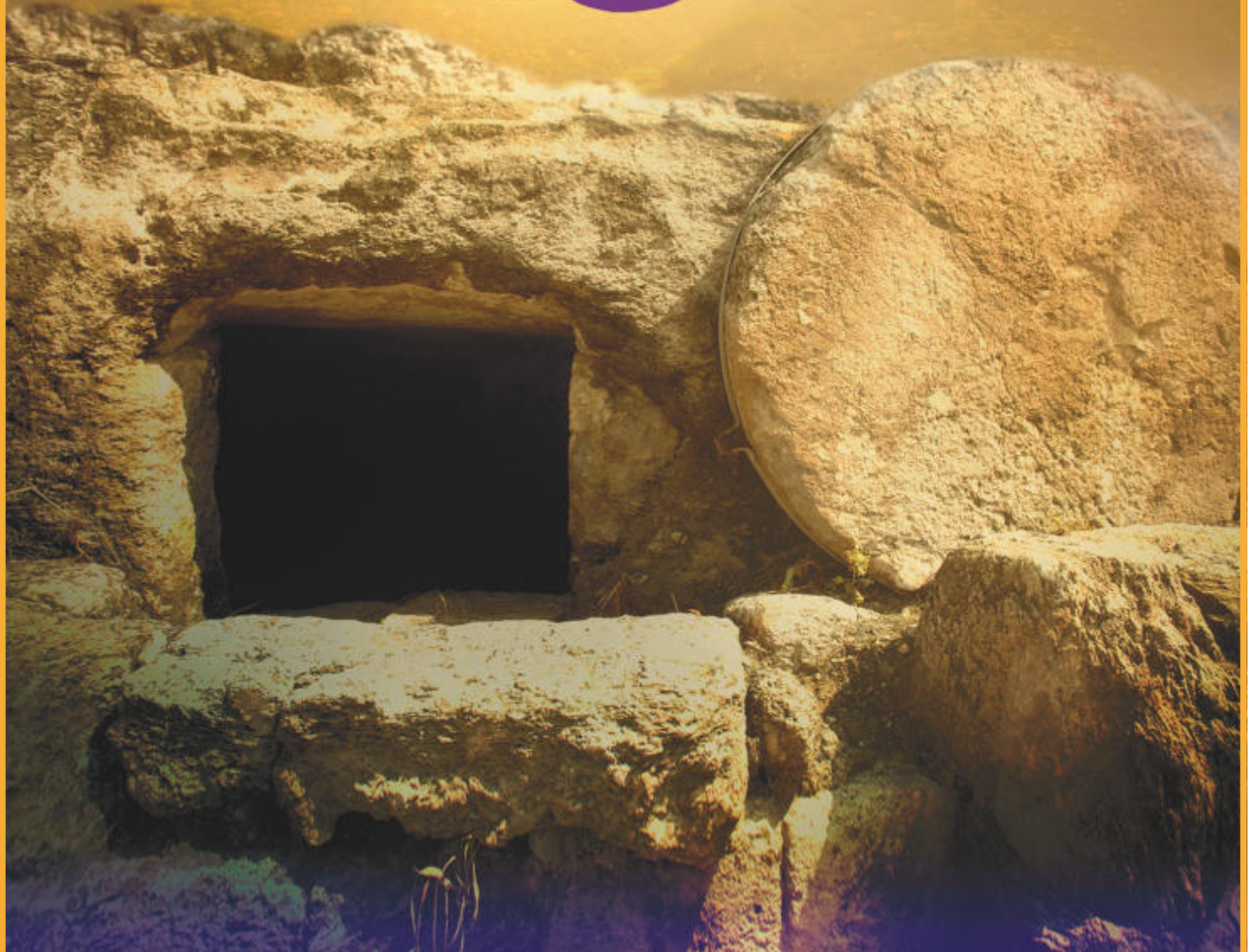


EASTER SUNDAY

the
Resurrection
of the
Lord



Readings for the Week of April 21, 2019

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12 or Lk 24:13-35
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22 5b/Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118: 1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a [22]/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19 -21 [21a]/Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31



Signs and Symbols of the Easter Feast Day

The Easter Bunny ~ Rabbits were common in pre-Christian fertility lore, where they symbolized the abundance of new life associated with spring. The ancient German goddess Ostara, for whom the German spring festival Ostern was named, was always accompanied by a hare, who may have been the precursor of the modern Easter Bunny. In any case, the association of the rabbit with Easter is probably the vestige of an ancient spring fertility rite.

