

# EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

From the Pastor's Desk

*"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."* (Psalm 118:24). This passage from the Book of Psalms is today proclaimed in the Church throughout the world. Psalm 118 is referred to as *The Song of Victory*. How prophetically appropriate and fulfilling. Today, the Day of the Resurrection, the Day of Victory is a glorious day. It is glorious because the Glory of God is fully revealed in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. He has conquered sin and death by descending the depths of god-forsakenness and rose triumphant: even death could not hold him and defeat him. Jesus Christ, fulfilling his mission as the only-begotten Son of God who was born as one of us, travelled all the way down, *taking the form of a slave*, to call forth the lost and most forsaken of all humanity. There is now hope that *"all may be saved"*. On this Glorious Day of the Resurrection we pray for all those who have wandered far from the Lord. Our hope is that they freely surrender themselves to the saving mercy and love of God: that they too may rise with all who belong to our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the Glorious Resurrection, Jesus Christ defeats sin and death. The bonds of sin and death cannot hold him. He has given us renewed hope in eternal life in him. We must now respond to this great gift by living a life worthy of this great gift. Our lives now consist of living in response to this gift of grace, mercy, and love revealed to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. The resurrection and eternal life is a gracious and undeserved gift from God in and through our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a gift that we do not deserve nor can we earn. It flows from the gracious love of God. This gracious gift precedes all others and our life is lived as a grateful response for this gift. This is a glorious gift and saving mystery. Let us rejoice in the Lord.

With the celebration of Easter we conclude our long Lenten Journey which began on Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes. Well, because of precautions we had a scaled down reference for the imposition of ashes. In my homily for the day I commented on the impositions of ashes as being a sacramental. Ashes are a sign of the desire for repentance and not the actual act of repentance. To repent is a very difficult thing and takes our effort in response to the grace of God. Ashes are a reminder that we are made of dust and unto dust we shall return. In the grand scheme of things our life is pure gift from God. We are dust and God has given us life! Considering the vastness of all creation and the history of our world we amount to very little. Yet in the immense Love of God we have inestimable value. This is humbling and a cause for praise and thanksgiving: this dust was given the gift of life: formed in the image of God.

Ashes are a good reminder to us that we have a bottom. We cannot get any lower than dust. Considering this spiritually, when we live a purely worldly life without God we literally return to the bottom: ashes. Through Baptism, we are given the promise of eternal life and with our celebration of Easter we are to realize that we have a glorious future in heaven. We can say that in and through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God reaffirms His great love for us, who were once dust, and now invited to share in His eternal embrace of Love: Heaven. Left to ourselves we are nothing but dust. With Jesus we are able to rise with Him to our Heavenly Father. This is the great hope that we have a future in and through Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Love of God incarnate. He is Faith incarnate. He is Hope incarnate.

This is worth our prayerful reflection. God is good and in His great love for us God desires our true good. On this Glorious Day we renew our trust in God. Today in our Eucharistic Celebration we renew our Baptismal promises as we

reject Satan and all his works. We affirm and renew our faith in the Triune God: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We renew our faith in the continuing presence of Christ in the world through his Church. We renew our faith in our unity with Jesus Christ and his Church through the communion of saints and the forgiveness of sins. And on this Glorious Day we renew our faith in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Today is the celebration of the core of our faith. It is the greatest day of the Church Year. *"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."*

One last thought: we live in difficult times. As I have commented in past columns there is a great deal of emptiness in the hearts of so many people. This has surfaced all the more this past year. We have especially noted in recent news the rise in teen and young adult suicide. Considering this and the opioid/drug crisis in our society we cannot be blind to the struggles of so many people. It appears to me that there is a void; an emptiness in their lives. They are filling this emptiness with many trivial and passing things. In this they are missing out on important and substantial things that are essential for their lives. I am speaking of a faith life: a relationship with God. I may be preaching to the choir, but I will continue to "pound the pulpit" on the importance of parents to know, share and practice their faith with their children. This may be scary since many parents do not really know their faith very well nor do they practice their faith. A grade school understanding of the faith in adults will not carry the day. Many parents are not confident in what they know about the faith in order to share it with their children. This is translated in their absence from the very place where the faith is prayed, lived and shared: the community of faith; the church.

