Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy Easter!!! Today we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Resurrection is the ultimate answer to the ultimate existential question: What happens after we die? The Resurrection tells us that death does not have the final word because Jesus conquers death. The Resurrection also tells us that if we strive to faithfully follow the Lord, we will have eternal life in heaven. (FYI, we will have resurrected bodies in heaven!) “The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross:

“Christ is risen from the dead! Dying, he conquered death; To the dead, he has given life.”

The Easter message is a core tenet of Christian spirituality. It is a constant reminder that there is something more important than this temporal life here... that there is something beyond this life... that there is something we should always keep as our top priority. The Easter message is a core tenet of Christian spirituality because it helps us focus on heaven and on getting there. Therefore, the Easter message helps us prioritize our relationship with Jesus. When we prioritize that relationship, the other pieces of our lives fall into place.

The Easter message is also a core tenet of daily Christian spirituality. Each day presents us with an opportunity for growth. Each day presents us with an opportunity to “die to ourselves” and live for Christ. Each day presents us with an opportunity to “take up our cross and follow him.” If you haven’t noticed... this world isn’t perfect. Things don’t always go the way we hope or plan. When we bear our daily hardships and offer them up to the Lord, we live the Paschal mystery in our lives. When we bear our daily hardships and offer them up to the Lord, we have to remember that no matter how hard something is now, there is always light at the end of the tunnel. When we bear our daily hardships and offer them up to the Lord, we have to remember that through the cross comes the Resurrection. It’s the only way! “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light” (Matthew 11:29-30).

In the midst of these uncertain times and potential hardships, I hope you have a Happy Easter!!!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Clark

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The Parish Office will be open during regular business hours with limited staff. Please call 713-721-0221 for more information. Confessions are being heard by appointment. Please contact our office or send an email to stmvicar@stmhouston.org

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You are already there.

And unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen
Queridos amigos en Cristo:

¡¡¡Felices Pascuas!!! Hoy celebramos la resurrección de Jesucristo. La Resurrección es la respuesta final a la última pregunta existencial: ¿Qué sucede después de que morimos? La resurrección nos dice que la muerte no tiene la última palabra porque Jesús vence a la muerte. La resurrección también nos dice que, si nos esforzamos por seguir fielmente al Señor, tendremos vida eterna en el cielo. (¡Para su información, tendremos cuerpos resueltados en el cielo!) “La resurrección de Jesús es la verdad suprema de nuestra fe en Cristo, una fe que la primera comunidad cristiana creyó y vivió como la verdad central; transmitido como fundamental por la tradición; establecido por los documentos del Nuevo Testamento; y predicado como una parte esencial del misterio pascual junto con la cruz:

¡Cristo ha resucitado de la muerte! 
Muriendo, conquistó la muerte;
A los muertos les ha dado la vida.

El mensaje de Pascua es un principio básico de la espiritualidad cristiana. Es un recordatorio constante de que hay algo más importante que esta vida temporal aquí ... que hay algo más allá de esta vida ... que hay algo que siempre debemos mantener como nuestra principal prioridad. El mensaje de Pascua es un principio básico de la espiritualidad cristiana porque nos ayuda a centrarnos en el cielo y en llegar allí. Por lo tanto, el mensaje de Pascua nos ayuda a priorizar nuestra relación con Jesús. Cuando priorizamos esa relación, las otras partes de nuestras vidas encajan.

El mensaje de Pascua es también un principio básico de la espiritualidad cristiana diaria. Cada día nos presenta una oportunidad de crecimiento. Cada día nos presenta la oportunidad de "morir a nosotros mismos" y vivir para Cristo. Cada día nos presenta la oportunidad de "tomar nuestra cruz y seguirlo". Si no lo has notado ... este mundo no es perfecto. Las cosas no siempre salen como esperamos o planeamos. Cuando soportamos nuestras dificultades diarias y las ofrecemos al Señor, vivimos el misterio pascual en nuestras vidas. Cuando soportamos nuestras dificultades diarias y las ofrecemos al Señor, debemos recordar que no importa cuán difícil sea algo ahora, siempre hay luz al final del túnel. Cuando soportamos nuestras dificultades diarias y las ofrecemos al Señor, debemos recordar que a través de la cruz llega la Resurrección. ¡Es la única forma! “Toma mi yugo sobre ti y aprende de mí, porque soy manso y humilde de corazón; y encontrarán descanso para ustedes mismos. Porque mi yugo es fácil y mi carga ligera” (Mateo 11: 29-30).

En medio de estos tiempos inciertos y dificultades potenciales, ¡espero que tengas una feliz Pascua!

De ustedes en Cristo,

Fr. Clark
Mass Intentions

All scheduled weekday Mass intentions are being fulfilled. You will be notified if it is necessary to reschedule your requested intention for a Saturday or Sunday Mass.

On the Cover

Russian Icon
The Resurrection of Jesus Christ
c. 1880
Academic School

Spiritual Tools While Being Unable to Attend Mass

- Pray...the Divine Office, the official prayer of the Church. (Resource: divineoffice.org)

- Pray...the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Resource: How to Pray the Rosary)

- Pray...the Scriptures or Lectio Divina (Resource: what is and how to do, Lectio Divina)

- Pray...The Divine Mercy Chaplet (Resource: How to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet)

- Pray...to make an Act of Spiritual Communion (Resource: explanation and how to)

- Pray...as a family, the domestic church.

- Pray...in silent mediation, to seek the Lord in the caverns of our hearts, as we give praise and thanksgiving to him and listen to His words as guides us on our earthly pilgrimage of faith.
Upcoming Events

All meetings, social events, ministries, faith formation classes, and public devotions are canceled until further notice.

Online Catholic Resources

While we all hunker down to help stop the spread of the coronavirus, FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere.

Here's how to get the content:

- Visit formed.org with a web browser (The link can also be found on STM’s homepage)
- Click the "Sign Up" button
- Click the "I belong to a Parish or Organization" option, then click "Next"
- Enter Parish Access Code: JTDG76 and click "St. Thomas More"
- Then follow the steps by completing the personal data fields.

En español por Magnificat.net

https://latina.magnificat.net/gratis

STM Online

STM Homepage
STM Facebook
STM YouTube Channel

Stewardship for April 5, 2020

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Upcoming Special Collections

Home Missions Collection
April 26, 2020

Parish Goal: $193,000.00
Total Amount Pledged: $48,392.50
Total Amount Paid: 31,067.50
Total Number of Participant: 149
Total Number of Households: 4184
Average Participant Pledge: $324.78
Paid Over (Under) Goal: ($161,932.50)
Pledged Over (Under) Goal: ($144,607.50)
Percent Paid: 16.10%

Online Giving

Please remember STM while away from the parish. Our church’s website has instructions on how to register for convenient on-line giving. You will have full control of your contribution account and scheduling. Visit our homepage at STMHOUSTON.ORG for details and registration.