

# St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor

Rev. James Weeder & Rev. Joseph Sund, Associates

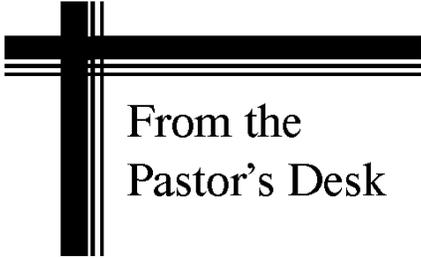
Deacon M.J. Kersenbrock

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[www.stjosephatkinson.org](http://www.stjosephatkinson.org)

[www.holtboydcatholic.org](http://www.holtboydcatholic.org)



## From the Pastor's Desk

Happy Easter! As we celebrate the great feast of Easter in a different way this year, may each of you find hope in the meaning of the day. Our churches may be empty on Easter morning, but we are still spiritually united in the hope that today brings and promises. Our church buildings may be empty, and so is the tomb! Jesus lives and he meets us in our domestic churches (homes). Fr. Weeder, Fr. Sund and I look forward to the day that we can all gather together

with you to celebrate the Eucharist and enjoy each other's company. In the meantime, we will try to stay connected through social media.

That first Easter morning must have been a whirlwind of confusion, bewilderment, and ultimately joy. According to John's gospel, Mary of Magdala was the first to find the tomb empty. Her reaction was not belief in the resurrection, but something more banal—that somebody had stolen the body. She immediately informs Peter and another disciple of her suspicion. That other disciple is thought to be the Beloved Disciple, aka "the disciple whom Jesus loved." He is nameless throughout the Gospel of John, and there is no mention of this person in any other gospel. Yet he is portrayed as the model of discipleship, as we see that "he saw and believed," something not even Peter did upon witnessing the empty tomb. Interestingly, the gospel passage ends on the note that these disciples did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead. After all this time with Jesus, and even finding the tomb empty, they still did not understand. Yet, the Beloved Disciple, at least, believed. Such a story gives hope to us who did not travel with Jesus or experience his historical ministry. If we have questions or experience a lack of understanding, we may be assured that the earliest disciples, the followers of Jesus himself, felt the same way even after the resurrection. To ponder and pray: Much as it may sound surprising to us, the resurrection of Jesus seemed to be a surprise to his disciples. Mary of Magdala's first reaction is logical: the body was stolen. Peter and the Beloved Disciple see for themselves that the tomb is empty, but only one believes. They did not understand the Scripture. We are reminded that we live by faith and we seek understanding. Easter morning gives us our north star, the guiding light by which we live our lives. The death of Jesus was not his end. He was raised in a wholly unexpected way to new life. His destiny is ours; his new life will be shared by us who seek to follow him. On this Easter morning, may we be open to the unexpected ways that God may work in our lives.

Ad Multos Annos,

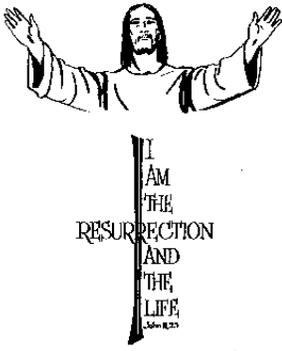
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Pastor

**The HARVEST IS GREAT, LABORERS ARE FEW**----Taking the vocation crucifix this week—Ben Sholes Family. The week of April 19—Pat & Sandy Kennedy.



Emma Lou Gunther, Darrin Wedige, Gianna Slaymaker, Lois Tunender, Nathan Boyle, Garrett Scholz, Marilyn Morrison, Blakely Bouska, Miranda iJames, John Gilg, Phil Fritz, John Mathis, Jerry Schaaf, Michelle Bulau, & Phil Schmaderer, Rob Klinetobe.



*Eternal Rest Grant...*unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on...MaryLou Troshynski, Richard Cleary, Scott Leisy, Josephine Marquardt (sister of Addie Laetsch), Helen Borer (sister of Jim Ketteler). We also pray for the families of the deceased. Please be assured our prayers & special thoughts are with you & your loved one today and in the days ahead. God be with you!

CDs...from Lighthouse Catholic Media have been placed in the Koisk in the back of church...suggested donation \$3.00 each.

## EVENTS

- Stay home and pray, pray, pray...then pray again!

### *THE LORD'S PORTION---03.31.20*

Adult envelopes (13)	637.00
Loose checks (4)	525.00
Online Giving (6)	712.00
Catholic Relief Services (3)	<u>65.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,939.00</b>

A pastor observed, "We certainly believe in the resurrection at our church. If you doubt it, just visit our office sometime & watch our staff come back to life at quitting time!!!"

### *---04.10.20*

Sunday envelopes (15)	2,213.00
Loose checks (4)	575.00
Easter (10)	1,585.00
Catholic Relief Services (2)	55.00
Insurance (2)	150.00
Online Giving (4)	<u>250.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,828.00</b>

**Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection not in books alone but in every leaf of springtime**

### **Prayers for the World during the Outbreak of the Coronavirus**

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation. Through that charity which bound you to the immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be propitious to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness; and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's children from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection.

Amen.