

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

Saturday, April 17th

8:30 am - St. John – *in pectore*
 9:00 am - 9:30 am – Confessions at St. John
 4:00 pm - St. John – Ms. Wiltraut Hartelt

by Mr/Mrs Reg & Rose Haselton

Sunday, April 18th Third Sunday of Easter

7:30 am - 7:55 am – Confessions at St. John
 8:00 am - St. John – Francis Ryan (50th Anniversary) by Deacon Christopher Ryan
 9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – *in pectore*
 11:30am - Queen of Peace – For the People
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed

Monday, April 19th

8:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Bertha T. Koury by Marianne & Saher Hraibi, Ramzi & Nadim

Tuesday, April 20th

8:30 am - St. John – Thomas F. Lovett by the Lovett Family

Wednesday, April 21st Saint Anselm

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm – Holy Hour of Adoration with Confessions at St. John
 5:15 pm - St. John – Gibson Children by Martha Gibson

Thursday, April 22nd

8:30 am - St. John – Those assisted by the St. Vincent de Paul Society
 by SVDP Corpus Christi Conference

Friday, April 23rd Saint George the Martyr

8:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Gabrielle Guillemette

Saturday, April 24th

8:30 am - St. John – *in pectore*
 9:00 am - 9:30 am – Confessions at St. John
 4:00 pm - St. John – Jane Williams by Dc Pete & Mary Anne Gummere

Sunday, April 25th Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:30 am - 7:55 am – Confessions at St. John
 8:00 am - St. John – For the People
 9:35 am - St. Elizabeth – Special Intention by a Parishioner
 11:30am - Queen of Peace – Edward & Steven Hahr
Confessions at QP before Mass (time permitting) or following Mass as needed

*Please pray for parishioners who are ill or in need of your prayers, especially:
 Pam Austin, Charlene Chase, Connie Lapage, Martin Fortin, Charlie Weis,
 Randy Thomas, Dick & Anita Bedor, Sue Maurice, Karson St. Marie*

4/25/21	St. John	St. Elizabeth	Queen of Peace
LECTORS:	4pm M Noyes 8am D Houde	9:35am J Simard	11:30am M Goldrick

The **FORMED** program is available to everyone in our parish. To start enjoying this free gift, please visit the FORMED website:

- Go to: nekcatholic.formed.org
- Click on REGISTER to create a personal account

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Corpus Christi Conference offers assistance in name of Jesus to the needy in our community. To contact us call: Patrick McWilliams: 274-3542 Ann Lovett: 751-8187; or the Rectory: 748-8129 We will arrange a visit to see if we are able to serve you!

A poster of the First Holy Communion candidates is at each of the three churches. Please keep these students in your prayers as they prepare for this sacrament which will take place on May 23rd.

PARISH EVENTS

April 18th: NO Confirmation

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/20-6/30/21 Budgeted Regular Collection: \$243,650
 Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$100,324.18 + On-Line: \$62,540.59
 Collections & Receipts: April 4, 2021 Reg .Offeratory:\$3035.00

Second Collections

April 18th: No Second Collection April 25th: Catholic Home Missions

A Note of Love and Gratitude to Parishioners from Sue Maurice:

As many of you probably know, I have been diagnosed with terminal cancer. I wanted to express that for nearly 30 years, you have been my family and friends. Throughout this time, I have been blessed with your love, support, and friendship. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each of you.

Please keep me in your prayers, and I'll keep you in mine. ~ Sue

Food Collection in Honor of Saint Joseph

In honor of St. Joseph we'll be collecting food for the area Food Shelves for the weekend of May 1st – the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. Please bring your non-perishable food donations to the church and we will bring them to the local food pantries. Thank you for your kindness! Good Saint Joseph be near to all who struggle. Amen.

Prayer of Saint Anselm

O my God, teach my heart where and how to seek You, where and how to find You. You are my God and You are my all and I have never seen You. You have made me and remade me, You have bestowed on me all the good things I possess, Still I do not know You. I have not yet done that for which I was made. Teach me to seek You. I cannot seek You unless You teach me or find You unless You show Yourself to me. Let me seek You in my desire, let me desire You in my seeking. Let me find You by loving You, let me love You when I find You. Amen.

THE VALUE OF AN ACT OF LOVE

The value of one simple act of love is priceless. An act of love is of greater value than a thousand acts of any other virtue, just as one small diamond is worth more than a thousand gold pieces. Our Blessed Lord told Benigna Consolata that any ordinary Christian can make an act of love in a moment which will have a reward for all eternity. We can make countless acts of love every day without any difficulty. Secondly, He told her that one act of love gives Him more glory and more pleasure than a thousand horrible blasphemies give Him pain! Thirdly, love wipes out our sins. One short act of love won for the Thief on the cross the promise that he would be that very day with Christ in Paradise. On the other hand, all that we do which is not done for the love of God is worthless and will get no reward. We may toil for long years and receive great praise and honor for our labors, but if our work is not done for love of God, it is worthless. Thus it is that a poor old woman who tells her beads at the church door, who bears her poverty patiently and who lives a quiet Christian life will have a higher place in Heaven than the great statesmen, the clever generals, the famous politicians, who direct the destinies of vast empires but who do not think of offering their work to God.



April 21st: Feast of St. Anselm

Indifferent toward religion as a young man, Anselm became one of the Church's greatest theologians and leaders. He received the title "Father of Scholasticism" for his attempt to analyze and illumine the truths of faith through the aid of reason.