Although rabbits and hares (their European cousins, with shorter ears and longer hind legs) have never had any connection to Christian religious symbolism, the Easter Bunny's role in the celebration of Easter is an important one, particularly for children. It is the Easter Bunny who lays the eggs that children hunt for on Easter morning, and who fills their Easter baskets with candy. Bunnies made out of pastry and sugar are popular in many European countries, while American children look forward to receiving chocolate or marshmallow rabbits.

The Easter Bunny came to America by way of the 18th Century German settlers, who referred to him as "Oschter Haws." Pennsylvania Dutch children prepared nests for this shy creature in a secluded corner or sheltered place in the garden or barn. On Easter Eve, the rabbit would lay his colored eggs in these nests, or in the caps and bonnets that children left out for him. The custom of leaving out an empty Easter basket didn't come along until later.

In Germany, the Easter Bunny lays red eggs on **MAUNDY THURSDAY** (or Holy Thursday) and eggs of other colors on Easter Eve. In Panama, it's the *conejo* or "painted" rabbit who lays the eggs. He has smaller ears than his U.S. counterpart and is brown with white spots, similar to the markings of a fawn.

Some religious purists believe that the Easter Bunny has done to Easter what the cult of Santa Claus has done to **CHRISTMAS**. Others prefer to regard the rabbit emerging from his underground burrow as akin to Christ rising from His tomb on Easter morning. But no one has yet come up with a good explanation for why a rabbit would lay eggs.



~ Easter Sunday ~ Encounter the Risen Christ

We prayed, fasted, and gave alms - and now we celebrate Easter joy! Our Lenten journey with the Rice Bowl challenges us as we encounter our Risen Lord to bring the hope of Resurrection to a world in need. Your almsgiving changed lives this Lent. Thank you for your generosity.

Easter Sunday



Can you imagine that moment? Can you imagine the stomach drop with dizzying realization: "It's all true. All of it is true! The past three years weren't a dream that ended horribly wrong." Can you imagine all the doubts and despair of the past days chased away like

smoke on the wind by a rolled up burial cloth? By an empty tomb?

It didn't start that way, of course. "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." This frantic news from Mary Magdalene would have been another unexpected blow. After all that happened, now his body has been stolen? The love and devotion in Peter and John is apparent. They don't wait to collect more information or stop by the tomb when they have a chance. They run to the site. When is the last time you ran for something? This isn't a run for exercise, but a huffing and puffing bolt fueled by desperation. Can you imagine that moment? The fear pounding in their temples, matching their accelerated heart rate. Can you imagine the impatient affection of John, who outruns Peter but refuses to enter the tomb alone? And then, upon entry, "He saw and believed."

This is the drama of our great feast! The promise that seemed lost has been found. The dead are raised. Long before the Easter eggs and ham, we are invited to meditate on this divine reality. We are invited to feel the desperation and joy of that first Easter Sunday deep in our bones. Because it is not just Mary's story. It's not Peter and John's story. It's our story. From the greatest defeat can come the most awe-inspiring victory, and this is true not just for our God, but for each one of us. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Millions of Christians around the world celebrate the Resurrection today. It all began simply on the first Easter with one person telling another: "Mary told Peter" and "they believed." Faith is passed from one person to another; it is caught, not taught; and parents are the most effective persons to pass faith to their children.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Monday, April 22, 2019 - Parish Rec-
tory Office Closed

The next Big Thing for the Parish!
The Boys of Summer are Back!
~ Save Tuesday, July 23rd ~
The Parish Tiger Game Outing!



