

CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION, PARAMUS



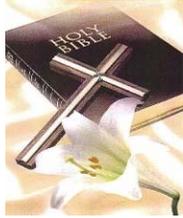
Dear Parishioners,

I extend to you prayers of joy and hope as we celebrate Easter and the Lord's resurrection from the dead. As we are well aware, the recalling of this central event of our faith is something we are doing particularly in our homes this year with churches closed and the social distancing still in effect. We might ask ourselves under such circumstances, is Easter cancelled because we cannot celebrate Mass in church with one another? Not at all. Although we cannot celebrate Easter as we normally would with Mass in church, the joyful hymns, the beautiful flowers, the crowds gathered...let's still see how we do so in our homes, by watching a Mass on TV or through the internet, by turning to the texts of the readings that we would have heard proclaimed in church, and by being with those loved ones of our families in the homes where we dwell. I think, too, part of what we should do especially for this year's celebration of Easter is to allow the memories of celebrating in years past to fill our hearts and minds with beautiful images, particularly those of gathering in church and larger groups with whom we would normally share Easter dinner, for example. If those aspects of Easter cannot be part of the observance this year, they can come to us through remembrance and the hope of celebrations to come when the current health crisis is abated. Now as much as at other times during these days, we trust in that communion through God's spirit that joins us to him and each other as one. We know how fundamental it is for people of faith to gather in their house of worship, seeking that togetherness that is our gift and work, to live and to carry out. Faith teaches us as well that we are always joined to the Body of Christ, no matter where we are, and so now the situation in which we find ourselves compels us to become more aware of that. It's a challenge, but also our hope during this difficult period. Our homes are always a place to live and celebrate our faith.

Jesus' resurrection from the dead has such meaning for us. It's the hope for life eternal, for us all, and especially for loved ones who have gone before us. At this time, we can draw such strength from the Lord's victory over suffering and death. We know how the virus has claimed lives, and placed all kinds of burdens on people throughout our nation and the world. This is the Cross we have had to bear. And so is the distancing that has had to be assumed to keep people safe and stop the spread. May Easter now encourage us all the more in the resurrection as we hope and long for the end of this challenging time and the healing and recovery to come. Even though it may take time, new life will indeed flow forth. The Lord's Paschal Mystery teaches us about our human condition of death and the hope of eternal life that follows. But it is also a pattern for living and finding renewal in this life, in our journey now. When we sense suffering and even other forms of death that those burdens bring, we unite it to Jesus and what he endured for us and what ultimately occurred in his resurrection from the dead. We continue to find hope for the passing through such tough and mysterious experiences and discover the peace and joy that lie beyond them. May Easter 2020, even in its seemingly different observance this year, most especially grant to us hope, and show forth brilliantly the love of our God, who is with us in all the different times of our lives. May Easter touch our hearts so deeply this year, for we know how much we need that, and how much this great event of our faith can do just that!

Yours in the love of the Risen Lord,
Fr. Jim Teti

Readings for the Week



- Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Mt 28:8-15
- Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22; Jn 20:11-18
- Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:13-35
- Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:35-48
- Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-24, 25-27a; Jn 21:1-14
- Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21; Mk 16:9-15
- Sunday: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31



The sanctuary lamps were donated in memory of **Herb Whitehead** by Paul Carlino.

The altar candles were donated in memory of **Giovanni Ricciardone** by Chrissy and Jim Tiedemann



...for those in need of healing...
Luigi Vene, Margaret and Quinn McVeigh,
Walter Wyssenski
and all those affected by the coronavirus

...for those who have entered new life...
Maria Binder

...for those serving our country...
all men and women in our military,
stationed both here and abroad

MASST INTENTIONS

During the time of the suspension of services the daily Mass intentions are fulfilled by the priests of the parish at private celebrations in the rectory oratory, ordinarily at 7:30 a.m. Parishioners are encouraged to unite in prayer with the Eucharistic Sacrifice being offered and make a spiritual communion when and where possible.

Spiritual Communion

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 into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Saturday, April 11

People of the Parish

Sunday, April 12: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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Monday, April 13: Monday within the Octave of Easter

Catherine Joyce req. Bill Joyce

Tuesday, April 14 Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

Anna Scrivanich req. Mr. & Mrs. John Tarabokija & family

Wednesday, April 15: Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

Genevieve Waller & family

Thursday, April 16: Thursday within the Octave of Easter

Reynaldo Paraiso, Sr. req. the Medina family

Friday, April 17: Friday within the Octave of Easter

Joseph Lauricella, MD req. Fr. Jim Teti

Saturday, April 18: Saturday within the Octave of Easter

Mary Tarabocchia req. Mr. & Mrs. Silvio Tarabokija

Deceased members of the Fuino family req. Sal & Rose Prestia

Sunday, April 19: Second Sunday of Easter / Sunday of Divine Mercy

Maryann Astuto req. Fr. Jim & the Annunciation staff

Mary Bussanich req. Nick & Mary Morin

Mario Panicucci req. Ralph & Maria Casale

PRAYER DURING A PANDEMIC

O Lord our God,

May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
remember those who must choose between
preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility
to care for our children when their schools close
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those that have no place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle-in for a quarantine at home
remember those who have no home.

During this time when we cannot physically
wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God
to our neighbors.