At 15, Anselm wanted to enter a monastery, but was refused acceptance because of his father's opposition. Twelve years later, after careless disinterest in religion and years of worldly living, he finally fulfilled his desire to be a monk. He entered the monastery of Bec in Normandy, was elected prior three years later, and 15 years later, was unanimously chosen abbot.

Considered an original and independent thinker, Anselm was admired for his patience, gentleness, and teaching skill. Under his leadership, the Abbey of Bec became a monastic school, influential in philosophical and theological studies.

During these years, at the community's request, Anselm began publishing his theological works, comparable to those of Saint Augustine. His best-known work is the book *Cur Deus Homo* ("Why God Became Man").

Against his will, Anselm was appointed archbishop of Canterbury in 1093, at age 60. His appointment was opposed at first by England's King William Rufus and later accepted. Rufus persistently refused to cooperate with efforts to reform the Church.

Anselm finally went into voluntary exile until Rufus died in 1100. He was then recalled to England by Rufus' brother and successor, Henry I. Disagreeing fearlessly with Henry over the king's insistence on investing England's bishops, Anselm spent another three years in exile in Rome.

His care and concern extended to the very poorest people. Opposing the slave trade, Anselm obtained from the national council at Westminster the passage of a resolution prohibiting the sale of human beings.

Like every true follower of Christ, Anselm had to carry his cross, especially in the form of opposition and conflict with those in political control. Though personally a mild and gentle man and a lover of peace, he would not back off from conflict and persecution when principles were at stake.

O Lord, we bring You the troubles and perils of peoples and nations, the sighing of prisoners and captives, the sorrows of the bereaved, the needs of strangers, the helplessness of the weak, the tiredness of the weary, the failing powers of the aged. O Lord, draw near to each; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

April 23rd: Feast of Saint George the Martyr

Saint George, whose name in Greek means "farmer," was born to a Christian family in Cappadocia around the year 280. After moving to Palestine, he joined the army of Diocletian. When the emperor issued the edict of persecution against Christians in 303, George gave all his belongings to the poor and, in front of Diocletian himself, tore the document apart and professed his faith in Christ. For this he suffered terrible torture and was eventually beheaded.

Desiring and Receiving the Grace of the Holy Mass

The effect of the Blessed Sacrament is considered, first of all from what is contained in this Sacrament, which is Christ; Who, just as by coming into the world, He visibly bestowed the life of grace upon the world, according to John 1:17: "*Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ,*" so also, by coming sacramentally into man causes the life of grace, according to John 6:58: "*He that eateth Me, the same also shall live by Me.*" Secondly, it is considered on the part of what is represented by this Sacrament, which is Christ's Passion and therefore this Sacrament works in man the effect which Christ's Passion wrought in the world. Thirdly, the effect of this Sacrament is considered from the way in which this Sacrament is given; for it is given by way of food and drink. And therefore this Sacrament does for the spiritual life all that material food does for the bodily life, namely, by sustaining, giving increase, restoring, and giving delight. Fourthly, the effect of this Sacrament is considered from the species under which it is given. Hence Augustine says: "*Our Lord betokened His body and blood in things which out of many units are made into some one whole: for out of many grains is one thing made,*" viz. bread; "*and many grapes flow into one thing,*" viz. wine. And therefore he observes elsewhere: "*O sacrament of piety, O sign of unity, O bond of charity!*" And since Christ and His Passion are the cause of grace, and since spiritual refreshment, and charity cannot be without grace, it is clear that this Sacrament bestows grace. (cf. ST III Q 79 a1)

This grace, in general, accrues to the benefit of the whole Church; to both the living faithful and to the poor souls in Purgatory. In particular it accrues to the benefit of those persons for whom the Mass is especially offered, whether living or dead, according to the intention of the Priest. Finally, the grace accrues personally to the Priest who celebrates in the Person of Christ, and to the faithful present who seek to sacrifice themselves along with Christ. At the Mass the grace is offered to all these, but the receiving of the fruits of Christ's Sacrifice demands certain due moral dispositions, and the measure of the fruits received is dependent on the quality of these dispositions, which is to say that there needs to be both a desire and an effort to unite ourselves to our Sacrificing Lord. (cf. *Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma*, Ludwig Ott)

Thus, in the first Eucharistic Prayer, at the Commemoration of the Living, the Priest says: *Remember, Lord, Your servants*, and then pauses to remember these, at this time the faithful should also remember those for whom we wish to gain the grace. The Priest then continues: *... and all gathered here ... for them we offer You this sacrifice of praise or they offer it for themselves and all who are dear to them: for the redemption of their souls, in hope of health and well-being, etc.* Then comes the recitation of a long list of Saints, with a special mention of the Blessed Virgin. These all gave the entirety of their lives in sacrifice for Christ – should we not do the same who desire to be united with Him in Holy Communion? Similarly, near the end of the prayer, at the Commemoration of the Dead, where the Priest pauses to pray for the deceased – the people should also call their beloved dead to mind: *Grant them, O Lord, we pray, and all who sleep in Christ, a place of refreshment, light and peace.*

Next he strikes his breast saying: *To us, also, Your servants, who, though sinners, hope in Your abundant mercies, etc.* This is the Good Thief on the cross, who admitting his unworthiness, nonetheless dared to ask and hope for a remembrance in the Kingdom of Christ – and was given the Kingdom itself! And as we hear another long list of martyrs we should hope for the same as we anticipate the moment of entering into the Paradise of Holy Communion with Christ.