Easter Flower Offerings
Donated on Behalf of
These Loved Ones

Deceased Members
of the Fitzgerald Family

Deceased Members
of the Lee Family

Joseph Wilk
Richard Gross
Judy Stark
George & Marie Stark
Edward & Agnes Czarniecki
Jim & Pat D'Alessandro
Lorrie Calhoun
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Richard & Shirley Goll
Rose & George Godoshian
Frank Crimauado

Beverly Witkowski
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Lisa Leszczynski
Frank & Cynthia Tegel
Allen Czarniecki
Conley & Ethel DeLong
Gloria Pocius
Thomas Pocius
Ponina Stellino
John Camazzola
Lena Crimauado



AN EASTER PROCLAMATION

The hosts of heaven exult and sing aloud
in mighty triumph!

Let the earth be glad as glory alights
and night reigns no more.

Let the Church rejoice at the victory
of her Lord and Master,

Who paid the debt of Adam,
Who frees those doomed to die,
Who heals the broken-hearted
and bind up their wounds,

Who forgives the sinner and raises up the lowly,
Who destroys death forever,
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

God our Father, eternal is your love for us!
Christ the Son, in victory you reign!

Holy Spirit, set the Easter fire ablaze in our hearts.
Together you live and reign
and ransom your people, one God forever and ever.
Amen.

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Easter - Easter is a time of great joy, when we are minded that the Lord walks beside us on our journey of faith.

We witness Christ's living presence in many ways, such as through our support of our local communion of faith through the Catholic Services Appeal. The CSA enables us to reveal Christ's presence not only to our sisters and brothers with whom we share the Eucharist, but also to those who do not know Christ.

Gifts to the CSA show that Christ is present and active in our world. Indeed, He is risen today. Alleluia!

For more information about CSA-funded ministries, programs, and services, please go to aod.org.

Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed. (Jn 20:8)



Rest in Peace

Our Recently Deceased

Dan Lusch, Father of Patrick Lusch

Janice Lafferty, Wife of Richard Lafferty

Richard Gross, Father of David Gross

May their souls
and all the souls of the faithful departed,
be made glorious in the sight of the Lord
and know joy with him forever. Amen.

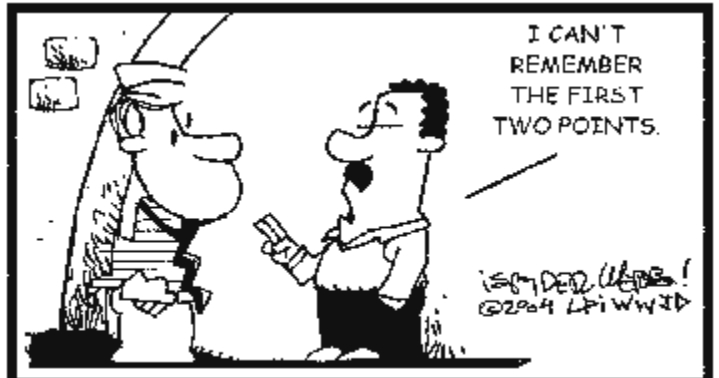
EASTER

FOR THOSE WHO
COMPLAIN THAT
THEY CAN'T
REMEMBER MY
SERMONS, HERE
IS THE ENTIRE
EASTER MESSAGE
IN THREE POINTS:

1. JESUS DIED
2. JESUS ROSE
3. HELL FROZE



I CAN'T
REMEMBER
THE FIRST
TWO POINTS.



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PARISH ORGANIZATION

Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

In your prayers...

Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.

