faithfully in the footsteps of Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: This is the great commission which the risen Christ gives to the whole church. All believers have been given a share in this task -- to be heralds of the good news and be living witnesses to

the teachings of Jesus Christ. We have not been left alone in this task, for the risen Lord works in and through us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Today we witness a new Pentecost as the Lord pours out his Holy Spirit upon his people to renew and strengthen the body of Christ and to equip it for effective ministry and mission world-wide. Do I give adequate reflection on God's Word and how these timeless teachings have an application in my daily life? Am I a living witness to others the joy of the Gospel and the hope of the resurrection? If not, why not? What must I do to conform my life to Christ, and join in the mission of Christ and His Apostles?

Friday, April 26 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter

Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6 Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Meditation: The Lord Jesus came to fulfill God's promise to bring his people, not simply to a land flowing with milk and honey, but to a restored paradise and new creation where we can dwell with God in perfect peace and unity. That is why Jesus proclaims, I am the way, and the truth, and the life.<> Jesus does not simply give advice and direction. He personally is the Way, and we cannot miss it. Through his life-giving word and Spirit, Jesus leads and guides us personally every day. The Lord Jesus also is the Truth. Many can say "I have taught you the truth." But folks, only Jesus can say "I am the Truth." Moral truth cannot be conveyed by words alone; it must be conveyed also by example. Jesus embodies the truth in his person. Jesus also is the Life. He not only shows us the path of life (Psalm 16:11); he gives the kind of life which only God can give – abundant life which never fails nor ends. Is there any fear or trouble that keeps you from the perfect peace and happiness of a life surrendered to Jesus Christ as an authentic disciple?

Prayer: O God, author of our freedom and of our salvation, listen to the voice of our pleading and grant that those you have redeemed by the shedding of your Son's Blood may have life through you and, under your protection, rejoice for ever unharmed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: As much as we try to avoid it, inevitably we encounter trouble and difficulties that are hard to endure. Life is not a bowl of cherries, nor is it a bed of roses – cherries have pits, and roses have thorns. Jesus knew his disciples would have to face trials and persecution after he left them to return to his Father in heaven. Adversity can make us lose hope and become discouraged, <u>or</u> it can press us closer to God and to his promises. "It is the Lord who goes before you; he will be with you, he will not fail you or forsake you; do not fear or be dismayed" (Deuteronomy 31:8). Just as God went ahead of the Israelites in the wilderness to lead them safely to the promised land, Jesus tells his disciples that he is going ahead to prepare a place for them in God's house – a place of refuge, peace, and security, and everlasting happiness. The greatest fear in this present life – whether it be the separation and loss of life to a loved one or the threat to one's own life – is put to rest by Jesus' promise that we will live forever with him and the Father in their heavenly home.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2024



TAKING PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH AND HOLY CROSS

BANNS OF MARRIAGE: St. Joseph Cathedral & Holy Cross happily announces the coming nuptials of Leksi Murnieks & Dylan Van Tassell on April 27, 2024 and Renee Landis & Matt DiCesare on May 18, 2024 at the Cathedral. Please keep them in prayer as they prepare for their weddings.

LITTLE LARRY SANDWICH MAKING AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH On April 21st after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, we will be making sandwiches for St. Lawrence Haven. Join us!

Volunteers are needed to assist with coffee making and setting up for Fellowship Sundays. Please contact Ed Hueckel at Emmett2381@yahoo.com.

WE INVITE YOU TO BE PART OF THE BEAUTIFUL LITURGIES AT ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS CHURCH. Consider joining the Liturgical Ministry Volunteers as altar servers, lectors, and hospitality ministers. Please fill out a form in the sacristy or email the form to JP at sjcministryscheduler@gmail.com.

CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS BIBLE STUDY: The Bible Study meets every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral in the Undercroft. There is interest in having a daytime Bible Study as well. If you are interested in joining either session, please contact Carol at 614-224-1295 or at cathedral@sichcc.org.

IN, AROUND AND NEAR THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

TOUR DAY AT THE JOSEPHINUM – The Pontifical College Josephinum welcomes you to its Annual Tour Day on Saturday, April 27, from Noon-3:00 p.m. Learn about the fascinating history and unique mission of the only Pontifical seminary outside of Italy as you explore the Josephinum's grounds, main administration building, and Saint Turibius Chapel. Tours will highlight many beautiful characteristics of this historic 1931 structure, including extensive woodwork, stained glass windows, terrazzo floors, intricate brickwork, and sacred art. Register online at apps.pcj.edu/tourday2024.

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON – Friday, May 3, 2024 – Speaker, Fr. Steven Beseau. Join us at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a Luncheon featuring a talk by Fr. Steven Beseau, President/Rector of the Josephinum, on the Status of the Josephinum. The May Luncheon is sponsored by Jim Flaherty. If you are interested in sponsoring a Luncheon, contact Pat Foley at foleyp513@gmail.com. Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Fr. Beseau's presentation. No reservations are necessary. \$12.00 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! Our final Luncheon before the summer break is Friday, June 7, 2024, and will feature Patrick Madrid, who will give a talk entitled, "Ten Recent Discoveries That Point to the Existence of God." Mark your calendar now so you don't miss it!



MISSION FOR PEACE – May 31-June 4, 2024 – The Dominican Sisters of Peace invite single, Catholic women, ages 18-45, to attend a no-cost "Mission for Peace" prayer and service immersion program, designed to help women explore contemporary Dominican life. Experience Dominican PRAYER, enjoy a behind-the-scenes glimpse of COMMUNITY LIFE with our Sisters, engage in SERVICE to the local community, and reflect on God's call and PURPOSE for your life. This five-day service program begins at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 31, and concludes at Noon, Tuesday, June 4, at the Dominicans Sisters of Peace Motherhouse, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus, Ohio. For more information, call, or text Sister Mai-dung Nguyen at 405-248-7027 or email mai-dung.nguyen@oppeace.org.

Job Opportunity at the Josephinum: The Pontifical College Josephinum seminary seeks a full-time Database Administrator for the Advancement Department. This position is responsible for maintaining accurate database records as well as providing support to the Advancement Office through the generation of lists, reports, and mailings. Secondary responsibilities include communications and event support. Applicants must have knowledge of fundraising fundamentals and Microsoft Word/ Excel, as well as experience using a customer relationship managing database, preferably Raiser's Edge by Blackbaud. Visit pcj.edu/jobopportunity for a detailed description of this position and how to apply.



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SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL Updated April 15, 2024 2023 Appeal Report

Goal established by the Diocese	\$ 42,645.24
TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE	\$ 66,288.60
Exceeds Diocesan Goal by	\$ 23,643.36

Thank you all for your Generosity and may God bless you.



HOLY CROSS CHURCH Updated April 15, 2024 2023 Appeal Report

Goal established by the Diocese	\$ 21,018.43
Enhanced Goal	\$ 26,018.43
TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE	\$ 27,168.43
EXCEEDS ENHANCED GOAL BY	\$ 1,150.00

Thank you all for your Generosity and may God bless you.

OFFERTORY FOR SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL APRIL 15

\$ 1,500.50
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\$ 2,112.50
(330.80)
\$ 3,804.20
\$ 181.00
\$ 181.00
\$ \$ \$

OFFERTORY FOR HOLY CROSS APRIL 15

	,	
Offertory	\$	1,133.00
Mail-in	\$	565.00
Credit Card	\$	410.00
Repair/mail-in	\$	450.00
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Net to Parish	\$	2,353.36
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- 3. Schedule your recurring Sunday Offertory gifts.
- 4. Scroll down the alphabetical listing to **The Appeal** and make your recurring gift.



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