



A Note from Our Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

I continue to extend to you Easter greetings as we journey further into this holy season of our year. May the life of the Risen Lord fill us with great hope and joy as we ponder this mystery of faith and sustain the proclamation of his resurrection, joining with the Church throughout the world. It is always a privilege to offer best wishes and thoughts on life and faith through the bulletin each week. It's especially the case now since this online version is one of the ways we can stay in touch during social distancing. Being unable to worship together in church and share greetings, we must join with everyone else and greet one another through the means of communication linked to our technology. As you read this on the parish website, I invite you to encourage other brothers and sisters of our parish to turn to it as well, if they have not already done so. I find comfort in being able to reach out to you through this means, and it offers me a way to encourage our communication through phone calls, emails, text messages, and even zoom conferences. Reach out to our family of faith at this time in the ways that we can. I welcome your calls and messages too. Even if it's just to say hello and share that we are thinking of one another, and offering our shared hope for safety and a resolution to the pandemic...yes, such sentiments mean so much at difficult moments. When we cannot be together in person, the links in other forms are a blessing to stay together in ways that we can. Prayer, too, is one such way to stay together. When we pray, we're especially mindful of God's spirit present to us, and the communion it shares in our life with God and each other. And so prayer offers us a channel to help one another especially at this time, and stay united as the People of God. The more this burdensome time endures, the challenge of it is experienced more acutely, but also, we discover more what we can live out in the meantime and what are the blessings we still have and all that endures as well.

The Easter season is the time when we typically have such abundant celebrations of the sacraments: baptisms, First Communion, Confirmation, weddings, and ordinations. Those liturgies both in our parishes and in the archdiocese are certainly on hold for the time being. We are not sure when they will be able to be held, but we persist in prayer and hope. Let's pray especially for our families with children and young people who are waiting for these sacraments. We pray for couples preparing for marriage and candidates to be ordained as deacons and priests, and those priests elected to be ordained as bishops. Much seems to be halted for the moment, but in prayer and the daily experiences of faith, we all see that we grow in our Christian life, and how that opens our minds and hearts all the more to moments of grace that we anticipate in the sacraments. In that sense, much endures nonetheless, as we await the further scheduling of the magnificent celebrations of the Church. I thank you for all the ways you have discovered how to help your brothers and sisters at this time. I am grateful for your prayers and expressions of hope and best wishes. They have helped me for sure. And I trust that my prayers and words are comforting for you, in the mystery of how God works through us all to bring his love and peace here on earth.

Yours in the Easter joy,
Fr. Jim Teti



... healing...

Luigi Vene, Margaret and Quinn McVeigh,
Walter Wyssenski

...prayers ...

to our military, first responders, medical & healthcare professionals, mail carriers and delivery services, grocery store workers, & all other essential workers



The sanctuary lamps were donated in memory of **Patricia A. Maisano** by her family.

The altar candles were donated in memory of **Joe Tiedemann** by Chrissy and Jim Tiedemann.

Guide to Daily Prayer this Week

John's Gospel brings us a wonderful story for the Third Sunday of Easter. We reflect on the Resurrection story about the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. We are prepared to encounter a familiar pattern with his followers: they don't recognize Jesus, but he opens their eyes with the breaking of the bread.

In our first readings from Acts of the Apostles this week, we read of Stephen, one of the earliest martyrs, and of Philip converting an Ethiopian slave along the road. Next is the story of Saul, persecutor of Christians being blinded and then healed by Ananias in the name of Jesus. The week ends with Peter traveling the region and healing.

The Gospel for this week is from Chapter 6 of John's Gospel on Jesus as the "Bread of Life." Like so many stories in this Gospel, Jesus teaches from one layer of understanding to another, taking us deeper into understanding his gift of himself to us in the Eucharist. Jesus says, "Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life." "The bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world." "Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood remains in me and I in him." This marvelous dialogue ends with this exchange with his disciples: "Jesus then said to the Twelve, 'Do you also want to leave?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.'"

On the Fourth Sunday of Easter we reflect on the Paschal Mystery more deeply. Psalm 118 says, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." Peter quotes this psalm in preaching that the crippled man was healed, "in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead." In John's Gospel, Jesus tells us, "A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

This can be a very good week to grow in a sense of and practice with the notion of being a "contemplative in the midst of action." We have practically a whole week of gospels about Jesus' gift of himself to us as the "Bread of Life." This gives us the opportunity to let that mystery be in the background of our consciousness every day this week, as we go about our everyday tasks. What makes it "contemplative" is that we will be asking for graces each morning, and we will let our desires and our activity interact.

We can begin reflecting upon how often we "work for food that perishes." The pay-off, the success, the accomplishment, the reward we receive for what we do is often quite passing and unsatisfying. It would be important to be able to sense anything that appears to be food that doesn't last and name it as such this week. The real food, the life-giving nourishment that our Lord offers us is himself.

If we can't celebrate the Eucharist daily this week, we can make what we used to call a "spiritual communion" simply by opening our hearts and desiring to receive our Lord, so that he remain in us and we remain in him. We can practice consciously choosing union with Jesus, our Risen Lord and only Savior, and experiencing how that would affect the choices we need to make throughout our day. If we begin each day, asking for the grace of this union, and renew the desire at brief moments we have at various times in the day, our focus and attention begins to change. We will experience a peace and a gifted lack of hunger and thirst for so many of the things that draw us away from him, from loving, from mercy, from consciousness on those in need.

If the background focus of each day this week is to desire to be fed by a closeness with my Lord, it doesn't matter how busy I am, or how many conflicts I have to face, or what suffering I or my loved ones must endure. His flesh and blood are real food and drink because they are the real sacrifice that takes away the power of sin and death itself. United with his surrender to the Father, we set free from whatever can take away the life he gained for us. For this gift, for this faith, we can give thanks for every night, as we review our union with our Lord each night.

Readings for the Week



- Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29
- Tuesday: Acts 7:51 - 8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; Jn 6:30-35
- Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; Jn 6:35-40
- Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51
- Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59
- Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69
- Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

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.



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 25

Anna Scrivanich req. the Markey family

Sunday, April 26: Third Sunday of Easter

Anita Riccoboni req. Fr. Jim & the Annunciation staff

Patricia A. Maisano req. her family

Patricia Voorhees req. Jacqueline O'Grady

Monday, April 27: Easter Weekday

Mary Kelly req. the Uber family

Tuesday, April 28 Easter Weekday / Saint Peter Chanel / Saint Louis Grignon de Montfort

Lucille Leiser req. the LoGiudice family

Wednesday, April 29: Easter Weekday / Saint Catherine of Siena

Nicholas Busanic req. Larry & Dencie Morich

Thursday, April 30: Easter Weekday / Saint Pius V

Maria Binder req. Aida & Rich Aronson

Friday, May 1: Easter Weekday / Saint Joseph the Worker

Juana Rivas req. Jim Carlo

Saturday, May 2: Saint Athanasius

Mary & Ed Reger req. their daughter, Carol

Elizabeth Fanelli req. the Social Concerns Committee

Sunday, May 3: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Anna Molnar & Elizabeth Siekmann req. the Siekmann family

Santa Crisall req. the Crisall family

Oscar Dobarro req. his family



Covid-19:
A Prayer of
Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus,
We pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions
between food on the table or public safety,
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance,
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.

For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration
status,
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,
We pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decision makers,
We pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope,
comfort and love to all.
Grant peace.
Grant comfort.
Grant healing.
Be with us, Lord.

Amen.

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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.