

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter



Open Eyes, Burning Hearts

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus had listened to a stranger explain the Scriptures that dealt with Jesus, whose death had been a blow to them. At table they saw him take bread, say a blessing, break it and give it to them. *Their eyes were opened and they recognized him.* Why did these familiar actions act as a trigger for them? Their situation is similar to ours. Their faith as ours rests on the testimony of Scripture, those who had seen the Risen Lord and the presence of the Lord in the breaking of the bread. This is the path of faith that leads to the recognition of the resurrected Christ.

MASS INTENTION



Thursday, April 30

5:30 p.m. Louis, Albin & Mary Smolik
Louis Stryk

Sunday, May 3

9:00 a.m. *Mass live-streamed from Moulton*

This Sunday's Mass will be from St. Mary's Praha for viewing on our Facebook Page: St Joseph's & St Mary's - Moulton/Praha, TX and afterward on our website www.stmaryspraha.org.

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Easter*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your bible.
First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23
Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25
Gospel: John 10:1-10

The Sanctuary Light will be lit this week in memory of Paula Vrazel and Emma & Julius Stryk.



St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Robert E. Zimmerman Jr., Houston, TX - \$500

William R. Leek Jr., Hewitt, TX - \$25

CEMETERY MONUMENT RESTORED

We thank the anonymous donor for the \$5,000 donation to the St. Mary's Cemetery Fund. The donation made it possible to have the crucifix and statues cleaned and the monument restored.

Dear Friends,

What a blessing it is for us all to be safe and sound. As we go through this impasse, I ask how we can find God in this situation. And surely, God has his finger print all over the place. Just look at how much slower the pace of life has become, and how we are attaching value to what is important in life; family members spending quality time together, neighbors looking out for each other, and people being thoughtful and kinder to others.

The situation seems to bring out the best in all of us as we realize how precious and fragile life is. I just wish it stays that way.

Work is going on in the Hall in preparation for the Picnic. To ease the congestion in the Hall, the north side wall has been extended to accommodate the plates-to-go preparation line. The Stew Room has also been extended to make room for a walk-in cooler and more stew kettles. Hopefully, these additions will make it easier on the workers.

Here, at the Office, there has not been a dull moment. Each day comes with its own surprises. Presently, we are updating our records. With many house phones disconnected and mailing addresses changed, it has become difficult to stay in touch with some of you. Do please fill out the form below for our Office use.

The live-stream Masses have been going good but I would sooner have the five Masses over the weekend than that but it is what it is right now, so hang in there with me until we can celebrate together again in person. So that we can stay connected, meanwhile I will celebrate Mass in Praha on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. We will do this respecting the social distancing laws.

Lastly, I thank you for your tremendous support and prayers. All will be well!

God bless,

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Home Missions.

REFLECTION



TRANSFORMATION

Making their way to Emmaus, Cleopas and his companion were downcast and disappointed. By their own admission, they had hoped Jesus would be Israel's long-awaited redeemer. They could not bring themselves to accept the word of the women who found Jesus' tomb empty. Nor did they place any credence in their vision of angels. Only when Jesus broke open for them the word of God, and only when he broke bread with them, did a light of recognition dawn. In that moment, they remembered, they believed, and they were transformed. Rather, than continue their journey, they returned to Jerusalem, no longer hopeless but full of joy, professing their faith in the risen Lord.

This same opportunity for transformation is made available to each of us every time we gather in Jesus' name to be nourished by the bread of the Word and by the bread of Eucharist. We come as we are, some sad, some wounded, some broken, some full of vigor; some full of doubts, some with lists of needs and desires, some with empty but open hands. As the word is proclaimed, the Spirit enables us to hear with fresh ears so that we can take away an insight, or renew our resolve to be better. We keep this challenge with us as we go forth into the week ahead. As the bread of life is blessed, broken and shared, the real presence of Jesus makes our hearts burn within us, nourishing us and nudging us toward a more lively faith and more devoted service of those in need.

Although our transformation had begun, it is not complete. It will be necessary for each of us to return again and again to the table of the Lord. There we will find the food to feed all our hungers. There we will also find forgiveness and healing, as well as the motivation to continue the lifelong process of transformation until Jesus comes again.

– Culled from Celebration

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



April 27 – James Kubecka
April 28 – Andrew Velasquez
April 30 – Bridgette Cerny
– Cynthia Koncaba

SPECIAL MOTHERS DAY MASS MAY 10

To have your mother specially remembered in the Mass intention of the day, drop your Mother's Day envelope in the drop slot or mail May 5.

C.C.D. NEWS



Samuel, Daniel and Callan MacDonald and Julian Saucedo have been preparing to receive First Holy Communion the Sunday after Mother's Day but due to the current circumstances they have decided to wait until parishioners can celebrate together with them at a later date.

Do please keep them in your prayers as they continue studying/preparing to receive the sacraments.

Lenten Coin Folders Sacrifice – Almsgiving

For the Lenten Season the C.C.D. students were given Coin Folders to help them with their Lenten sacrifice. The students sacrificed \$54.75. Their donations will be earmarked for charity.

PARISH CENSUS

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE

It has been several years since we have updated our parish census contact information. Many parishioners have disconnected their home phones, have email addresses, and/or have changed mailing addresses. In order to update our records, we ask that you complete the form below and drop it in the mail slot, or mail.

Thank you for helping us update our records.

✂ _____

St. Joseph's Parishioner Contact Information Update

Please Print

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Street Address (if different from above) _____

Phone No. _____

Cell Phone No. _____

Cell Phone No. _____

E-MAIL _____

* If you are not registered and would like to become a parishioner, contact the Parish Office or find the registration form online at our website: www.stmaryspraha.org.