As we celebrate Easter we are to realize that Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. He made the greatest personal sacrifice for our salvation: revealing God's love and faithfulness. It seems that few are willing to sacrifice an hour for God for the sake of their spouse, their children and much less for themselves as a token of their own love and faithfulness to God. Being a parent is not easy. It takes a great deal of effort, love and sacrifice. It should dawn on us that we cannot make these sacrifices in love and faithfulness for our children if we are not celebrating and receiving the love and faithfulness of God in our Eucharistic Celebration. This is our salvation and the salvation of our children. The sad reality is that we cannot be loving and faithful without God! These important Theological Virtues do not make sense without God. If we do not avail ourselves to the saving sacrifice of Jesus Christ we cannot be his witnesses: especially for our children. This is a grace that we need. It is a grace that our children need. We can only teach it first by making sacrifices daily and most especially opening our hearts to the loving sacrifice of Jesus Christ at Sunday Mass. This sacrifice is most profoundly made for us as we receive Christ in Word and Sacrament individually and as a community of faith.

There is a void, an emptiness in our society and in the lives of our children. This is a void that can only be filled by God. Do not deny your children. We are blessed as Catholic Christians because we have the Sacraments which are encounters with Jesus Christ and his saving love. The Sacraments of the Church will fill that emptiness. I assure you, no one ever sees the emptiness coming because the wheels of sin and evil grind ever so fine and slow. Evil never stops! We can only combat this with the grace of God; most especially communicated to us in and through Jesus Christ, His Church and her Sacraments.

On behalf of our parish staff we wish a Happy and Blessed Easter to all. I cannot think of a more glorious day of the

year then Easter Sunday. This is a great day of Hope. May the Blessings and Peace of our Risen Lord and Savior be with you and in your homes during this *Glorious Easter Season*.

Have a Glorious and Blessed Easter.  
Fr. Ralko



**This week we pray Week III of the Liturgy of the hours.**

*We pray for those who have died recently:  
Anna Sellers*

**Parish Finances**

***Please Note: Parish Finances for the week of March 28 will not be published, due to publication deadlines. Thank you!***

**THE GRIEF RECOVERY METHOD – GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP –**

Maybe it just happened or maybe it was a year or more ago. Grief knows no time. Help is available. An 8-week program led by Becky Joseph begins **Tuesday, April 13th**. Two opportunities are available, 1:00 -2:00 p.m. or 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Meetings will be held in the Parish Office. Pre-registration is requested to aid in planning. Please call Patty (740) 453-0597 for more information or to reserve your spot.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP FINDING OUR PEOPLE.** There are rumors that the nursing homes will soon be open for visits and we hope to resume homebound visits soon. It has come to our attention that many people have moved in the past year. Please help us update our nursing home and homebound lists by notifying the parish office with the name and location of those who are either homebound or in nursing homes. We don't want to miss anyone! (740) 453-0597, ext. 14.

**The Book of Intentions** - Praying for each other's intentions is an essential part of parish life. The Book of Intentions can be found in the vestibule (back of the church between the doors, under the statue of "Our Lady of Fatima"). If you would like the parish to pray for your intentions, please write the intention in a sentence or two in the book. The intentions will not be read aloud, but will be referenced during the "Prayer of the Faithful" at each Mass.

***Real Presence, Real Future reflections: He Is Risen!***

**Deacon. Tom Berg, Jr., St. Andrew Parish**

"Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed." With these joyous words from the Gospel on this Easter Sunday, we celebrate our Lord's resurrection, his victory over death and sin, rejoicing in his Real Presence in our lives. This is the pinnacle of our Catholic life of faith, what drives and inspires us every day to walk ever closer with our loving Lord as we journey toward the Real Future of God's promise of salvation for those who put their trust and faith in Him.

To read more about how we are growing together in the life of faith and discipleship in the Diocese of Columbus, visit [www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org](http://www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org)



**Traveling Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with Reflection**

Mt. Carmel Church will host the Men of The East for a traveling Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with Reflection on Thursday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. All men of the twelve-parish consortium are invited and encouraged to participate in these once a month Holy Hours.

Men of The East is a Catholic Men's Laity Ministry comprised of all practicing Catholic men who attend one of the 12 parishes in Knox, Licking, or Muskingum Counties. Men of The East exists to support, strengthen, and help maximize the spiritual growth of men of the Catholic Church. Men of The East is a part of the larger Catholic Men's Laity Ministry for the Columbus Ohio Diocese.

**Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)** is a Twelve Step, Twelve Tradition program for men and women who experienced the trauma of being raised in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional home. It is a safe place to learn how alcoholism and other family dysfunction affected the past, how it influences the present, and how to heal the wounds for a better future. Meetings are held in the Saint Nicholas Church Social Hall (Church Basement). **MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THURSDAYS at 7:00 p.m.** Please use the Silliman Street door. Meetings are expected to last no more than one hour, and masks are required. Contact James Sullivan for more Information at (740) 670 -2959.

**BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS AND PRAYER CARDS!** Looking for a good read? A variety of good books are available in the vestibule (back of the church), including children's books. The suggested donation is \$2.00 per book and proceeds are used to purchase additional books. Free copies of the "National Catholic Register", a Catholic newspaper that covers today's hot topics, are available on the front pews in the church and in the vestibule. Also, prayer cards and pamphlets on a variety of topics are available in the vestibule. These are also free. Take some for yourself and take some to share!

**FREE PRAYER BOOK!** Free copies of "The Word Among" Us can be found on the front pews of the church and in the vestibule. "The Word Among Us" contains all of the daily and weekend readings for Mass, daily meditations and interesting articles on a variety of subjects. Pick up your copy today!

# EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

## ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS

St. Nicholas Church has a convenient way to make your regular offerings. With our electronic giving program, you can easily set up a recurring giving schedule. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. Even when something prevents you from attending services, our church will continue to receive your contributions on an uninterrupted basis. To become an electronic giver, call or visit the church office or our website: [stnichparish.org](http://stnichparish.org).

*Our thoughts and prayers remain with those serving our country currently and with their loved ones at home. We pray for a safe homecoming and that the world may one day be at peace.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER ST. NICHOLAS PARISH IN YOUR WILL. CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 453-0597 FOR MORE DETAILS.**

*Please join us each Monday at the St. Nicholas Parish Office Chapel at 2:00 p.m. as we gather to pray the Rosary asking Our Lady's Intercession or the many needs of our nation, community, and parish.*

### INCOME TAX

If you would like to have a record of your donations to the Church for tax purposes, please fill in your envelope number, name and address or email and place it in the collection basket. A statement will be sent to you.

Envelope No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ or

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

## *What's Happening in Our Parish*

### MONDAY, April 5

*Parish Office Closed*

*8:00 a.m., Mass: Robert Ralko, Church*

*7:00 p.m., Mercy Bible Study, Parish Office*

### TUESDAY, April 6

*9:00 a.m., Mass: St. Thomas Intention, Church*

### WEDNESDAY, April 7

*9:00 a.m., Mass: John R. Burkhart, Church*

### THURSDAY, April 8

*9:00 a.m., Mass: St. Thomas Intention, Church*

### FRIDAY, April 9

*8:00 a.m., Mass: Reg Gear, anniversary, Church*

## *Divine Mercy Sunday*

### SATURDAY, April 10

*4:15 p.m. p.m.-4:45 p.m., Confessions, Church*

*5:15 p.m., Mass: Hope Buchanan, Church*

### SUNDAY, April 11

*8:15 a.m., Mass: St. Nicholas Parishioners, Church*

*9:15 a.m., Sunday School, Parish Office*

*10:45 a.m., Mass: Doug Davis, Church*

## *Readings for Week of April 5*

Mon. . . . .	Acts 2:14, 22-33	Mt 28:8-15
Tues. . . . .	Acts 2:36-41	Jn 20:11-18
Wed . . . . .	Acts 3:1-10	Lk 24:13-35
Thurs. . . . .	Acts 3:11-26	Lk 24:35-48
Fri. . . . .	Acts 4:1-12	Jn 21:1-14
Sat. . . . .	Acts 4:13-21	Mk 16:9-15
Sun . . . . .	Acts 4:32-35	Jn 20:19-31

### **Cantor Schedule**

April 10 5:15 p.m. Sandy Black  
April 11 8:15 a.m. Kerby Staker  
10:45 a.m. Lucille Morosco



*The Easter flowers adorning our sanctuary honor our deceased loved ones and friends whose memory we cherish. In Loving Honor/Memory Of:*