Amen

Interfaith Hospitality Network
Cincinnati



Daily Prayer This Week

We now begin a celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord for the next seven weeks - when we mark the Ascension forty days after Easter and culminating in the celebration of Pentecost on the fiftieth day after Easter. This week, we begin that deepening realization of, and reflection upon, the meaning of the gift of life we have received in God's raising Jesus from the dead so that we might have eternal life.

Just as it difficult for many of our cultures to face the reality of death, it is difficult to accept the reality of life after death. St. Paul invites us to live in this passing world with our hearts set on the world that will never end. This week let us try to open our hearts to a deeply-felt sense of what a difference it makes that the tomb is empty, that Jesus is alive, that he allows us to recognize him in the breaking of bread, and that he missions us to proclaim this Good News.

Each morning this week, we can pause for a moment and simply thank God for our being alive today. Even more, we can thank God for the life that Jesus won for us. Throughout the day, and at different brief moments, we can remember that this is Easter Week and ask to live more freely today, more gratefully. We can name the grace in our own terms and in the context of what we are experiencing, what gets us discouraged or what gives us life. Overall, we want to live the freedom we have been given. If death has no hold on us, so many of our fears would melt away. If we realized our ultimate home is in heaven, our spirits would be lighter and we would walk around more gratefully.

So, as we go through this week, we can let ourselves believe in the Resurrection that was won for us. "Lord, I believe in the gift of life you have given me in the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus." We can say this act of faith, or sing any of the wonderful Easter songs in the back of our minds, as many times as it takes to let ourselves feel the effects of Easter.

Perhaps we had a difficult Holy Week or Easter. There might have been loneliness or family conflicts. Perhaps we are facing a chronic illness or deep struggles with a loved one, or we are grieving the loss of a loved one. These, and many other struggles can challenge our Easter hope and joy. This is the week to place our trust in the one who is now alive, so that we can live forever. We can ask for the gifts of hope renewal these days. In giving thanks, we can ask that our hearts be opened even more to receive the gift of his Spirit.

Taken from Creighton University's Online Ministries web site:
<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>.

Annunciation's Parish Center is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Center Directory

| Name | Title | E-mail | Phone |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Fr. Jim Teti | Pastor | jamest@annunciationchurch.org | Ext. 105 |
| Jim Carlo | Director of Music | jvc333@optonline.net | Ext. 111 |
| Judy Fanelli | Parish Secretary and Bookkeeper | judyf@annunciationchurch.org | Ext. 100 |
| Diane Flacomio | Administrative Assistant for Faith Formation | dianef@annunciationchurch.org | 201-261-4119 |
| Donna Muscarella | Technology Coordinator | donnam@annunciationchurch.org | Ext. 114 |
| Gladys Pozza | Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation | annunciationfaithformation@gmail.com | 201-261-4119 |
| Chris Vaughn | Director of Maintenance | | Ext. 109 |

BAPTISM

The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated for infants on the second and fourth weekends of each month, except during the Lenten season. The celebration may take place during the 10:30 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, or at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Parents are invited to contact Judy Fanelli, even before your baby is born, so that participation in our preparation program can be arranged and the baptism planned.

RECONCILIATION

The sacrament of Reconciliation is offered in the church on Saturdays between 4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Personal appointments for other times are available and can be made by contacting Father Jim.

During the Lenten Season, a communal Celebration of Reconciliation is offered in conjunction with Our Lady of the Visitation parish.

VOCATIONS

Are you being called to priesthood or religious life? As you discern God's calling, explore www.rcan.org/vocation.

MINISTRY TO THE ILL AND HOMEBOUND

At times, physical injury, old age, or debilitating disease prevents our parishioners from participating regularly in the celebration of the Eucharist. During such times, contact with the community of faith is needed more than ever before. We can arrange for you to receive the Eucharist, the sacrament of Reconciliation, and/or the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in your home or hospital room. Please call the Parish Center if you wish to be visited.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

If you are new to the parish, please submit a completed parish census form. Blank forms are available in the Gathering Space and on our website. Families already registered with the parish are encouraged to keep current their membership information.

INITIATION INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA) is a process of formation and initiation for those (age seven and older) who have never been baptized and wish to become members of the Roman Catholic Church.

Formation and initiation opportunities also exist for adults baptized into the Roman Catholic Church as infants, but who have not received the sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist.

Christians baptized in Eastern Orthodox Churches or in communions other than Roman Catholic who wish to enter into the fullness of Catholic communion may also participate in the RCIA formation process.

For more information, please contact Father Jim.

VISITATION ACADEMY

Parents wishing to provide their children with a quality Catholic education are encouraged to consider Visitation Academy, a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Located in Paramus and supported by the Catholic parishes of Paramus and Rochelle Park, Visitation Academy offers classes for Grades pre-K3 through eight. For more information, please visit www.visitationacademyparamus.org or call 201-262-6067.

INTENTION REQUESTS

We can spiritually remember an anniversary of marriage, ordination or death, birthday, or other significant milestone for the living or deceased by dedicating the items we use for worship: the sanctuary lamps which burn constantly before the Blessed Sacrament in the church and Holy Family Chapel, the altar candles which remain lit during each liturgical celebration, the bread and wine consecrated at Mass, the Advent wreath candles, and the Paschal candle. Masses may also be offered for a special intention.

A set donation is requested for each intention, a card is provided, and the intention is printed in the bulletin. To request an intention, please visit the Parish Center.