



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

2nd Sunday (Octave) of Easter: Divine Mercy Sunday ♦ April 19, 2020

The joyful shout of victory! Alleluia, Alleluia! ~ Psalm 118:15

Pastor

REV. KYLE J. SANDERS

ksanders@arch-no.org

Sacramental emergencies

985-237-0972

Office

985-839-4040

- Mon-Tues-Wed: 8 am-noon
- Thursday: 8 am-4 pm
- Friday: closed

Location / Mailing Address

1220 14th Ave

Franklinton, LA 70438

Website

www.holyfamilyfranklinton.org

Parish Email

holyfamilyfranklinton@arch-no.org

Weekend Masses

* *livestreamed on Facebook page*

Saturday Vigil: 5 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am, 11 am

* *no hay Misa en español*

Weekday Masses

* *livestreamed on Facebook page*

Tuesday, Wednesday: 5 pm

Thursday, Friday: 9 am

no Mass on Mondays

Confessions

* **Saturday 3-4:30 pm (drive-by)**

and by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

* *livestreamed on Facebook page*

First Friday of each month, 9:30-4:30

Marriages

Contact Fr Kyle at least six months prior to anticipated date.

Baptisms

Contact Fr Kyle: 985-839-4040

Charitable Outreach

Friends of St Francis

985-201-5882

Religious Education

Renée Herbert: 985-630-1121

Youth Ministry

Eddie Boudreaux: 985-630-9997

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday, noon.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE:

SHEDDING SOME LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT

During the Rite of Baptism at the Easter Vigil, the priest lights a baptismal candle from a very tall candle in a special stand beside the baptismal font. He hands this just-lit candle to the newly baptized, as he reminds them and all present of the wonderful symbolism of this action. Perhaps you have noticed this large and beautiful candle, called the Paschal (pass'-kul) candle, in our church and wondered about its significance.

The Paschal candle is one of the most sacred and enduring elements in Christianity. Made of beeswax to represent the purity of Christ, its wick signifies Christ's humanity, and the flame His divine nature. It may be starkly simple, or it may be adorned with one or more Christian symbols, most often the cross to represent His redemptive sacrifice; and the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet—Alpha **A** and Omega **Ω**—to signify that He is the beginning and the end. You may see other symbols: wheat and grapes, or chalice and host, for the Eucharist—the true presence of Christ and our spiritual strength; the 12 Apostles—witnesses and scribes to the passion, death, resurrection and ascension of Christ; the Good Shepherd, the Lamb, the Sacred Heart, the Risen Christ.

The Paschal candle is a rich symbol of our faith. It reaches its pinnacle at Easter. Each year during the Easter Vigil service on Holy Saturday night, a fire is kindled in a metal bowl, called a **brazier** (bray'-zhur). From the brazier comes the "new" and blessed fire that lights the Paschal candle which is carried in procession into the dark church. The new fire serves as an image of the Resurrection. The candle, representing Christ Himself, is placed on a special stand near the altar. Five ♦♦♦♦♦ "nails" ♦♦♦♦♦ of ♦♦♦♦♦ incense ♦♦♦♦♦ are inserted into the candle to recall the wounds in His hands, feet, and side, which remained after His resurrection, and the aromatic spices used to prepare His body for the tomb. From its single flame, all in the church receive and share the Light of Christ.

The Paschal candle remains in the sanctuary on its special stand throughout the full 50 days of the Easter season, and is lit for all liturgical celebrations during that time. After Pentecost the candle is removed from the sanctuary. During baptisms throughout the year, it is placed next to the baptismal font and lit, passing the light of Christ to

<< *Paschal Candle, from front page* <<

each person baptized, starting with the Catechumens at the Easter Vigil service. At funeral Masses, it is placed next to the casket—a reminder that the sacrament of Baptism is itself a death and resurrection in Christ, and testifies to Christian certainty in the resurrection of the dead and life with Christ in the world to come.

This candle, also called the Easter Candle, originated in the earliest days of Christianity, when evening prayer began with the lighting of a candle, a practice probably inspired by the Jewish custom of lighting a lamp at the conclusion of the Sabbath. Historical references mention the *Lucernarium*, the evening prayer rite with which the early Christians began each Sunday vigil. The lighting of the candle dispelled the darkness and represented Christ, the Light of the World.

This solemn rite was carried out with even greater reverence during the Easter Vigil. In the time of Constantine, the historian Eusebius recorded that the emperor "transformed the night of the sacred Easter Vigil into the brilliance of day, by lighting throughout the whole city pillars of wax, so that this mystic vigil was rendered brighter than the brightest daylight."

From the 4th century, the *Exsultet*, a hymn in praise of the candle and the Easter mystery, has been sung, composed by Sts Ambrose and Augustine and referenced as early as 384 AD by St Jerome. We still thrill to it at the Easter Vigil!