*(Listed in alphabetical order by donor)*

Charles W. Allbritain, James M. & Verna Cavanaugh, Dorothy & W. C. Allbritain, Father James T. Smith and Robert Allbritain from Mrs. Charles W. Allbritain  
 John F. Anderson, Sr., Dennis E. Roerig, Harry & Agnes Thompson and Evelyn & George Anderson from Mrs. Marilyn Anderson  
 Langdon Jade Thomas from Nanny  
 Dick & June Shawger from Nancy Arnold  
 Aaron Baltzer from Auntie Nancy  
 John & Sally Harmon and John H. Austen from Dr. Jeffrey and Ramona Austen  
 Earl & Gertrude Sorg, Richard (Dick) Sorg, Frank & Patricia Rubeck, Larry Backus and Shirley Cooperrider from Sandy & Dan Backus and Michelle & Todd Rock  
 Bernard Barnes, Joseph Barnes, Herbert & Rose Cooper and John & Anna Matthey from Mrs. Patricia Barnes  
 R. Virgil Bennett from Shirley Bennett & family  
 Donald & Laura Baum, Charles & Anna Paul, K. O. Black and Lois Shiplett and Sherry McElfresh from Ms. Sandy Black  
 Barbara Miller, George & Emma Bollinger, Howard & Florence Miller, Clarence & Sylvia Miller, Garth & Virginia Wilson and Earl & Mary Mercer from Patty Boggs  
 Paul Bryson & Mark Bryson from Mrs. Paul Bryson  
 Butcher Family from Michael Butcher  
 Ted & Laura Jean Hemmer, Charles & Bonnie Denny and James & Norma Jean McGee from Mr. & Mrs. Russell Denny  
 Bill and Kay Stuck from Dennis Dooley  
 Dick Dooley from Sue Dooley and daughters  
 Chuck & Jane Durant and Delores Wilson from Pat, Renee, Olivia & Ian Durant  
 Hubert & Lucy Mansfield and Richard Ebersole from Rick & Mary Ann Ebersole  
 W. Roger Eppley, John Kozak and Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Smithberger and Sister Cordea Hohman from Mrs. Rita Eppley  
 James V. Hoffer and Mary Hoffer from Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ewert  
 W. Bill Fitz, Mildred & Robert Schramm, Virginia Hummel, Richard and Robert Schramm Jr., Douglas Baldwin, Tim Bash and all loved ones in Heaven from Mrs. Dorothy Fitz  
 Sally & Bill Fleer from Marie Fleer  
 Gene & Marilou Tice Ehleiter from Jeane Fletcher  
 Barbara Flood, Rawlston & Mary Frank and Jennie Flood from Angela Flood  
 Margaret & Tom Paul, Janet Robinson, Mark Fulk and Betty Weichert from Mrs. Marcia Fulk  
 John A. Rock, Mark D. Ginikos, Sr. and Mark Ginikos, Jr. from John & Dee Ginikos  
 Thomas Paul, Frank Mehling, Chad Mehling and Cecil Soller from Mr. & Mrs. James Goody  
 Reg Grear from SuAnn Grear, Cathy Freriks and Julie Thoben  
 Flo & Harry Monkhouse, Ruth & Paul Greten, Marlene & Richard Greten and Rev. Charles T. Shannon, OP from Suzanne Greten

Ray Hecker, Bill Kohler, Rita Hecker, Ed & Frances Kohler, Ed B. Kohler, Jr., Marianne Denny, and Elizabeth McCorry from Mrs. Betty Hecker  
 Winifred Hill and Phyllis Hill from the Hill Family  
 Our Families from Mr. & Mrs. William Hill  
 Lucy & Darrel Hillis and Rose Holden from Mr. Rolland Hillis  
 Morris & Luella Hoffer, Monsignor Linus Dury, John Hoffer and Charles (Butch) Hoffer from Tim Hoffer  
 Janet Robinson, Margaret & Tom Paul, Arthur & Grace Hooper, Betty Wetherell, Mary Lou Agin and Mary Hall from Mr. & Mrs. Dale Hooper  
 Hooper and Lawyer Families from B. Jean Hooper  
 Bernard L. Hutchison, Lester & Gertrude Hutchison and Walter & Clara Yinger family from Mrs. Bernadetta Hutchison  
 Kathy Shawger, Langdon Thomas, June Shawger and Jack Brady from Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Jones  
 Joseph King and John & Mary Wallery from Mr. & Mrs. William King  
 Shirley Knox from Dan Knox  
 Cody & Joan Nedimyer, Blaine and Andrew Kocoloski, Larry Kocoloski and Kathy Nedimyer from Dr. & Mrs. Philip Kocoloski  
 Bill Kohler from Carol Kohler  
 Gary P. Kronenbitter, All aborted children and Fred & Julia Weiner from Margaret Kronenbitter  
 Harry & Mary Fouch Family and Harry & Louise Kuhn Family from Linda Kuhn  
 Thomas J. Nash and Gable Connors from Mark Manbevers  
 Paul & Shirley McAvoy, sons Jeff & Doug McAvoy, Anthony & Marie Schillinger and daughter, Mary Jo Newton, from Mr. & Mrs. Timothy McAvoy  
 Bernard Barnes and Regis & Leona Michel from Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Michel  
 John & Marjorie Michel and Patty Higley from Marianne Michel  
 Roy, Mary & Herman Miller from Eileen Miller  
 Barbara Miller from Robert Miller, Sr.  
 Mary Fontes, Deborah Perry and Joe Perry from Mary Moody  
 Frank P. Morosco, Larry J. Morosco and Thomas L. Morosco from Mrs. Winifred Morosco  
 Felipe Barranco, Melecio Barranco, Celestina Barranco, Karpo Morozowsky and Thelma Morozowsky, from Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Morozowsky  
 George, Ray, Lawrence & Cecil Soller, Teresa Pickenpauh, Delores Woerner, Janet Robinson, Margaret Paul, Henry & Anna Hupp and Alberta & Michael R. Musselman from Mr. & Mrs. Mike Musselman  
 Jack E. Nagel from Mrs. Jack E. Nagel  
 Tom, Patty & Bernard Nash and the Nash and Stenson Families from Mrs. Helen Nash  
 Charles & Beatrice Clark and John & Kate Nash from Mr. & Mrs. Jack Nash

