

St. Aloysius, Gate of Heaven & Sacred Heart Church

EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 12, 2020.

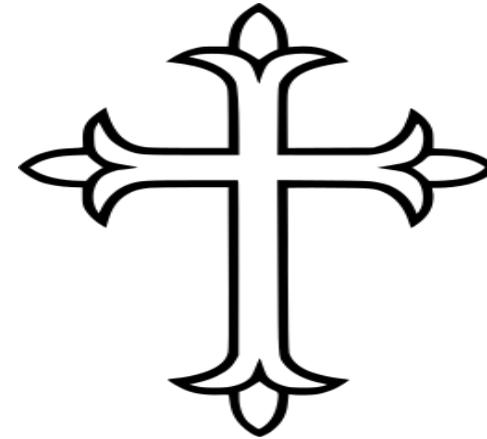
Reflections on Sundays' Readings

Significance of Easter: Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church for three reasons: **1) The Resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian Faith.** It is the greatest of the miracles, for it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: *"If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain"* (I Cor 15:14). *"Jesus is Lord, He is risen!"* (Rom 10:9), was the central theme of the *kerygma* (or "preaching"), of the apostles, because Jesus had prophesied His Resurrection as a sign of His Divinity: The founder of no other religion has an empty tomb as Jesus has. **2) Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection.** Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: *"I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he dies"* (Jn 11:25-26). **3) Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement** in this world of pain, sorrows, and tears. It reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in our souls, in His Church, in the Blessed Sacrament and in Heaven that gives meaning to our personal as well as our communal prayer, strength to fight against temptations, and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears.

Life Messages: **1) Let us live the lives of Resurrection people:** Easter gives us the joyful message that we are a "Resurrection people." This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits, dangerous addictions, despair, discouragement, or doubts. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the living presence of the Risen Lord in all the events of our lives and amid the boredom, suffering, pain, and tensions of our day-to-day life. **2) We need to live aware of the presence of the Risen Lord with us.** Our awareness of the all-pervading presence of the Risen Lord in and around us, and the strong conviction of our own coming resurrection, help us to *control our thoughts, desires, words and behavior.* **This salutary thought inspires us to honor our bodies, keeping them holy,** pure, and free from evil habits and addictions. Our conviction about the presence of the Risen Lord in our neighbors and in all those with whom we come into contact should encourage us to respect them, and to render them loving, humble and selfless service.

3) We need to radiate the Risen Lord all around us: We are called to be transparent Christians, showing others through our lives the love, mercy, compassion and spirit of self-sacrificing service of the Risen Jesus living in our hearts.

4) We need to share in the power of the Risen Lord: Let us recall that, each time we try to practice Christian charity, mercy and forgiveness and each time we fight against temptations we share in the Resurrection of Jesus



Parish Staff

Rev. Edward Bader, Administrator
Rev. Antony David MMI

Trustees

Ms. Jane Ryan
Mr. Andrew Carlson

Religious Education

Youth Activities

Mrs. Mary Davis

Parish Council Chairperson

Mr. Michael Park

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Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:00 PM	St. Aloysius
Saturday	5:30 PM	Sacred Heart Church (July 4th to Labor day)
Sunday	9:00 AM	St. Aloysius
	11:00 AM	Gate of Heaven

Weekday

M/T/F/S	8:15 AM	St. Aloysius
Thursday	12:00 PM	St. Aloysius

Adoration

M/T/F	7:30 to 8:15 AM
Friday	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Eve:	5:30 PM	Gate of Heaven
Holy Day:	9:00 AM	St. Aloysius
	7:00 PM	St. Aloysius

Sacraments

Confession: Before all masses.

Baptism: Call the rectory to make arrangements.

Marriage: Call the rectory to schedule your Wedding and pre-Cana classes

Pastoral Visitation

When confined at home, please call the rectory to arrange for a visit and Holy Communion. Please call the rectory if you are facing surgery or hospitalization and would like the Sacrament of the Sick.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As a parish, we strive to bring our communities of Catholic Christians together, as we have for over 100 years, by loving and serving God and Each other through Worship, education and service.

