



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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April 5, 2020

Dear Parishioners of St. Mary's,

"Father, will we have to reschedule Easter?" Someone in Canton asked me this question a few weeks ago when the reality of COVID-19 was first starting to be evident. Now parties can be rescheduled, egg hunts can be rescheduled too, *but* we can't reschedule Easter. You know why, don't you? This is the day of days. Jesus' Cross is the pivot around which our entire year turns. Easter is the focus around which the entire world turns. It is the feast on which the universe turns.

"But we're going to be so far apart!" she responded. I didn't have a good answer to that at the time, but I found one when reading an ancient Easter letter last week. The letter was written by St. Athanasius way back in the fourth century. These were his words:

"Moreover, my friends, the God who first established this feast...gave up his Son to death for our salvation, from the same motive gives us this feast, which is commemorated every year. This feast guides us through the trials that meet us in this world. God now gives us the joy of salvation that shines out from this feast, as he brings us together to form one assembly, uniting us all in spirit in every place, allowing us to pray together and to offer common thanksgiving, as is our duty on the feast. Such is the wonder of his love: he gathers to this feast those who are far apart and brings together in unity of faith those who may be physically separated from each other."

My dear friends, these words are spoken to us. This feast *does guide* us through the trials of life, and it *unites* us as wherever we are as we pray in thanksgiving for his death and resurrection.

To anticipate this day, we've been trying our best to support our faith in exciting new endeavors. Most of you know that we've been streaming Masses on Facebook-Live and then posting them on the parish website. We've also continued doing our Adult Religious Ed programs over the internet, hearing confessions from the school window, and people are still coming to the church to pray, pick up bulletins, palms, as well as holy water, rosaries, prayer cards, and candles. Parishioners are also showing their generosity by sending in weekly donations (or submitting them online) as well as supporting the hungry with generous food donations. Thank you all for your continued generosity.

On the flip side of this letter, you'll find Bishop LaValley's Easter letter. Enclosed there is a breakdown of the liturgies for Holy Week and listing of all those who donated for Easter flowers (yup, we'll still decorate – albeit in a very scaled down way) and memorial candles for your loved ones.

May St. Athanasius be as right in the twenty-first century as he was in the fourth. May this feast "bring together in unity of faith those who may be physically separated from each other."

In the Hope of our Risen Lord,

Reverend Bryan D. Stitt



Easter 2020

2020 Vision

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Easter 2020—one we won't soon forget! Over the past several weeks, events in our world have impacted greatly our families, our work, and our educational and recreational lives. The coronavirus pandemic has upset our religious routine. Our Lenten disciplines have been compromised—we were unable to celebrate Mass, join our fellow parishioners in parish Lenten Penance Services, Stations of the Cross, Parish Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Lenten Adult Ed. Classes and Lenten Soup Suppers. We had all the best of intentions to be faithful to our Lenten resolutions. Then came that most unwelcome intruder, the coronavirus.

Perhaps it didn't "feel like Lent" to you. But hasn't it been a real desert experience? This year, the Lenten Season has truly been a pilgrimage of faith in the desert. Pilgrims often encounter the unexpected in their travels. How we deal with the unexpected can make a difference in the fruitfulness of the journey. The desert can provide the setting for conversion and intimacy with the Lord. Has this unique Lent prepared us well for the Easter event? I'm confident that through prayer, fasting and sacrifice you and your loved ones have been well equipped for the journey through the desert as we now arrive at the Easter Event.

He is Risen! Easter is more than a one-day affair. We are invited to make the truth of Easter a way of life, each in our own way striving to bring light where there is darkness, hope where there is discouragement, and community building where there is loneliness and division. We will continue to sing a song of joy and live a life of confident courage as we follow the Risen Christ. He is Risen! The Risen Christ brings healing and lasting peace in the midst of an anxious and hurting world.

We come away with **2020** Vision this Easter because we see with the eyes of the Risen Christ all those hurting so much in our world. We are more attentive to the needs of others. We earnestly desire to bring the light of Christ into the lives of others. We resolve to grow even closer to Jesus through intimate prayer and works of mercy. We are meant for more than what this world has to offer. So, we rejoice: **Alleluia! He has Risen!**

Happy and Blessed Easter to you and your loved ones!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Terry R. LaValley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley

Bishop of Ogdensburg

Easter Flowers 2020

Elbert and Sarah Akley by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dominy
Elmer Akley by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dominy
Leroy and Mary Akley by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dominy
Deceased Members of the Ames Family
by Mr. and Mrs. David Guccione
Harold Ames by Mr. and Mrs. John Ames
John and Eva Ames by Mr. and Mrs. John Ames
Cassidy Bard by Mr. and Mrs. John Ames
Rick Bartlett by Mrs. Sandra Bartlett
Nelson and Rogene Bessette by Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Smith
Roger Bessette by Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Smith
Msgr. Griffith Billmeyer by Patricia Todd
Richard Burke, Jr. by Mrs. Sue Law
Walter and Evelyn Butler by Mrs. Dana Bartlett
Carl P. Cappellino by Ms. Carla Frank and Allyn Hudson
Paul J. Cappellino by Ms. Carla Frank and Allyn Hudson
Deceased Members of the Caswell Family
by Mr. and Mrs. David Guccione
Harry Clark by Dawna Clark
The Clark Family by Ms. Kelli M Clark
James and Muriel Corcoran by Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sweeney
Crean Family by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Nee
Deceased Members of the John W. Cunningham Family
by Mr. Alan Cunningham
Leon and Carrie Dawley by Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Rowledge
Charles and Alice Desmond by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dominy
Esther and Henry Dominy by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dominy
Stacy Dominy by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dominy
Deceased Members of the Eggleston Family
by Mrs. Margaret Eggleston
Fay and Layhee Families by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fay
Annette Fetcie by Mrs. Sandra Bartlett
Beverly Feuka by Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Feuka
Robert Feuka by Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Feuka
Fleming and O'Horo Families by Mr. and Mrs. William O'Horo
Frank Family by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fay
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Furgal, Sr.
by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Furgal
Phoebe and Cameron Gauthier by Joseph and Edna Marsh
The Geleta Family by Mr. David Geleta
Elmer Gleason by Alyssa Hughes
Deceased Members of the Guccione Family
by Mr. and Mrs. David Guccione
Mary Hall by Dawna Clark