Chuck Schuster
Bienvenido Fajardo
Lolita Dorado
Rita Moroni
Albert Fajardo
Virginia Fajardo
Madeline O'Neill
Kurt Beghuyn
Laura Bush-Terry
Sebastiano Stellino
Allen McKee
Teresita Covacha
Richard Gargulinski
Joe Petrylka
Roger Sharpe
Nenette Ferreria
Dorothy Kurrie
Anthony Mastronardi
Eduardo Fajardo
Kathy Bush

Peggy Bates
Glenda Johnson
Daniel Adams
Robert Stark
Stephanie Smith
Alice Mocerri
Janet Law
Jesse Ocampo
Mike Holster
Larry Hamel
Laura Alix
Mary Bielman
Robert Rabe
Betty Leone

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

EUCCHARISTIC

MINISTERS

Janet Bielman
Janet Law

LECTORS

Saturday, April 27, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

Bruce Campbell

SERVERS

Ian Campbell

Sunday, April 28, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn

Patti Adams

Keith Arcicovich

Dorothy Brooks

Beverly Goll

Jean Solomon

Michelle VandenBrooks

William Zuerblis

Cory Fullilove

Mary Pocius

Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, April 20th - Vigil: Easter Sunday, Feast of the Resurrection

9:00 p.m. - Sylvia and Raymond Novelly

Sunday, April 21st - Easter Sunday, Feast of the Resurrection

10:00 a.m. - Zenon and Anna Kolasa, John Ridella, Judy Stark, Stella Urso, George and Rose Godoshian, John Camazzola, Frederick and Rita Allman, Robert Lynn

Monday, April 22nd -

Tuesday, April 23rd -

9:00 a.m. - For immigrants and refugees seeking safety and security

Wednesday, April 24th -

9:00 a.m. - For those returning to their home country to rebuild their lives

Thursday, April 25th -

Friday, April 26th -

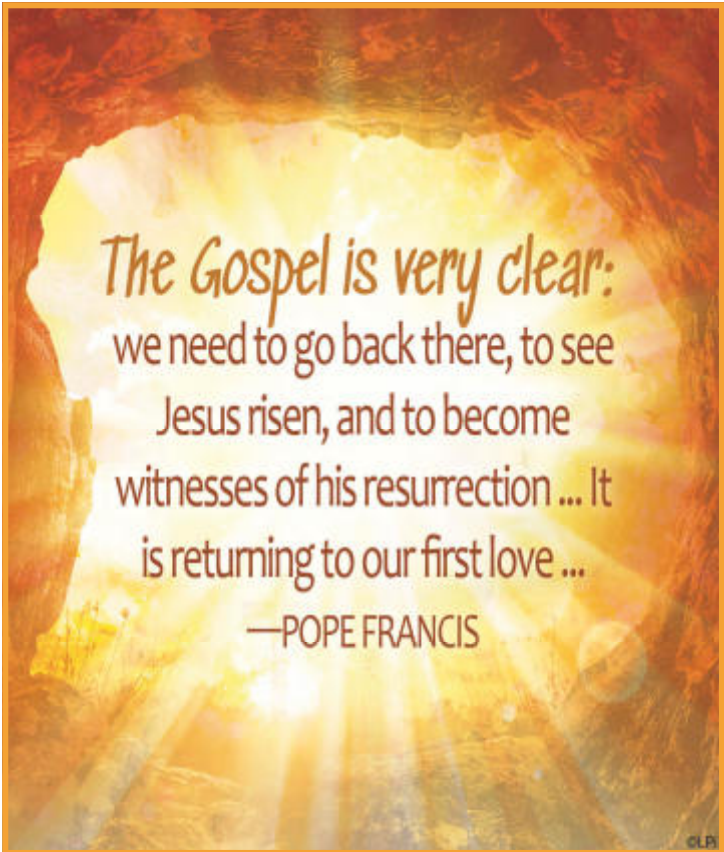
9:00 a.m. - For young people seeking education and respect

Saturday, April 27th - Vigil: Second Sunday of Easter

4:30 p.m. - Paul Coen (5th Anniv)

Sunday, April 28th - Second Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life



*The Gospel is very clear:
we need to go back there, to see
Jesus risen, and to become
witnesses of his resurrection ... It
is returning to our first love ...*

—POPE FRANCIS

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