The precise use of the Paschal candle has varied over the centuries. Initially it was broken up after the Easter Vigil and the fragments given to the faithful, but from the 10th century on it was kept in its place of honor until the Feast of the Ascension, 40 days after Easter. By the 12th century, it was common to inscribe the candle with the current year. Over time the candle grew in size to merit the description of "pillar". By the mid-16th century, some Paschal candles weighed close to three hundred pounds.

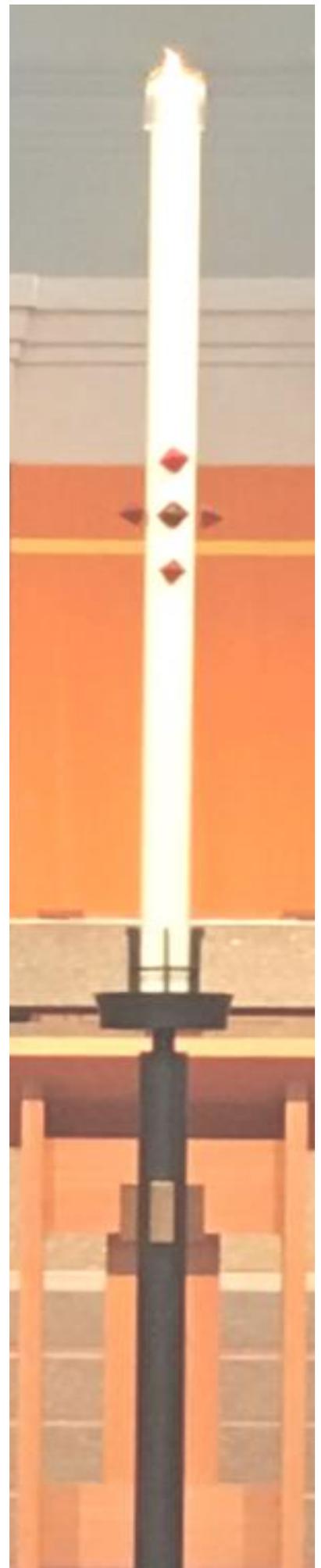
The word "paschal" is the equivalent of the Greek *pasch*, derived from the Aramaic *paṣḥā* and Hebrew *pesaḥ*, meaning *the passing over*. In the Old Testament it refers to the night God delivered the Israelites from bondage in Egypt for the Promised Land, when He struck the houses of the Egyptians but left the Israelites untouched, thus "passing over" or sparing them.

For Christians the word "paschal" took on a new meaning, referring to Our Lord's passion, death, resurrection, and glorification. These events stand at the center of our faith. By His redemptive suffering and death, Jesus accomplished God's saving plan for us. By His resurrection and glorification He assures us of eternal life—if we follow His words and His way.

Next time you see the Paschal candle in our church, may you too recall its long and sacred past, the death and resurrection of Our Lord which it represents, and the faith, hope and eternal life it means for us!

— revised/adapted from Ordo 2020 and <https://www.ziegler.com/blog/the-paschal-candle-everything-you-need-to-know/>

Just this past week, an anonymous donor gifted Holy Family with a beautiful new stand for our Paschal candle. We are very grateful! Please remember our benefactor and his/her intentions in your prayers.



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Happy Easter!
¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Sí, él ha resucitado! ¡Aleluya! ¡Feliz Pascua!

Q: With no public Masses right now, what will happen to the Mass intentions I reserved?

A: Fr Kyle prays a private Mass daily; all intentions are being honored. Masses are streamed at their usual times on our Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/holyfamilyfranklinton. You can continue to request intentions by calling our office: 839-4040.

Please remember in your giving and in your prayers the families served by the Help Center Food Bank and the Friends of St Francis during these tough times. Please make checks out to the Help Center or to the Friends of St Francis, and mail to our office. Thank you.

NOT
cancelled!



Confession

Saturdays, 3-4:30 pm (drive-by only) and by appointment (call 985-839-4040).

Private prayer in our church

Jesus is always there. Our church is open 8-5 *most* days, although not during Mass and Adoration times.

Thomas' disbelief has done more for our faith than the faith of the other disciples
— St Gregory the Great (Pope, 590-604)

Thomas, one of the twelve, was the only disciple absent when Jesus came. On his return he heard what had happened but refused to believe it. The Lord came a second time; He offered His side for Thomas to touch, held out His hands, and showing the scars of His wounds, healed the wound of Thomas' disbelief.

Dearly beloved, it was not by chance but in God's providence that this chosen disciple was absent, then came and heard, heard and doubted, doubted and touched, touched and believed. In a marvelous way God's mercy arranged that the disbelieving disciple, in touching the wounds of his Master's body, should heal our wounds of disbelief.

Thomas' disbelief has done more for our faith than the faith of the other disciples.

As he touches Christ and is won over to belief, every doubt is cast aside and our faith is strengthened. So the disciple who doubted, then felt Christ's wounds, becomes a witness to the reality of the resurrection. Touching Christ, he cried out: 'My Lord and my God.' Jesus said to him: 'Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed.'