John F. Hayes by John T. Hayes
Daniel and Kathryn Healy by Ms. Cathleen O'Horo
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hunkins
by Mr. and Mrs. Philip Van Brocklin
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jones by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Jones
Harm Kalberer by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fay
George and Hilda LaBrake by Mr. and Mrs. John Ames
George Sr. and Hilda LaBrake
by Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Rowledge
Mark Lee by Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hayes
Rolland & Anne Lee by Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hayes
Shirley Livernois by Mr. and Mrs. Steven Livernois
Gary Madlin by Mr. & Mrs. Corey Swinwood
Bill Malay by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Furgal
R. Mike Maroney by Lita Maroney
Carlton McDonald by Mr. and Mrs. Steven Livernois
Don McKenna by Joseph and Edna Marsh
Donald McKenna by Mark McKenna
Bonnie Meyers by Lita Maroney
Meyers and Maroney Families by Lita Maroney
Elizabeth Molnar by Dawna Clark
Molnar Family by Ms. Kelli M. Clark
Nee Family by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Nee
Deceased Members of Nicholson Family
by Mr. and Mrs. David Guccione
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald O'Brien by Mr. and Mrs. Edd White
Mr. and Mrs. L.C O'Brien by Mr. and Mrs. Edd White
William and Sarah O'Horo by Ms. Cathleen O'Horo
Frank and Mary Palumbo by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Palumbo Jr.
Deceased Members of the Parm and Schrems Families
by Mel and Paul Schrems
Pinkerton and LeBel Families
by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pinkerton
Sheila Pitkin by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Palumbo Jr.
Angeline Pluskota by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Tozzi
Casimir Pluskota by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Tozzi
Pauline Proulx by Bernard Proulx
Deceased Members of the Reilly Family
by Mrs. Margaret Eggleston
Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Richey by Mr. Dennis Jones
William and Annette Rowledge
by Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Rowledge
Marie and Roy Saucier by Mr. and Mrs. James White
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Sears by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Furgal

Easter Flowers 2020

Joseph Sodomini by Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Feuka
Pauline Sodomini by Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Feuka
Persis and Jasper Spaulding by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dominy
Charles Storrin by Ms. Anne Storrin
Margaret Storrin by Ms. Anne Storrin
Rich Struzzi by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fay
Mary J. Sullivan by Patricia Todd
Dan and Nancy Sweeney by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Sweeney

Marianne (Palumbo) Tompkins

by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Palumbo Jr.

George Tozzi by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Tozzi

Frances Tozzi by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Tozzi

Mr. and Mrs. Mason Van Brocklin

by Mr. and Mrs. Philip Van Brocklin

Nancy Vuigner by Mrs. Sandra Bartlett

Mr. and Mrs. E.K White by Mr. and Mrs. Edd White

Fred and Leona White by Mr. and Mrs. James White

Mrs. John L. White by Mr. and Mrs. Edd White

Joachim and Eileen by Lita Maroney

Additional Flower Donations:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Liggio

Anne Prouty

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Doty

Mr. Henry Sieg

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Sheridan

Mr. John Lawrence

Mr. Daniel Forbes

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hotzler

Mr. and Mrs. William Collins

Mrs. Ada Warner-Cole

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hilts

Ms. Barbara Gaines

Easter Candles 2020

Danielle Burke by Helen and Catie Dominy and Family

Francis Butler, Jr. by Gail Butler and Family

Eileen Carrow and Joachim Genditz

by Lita Maroney and Family

Harry Clark by Dawna Clark

The Clark Family by Kelli Clark and Kerisa Burns

Beverly Creasy by Nancy Layhee

Marie Creighton by Nancy Layhee

Helen Fish by Nancy Layhee

Ron Forbes by Helen Dominy and Family

Harold Goodrow by Richard and Helen Hilts

The Grembowicz/Grabowski Family by Fran Grembowicz and
John Meagher

Mary Hall by Dawna Clark

Irene and Edwin Krencieski by Mary Krencieski

Jack Layhee by Nancy Layhee

Dean Layhee by Nancy Layhee

Dale Layhee by Nancy Layhee

Shirley Livernois by Mr. and Mrs. Steven Livernois

John and Mary Maroney by Kevin Maroney

R. Mike Maroney Lita Maroney and Family

Nancy McCluskey by Nancy Layhee

Carlton McDonald by Mr. and Mrs. Steven Livernois

Elizabeth Molnar by Dawna Clark

The Molnar Family by Kelli Clark and Kerisa Burns

Charity Brunson Parm by Mel and Paul Schrems

Lloyd and Betty Smith by the Smith Family

David A. teRiele by Mr. and Mrs. Josef teRiele

The teRiele Family by John and Truus Thompson

Bruce Thompson by John and Truus Thompson

The Thompson Family by John and Truus Thompson

Carol Walker by Nancy Layhee

Sally Yasment by Nancy Layhee