**Dick & Norma Page, Gene & Mary Gladys Neel, Kaitlin Foraker and Catherine Maxwell Weaver** from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Neel  
**Paul O' Toole** from Mrs. Paul O' Toole  
**Eleanor & John Dietenbeck, Julia & Sylvester Burkhart, Bernard Burkhart, John & Mary Burkhart, Eleanor & Walter Flack, Thomas & Sue Burkhart and Brandon Merriam** from Mr. & Mrs. Willard Parry  
**Mary & Elmer Passwaters, George & Barbara Davis, Louise & Milroy Snurr and Joseph & Mary Krels** from Mrs. Dorothy Passwaters  
**Mr. & Mrs. Charles Goelz and family and Mr. & Mrs. B.N. Peterson and family** from Deacon & Mrs. Pete Peterson  
**Tom & Dorothy Stephens Family and Jim & Louise Pitcock Family, Myrna & Richard Snyder, Shirley Haughey, Jeffrey Haughey, David Haughey, Mike Grote, Gary Land and Betty Search** from Tom & Elaine Pitcock  
**Thomas & Grace Raymond** from Tom & Janna Pitcock  
**John Pletcher and Theresa Salahub** from Judy Pletcher & children  
**Robert & Audrey Ralko, Eugene & Frances Method, Francis & Lilian Ralko, Art & Margaret Nelson, Mary Jane Ralko, Frank & Pat Ralko and Eugene W. Method, Jr.** from Fr. Martin Ralko  
**Daniel Rapol, Bonnie & Bill Flood and Gin & Pete Rapol** from Dorothy Rapol  
**Mr. & Mrs. T J. Walchak and Mr. & Mrs. Stephen M. Rebic I** from Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Rebic  
**Robinson, Schram & Hohman Families** from Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Robinson  
**Pauline Davis, Douglas Davis, Molly Ratliffe and Herb & Helen Davis** from Mr. & Mrs. Bill Roush

**Ryan Family, McKeown Family, Smith Family and Gene & Dortha Priest** from Mrs. Donald Ryan  
**Charles & Leota Schaumleffel, Judy Gaumer and Jane Whipple** from Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Schaumleffel  
**Alfred & Florence Schoeppner and Mathilda Clark** from M. Diane Schoeppner  
**Cletus Schoeppner, Clarence & Emma Huck and Albert Schoeppner family** from Sophia Schoeppner  
**Mr. & Mrs. James Hoffer and Janet Hoffer Showecker** from Diane Searls  
**Jack & Betty Shank and Margaret & Kenneth Meyer** from Barb & Larry Shank  
**Robert & Virginia Staker** from Mr. & Mrs. James Staker  
**Edwin Staley** from Marian Staley  
**Bill Sullivan, Sr. and Brian Patrick Sullivan** from Mrs. Rosemary Sullivan  
**Harry & Agnes Thompson, Bernard & Betty Archer, Wanda Brown, Danny, Dennis Roehrig and John Anderson Sr.** from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Thompson  
**Mary Lou Wagner, Dale & Chloe Wagner and Clarence & Mary E. Basehart** from Mr. David Wagner  
**Bob Wahl** from Judy Wahl  
**Mr. & Mrs. John Walker, Mary Greulich, Don & Jim Greulich, Margaret Denbow, Mrs. Kaye Dewitt, Mr. Harold Roessler, Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Mrs. Jean James, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Snyder, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Shiplett, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Hupp and Mrs. Mary Hall** from Mr. Larry Walker  
**Douglas Walker** from Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Walker  
**The White Family** from Charlie White  
**Michael Lee Wilson** from Diane Wilson  
**Jerry & Nancy Davis and Wesley L. Wilson** from Mr. & Mrs. Scott Wilson  
**Mr. Herman & Mrs. Virginia Grotegeer** from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wion



# Easter

---

## Memorial Flowers