St Paul said: 'Faith is the guarantee of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen.' It is clear, then, that faith is the proof of what cannot be seen. What is seen gives knowledge, not faith. When Thomas saw and touched, why was he told: 'You have believed because you have seen me'? Because what he *saw* and what he *believed* were different things. God cannot be seen by mortal man. Thomas saw a human being, whom he acknowledged to be God, saying: 'My Lord and my God.'

Seeing, he believed; looking at one who was true man, he cried out that this was God, the God he could not see. What follows is reason for great joy: 'Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.'

There is here a particular reference to ourselves: we hold in our hearts the One we have not seen in the flesh.

— St Gregory the Great, homily, c. 600



Mass Intentions

- 4/18 5 pm Clifton Breaux family
†Harold Carriles
Guidry/Bolotte families
†Toni Carriles Hedrick
†Shirley LeBlanc
Jean Lugo
†Kaye Varnado
- 4/19 8:30 am Our Parishioners
- 4/19 11 am †Jerry Cancienne
†Craig Estave
†M.L. and F. Geraci
†Erole and Hilda Kreamer
†Jimmy Richoux
†Torry Richoux
- 4/21 5 pm †Alphonse Elmer
- 4/22 5 pm †Souls in Purgatory
- 4/23 9 am †Craig Estave
- 4/24 9 am †Brandi Sander



The Sanctuary Light
will burn April 19-25
in memory of
Brandi Sander
by request of
Jan and René LaBorde



Please pray for:

Baldassaro Family, Cassie Bickham, Jim Bradle, Donna Bruney, Flo Clemons, Beanne Cox, Beverly Creel, Juliette Daly, Paula Davis, Jesse and Kenny Denmark, Estave Family, Lisa Falcon, June Gonsoulin Georgusis, Wayne and Miriam Gonsoulin, Daniel 'DJ' Hamilton, Ronnie Herbert, Keaton Family, King Family, Jan LaBorde, Henry and Tina Lirette, Harry Lopez, Frank and Jean Lugo, Adele Johnson Mendel, Leroy and Ella Mitchell, Marie Oswald, Mickey Power, Al Triche, Nick Tullier, Ronnie Watson, Lawrence Williams, Jackie Wright.

Military (deployed): Don Gerard Hedrick and Cody Westmoreland.

Names stay on the list for three months. To add someone, call 839-4040 or email holyfamilyfranklinton@arch-no.org.

This week's Scripture readings

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|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>Mon 4/20</u> | Acts 4:23-31 |
| <i>Easter</i> | Psalms 2:1-9 |
| <i>Weekday</i> | John 3:1-8 |
| <u>Tues 4/21</u> | Acts 4:32-37 |
| <i>Easter</i> | Psalms 93:1-2,5 |
| <i>Weekday</i> | John 3:7-15 |
| <u>Wed 4/22</u> | Acts 5:17-26 |
| <i>Easter</i> | Psalms 34:2-9 |
| <i>Weekday</i> | John 3:16-21 |
| <u>Thurs 4/23</u> | Acts 5:27-33 |
| <i>Easter</i> | Psalms 34:2,9,17-20 |
| <i>Weekday</i> | John 3:31-36 |
| <u>Fri 4/24</u> | Acts 5:34-42 |
| <i>Easter</i> | Psalms 27:1,4,13-14 |
| <i>Weekday</i> | John 6:1-15 |
| <u>Sat 4/25</u> | 1 Peter 5:5-14 |
| <i>Mark</i> | Psalms 89:2-3,6-7,16-17 |
| <i>Evangelist, Martyr</i> | Mark 16:15-20 |
| <u>Sun 4/26</u> | Acts 2:14,22-33 |
| <i>3rd Sunday</i> | Psalms 16:1-2,5,7-11 |
| <i>of Easter</i> | 1 Peter 1:17-21 |
| | Luke 24:13-35 |

Keeping us all together

We dedicate ourselves to making sure all our parishioners are informed of events and schedule changes. To do this, we employ a variety of means:

Holy Family's office: 985-839-4040. Someone will assist you Mon-Tues-Wed 8 am-noon, and Thurs 8 am-4 pm. Closed Fridays.

Holy Family's website: Lots happening there! Visit: www.holyfamilyfranklinton.org.

MyParish app: Messages and much more! It brims with resources for living your Catholic life, and links you to our own resources and contact info. To download, text **app** to the number 88202 and follow the steps in the reply text. Or find **MyParish** in your app store.

Holy Family's Facebook page: Functions like a bulletin board. Parishioners and parish staff can post *important (please)* content. It is also where Fr Kyle livestreams our Masses. Type Holy Family Catholic Church in the Search bar. Several results will appear; be sure to select the one in Franklinton, LA! Once you land on our page, if you decide to become a member of the Facebook group, click on the **+Join Group** button, then just answer a question or two. We're trying hard to stay on top of requests, so it'll typically be approved in less than a day. Visit: facebook.com/groups/holyfamilyfranklinton.

Stewardship Report

regular collection \$ 1,189.00
building fund \$ 65.00
Thank you for your generosity.

To set up online giving,
one-time or recurring, visit:
holyfamilyfranklinton.org/donate