MASS INTENTIONS: April 11 - April 19, 2020 Holy Week

NOTE: All masses are celebrated privately at the time mentioned

Saturday, April 11
7.PM- Brandon Cinque

Mon, April 13
8.15. AM - Hernandez Family

Thurs, April 16
12. P.M- Merlin Lusker

Saturday, April 18
8.15 AM- Mothers
4.PM- Fathers

Sunday, April 12
9:00 AM - Madeline+ Edward O' Brien

11:00 AM - Sick people

Tues. April 14
8:15 AM - Fulton Miller Families

Fri. April 17
3 PM- Raimondo Aiello

Sunday, April 19
9:00 AM- Marie Sanders
11:00.AM- Barbara Templin

NOTE: No Gift can replace offering a mass for departed soul or welfare of living. We have openings for weekdays and weekend masses.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK & DECEASED

For the Sick: Joni & Vinny Salvatore, Colleen & Jerrilynn O'Neil; Nora Fernandez,; Laurie & William McMichael, Carol Faughn, Christopher Merklin, Robert Ackerly, Sr. Grace, Maureen Connolly, Dave Tucker, Shannon Bruning, Patty Lewis, Lynne Hyzer, Beth Marie Martin, Erma Carlson , Jim Wilbur, Dom Formato, Darren Steele, Jonell Dalton, Carrie Neer-Molinari, Easton Gorr. Joe Salvia. Joe & Linda Mchugh, Jerry & Roe Mills, Ken & Arsenia Mchugh, Deniese Harting, Maureen Molloy, Frank Kinsley, Mary Jones, Carl Diane Rafi, Walter Hanewich, David Porter and David & Gina Teipelke.

For the Deceased: Nickolaus Bermel Jr, Bill Guinan, Sr. Kenneth Reddington, Jim Englehardt, Ellen Krajcovic, John Augusta, Max Evans, Mildred Irace, PaulaJordan, Bernard Greenthal, Vivian Kocher, Raimondo Aiello and Maria Sander.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Is in need of spaghetti sauce, soup, tuna fish, jelly and cereal.

Collection and donation
Last Week.
Thank you
\$ 1345

Readings for Next Sunday
Acts 2:42-47.
I Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

BIBLE STUDY
Good Soil Bible Study Group will not meet until further notice.
Tuesday 4.00 PM at Rectory.

Revelation of the Cross

What the cross of Christ reveals is that when we are so paralyzed by fear and overcome by darkness that we can no longer help ourselves, when we have reached the stage where we can no longer open the door to let light and life in, God can still come through our locked doors, stand inside our fear and paralysis, and breathe out peace. The love that is revealed in Jesus' suffering and death, a love that is so other-centered that it can fully forgive and embrace its executioners, can pass through locked doors, melt frozen hearts, penetrate the walls of fear, and descend into our private hells and, precisely there, breathe out peace

DO NOT LOSE THE CONNECTION

The moment in which we lose connection with Jesus and with the Church, we are no longer ourselves and we do not have any understanding of who we will be. For Peter at that moment, the cock crows and his crowing becomes an echo of Jesus's words during the Last Supper. Peter, now smitten and dejected, is brought back to self-awareness. The Lord, turning his head, looks at Peter. Once more it is the gaze of Jesus that conquers a person that moves him to compassion. We can understand that this gaze is not the unpleasant gaze of "I told you so!" It is not a gaze of judgment but a gentle, tender gaze that seeks to win him back. It is a gaze that calls Peter back. What does Peter do? He recalls the words the Lord had spoken, and he goes out weeping bitterly. These tears of suffering, of repentance for his denial, are a blessing for Peter because they are the prerequisite to receiving forgiveness. These tears are his request to Jesus to forgive him and to accept him again as a friend. The falling tears from this "Sandman, Sandman" mix with the dirt, and, on the morning of Pentecost, that dirt mixed with the tears of suffering and repentance will be hardened into stone, as in a kiln, by the fire of the Holy Spirit. Then Simon will definitively become Peter, a solid rock on which finally the whole Church can remain firm; he knows he will never again deny his Lord. He might be weak, a sinner in his flesh, but he will not ever again betray Jesus; his faith will be sure, solid, and secure. Our self-understanding needs to start with our relationship with Jesus: I am a disciple of the Lord, of the Lord who decided to die and make himself a gift of love for me, of a Lord who is risen and alive.

