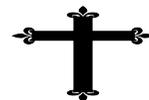


# Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord



## April 12, 2020

### ATTENTION

**All scheduled masses and events are cancelled due to the ban.  
As a Parish Family we pray for all who are affected by COVID-19.  
The Church & Rectory will remain closed until further notice.**

**If you had a mass scheduled or offered the Bread and Wine or Sanctuary Candle for a loved one, for this week or the upcoming weeks, please call the rectory to reschedule to a later date. We apologize for the inconvenience.**

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**"Christ is risen!" ~ Easter 2020  
(Matthew 28: 1-10)**

The Church is filled with joy because Christ is risen. Jesus has returned from death to life; the first among many. Our redemption has been accomplished. We can repeat full of joy and despite the pain we live in due to the coronavirus that "all those who have been baptized have been redeemed in Christ Jesus." Death has no power over us: "If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. "Like a phoenix we have been reborn from the dust of despair and anguish in the light that has no end and that is the hope of our own resurrection. "Today is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad" we sing in the responsorial psalm. May these shouts of joy make this Easter liturgy the beginning of our lives that rejoice at the Resurrection of the Lord.

Like every Easter we listen to the testimony of the three apostles who speak to us of the Resurrection of Christ: Peter, Paul and John. Peter testifies about the life and mission of Jesus; Paul of the effects that the resurrection brings to believers while John gives us a summary of what happened that first Easter. The joy and peace symbols of the risen Jesus Christ make us come alive in this celebration. Unfortunately, this joyous feeling may disappear when we see the progress of the pandemic again or dive into the routine of our own work. Perhaps we do not have to wait until tomorrow or until this afternoon when family conflicts that we may least expect could arise. The words of the apostle Paul can comfort us in those difficult moments that we may experience. The joy of the resurrection has not assured us that we will not have struggles in our lives; in fact, Paul says to "think of things above and not of things on earth." The mission of the Son of God was to come to earth to instruct, heal, and save us. Through our baptism we share his same mission and his promises. As difficult as these times are that we have to live through, let us always be happy **because with the risen Jesus we have all been redeemed.**

The Gospel tells us about various races that seem like we are in a marathon. Mary Magdalene sees the stone removed and runs in terror to inform Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. When they hear this message, they run towards the tomb and the youngest arrives first, although out of respect for the figure that Peter has become in the group of 12, John hopes that he will arrive. Everything seems to calm down when Peter arrives and looks. It would seem that these two apostles even lack the breath from so much running and because somehow the facts overcome their imagination that keeps running without stopping. All of them do not understand what has happened. The beloved disciple out of love is the only one who believes. However, the beloved disciple does not understand what is going on but he does believe that somehow the Risen Jesus has returned to the arms of God the Father.

The beloved disciple still runs or wanders in his understanding, but his faith makes him believe. Curiously, he does not believe because he sees Jesus, an angel, or the other witnesses, but in spite of their absence. So the challenge for the believer of all time is not to understand in a scientific way the facts of the resurrection, but to believe out of love, as the beloved disciple did. Saint Ignatius wants us to "feel and like the things of God internally."

The experience of the resurrection is the cause of our joy today, tomorrow and always if we share the same love as the beloved disciple who believed even without seeing. Let us ask the Risen Christ that we may experience the power of his love that leads us to look beyond our understanding. Let us pray that we may look with the eyes of faith that only a heart in love can experience. Let us finish this reflection with the request of Saint Ignatius in the fourth week of Spiritual Exercises: "I ask for what I desire. Here it will be to ask for the grace to be glad and to rejoice intensely because of the great glory and joy of Christ our Lord" (SE 221).

**Happy Easter ~ Felices Pascuas ~ Fr. Hernán, S.J.**

### Weekly Remembrances

**Bread & Wine  
Tabernacle Candle  
Memorial Candle  
Memorial Candle**



~ For the safety & well being of  
the People of our Parish Community  
~ † For all the lives lost to  
~ the COVID-19 Virus



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page ([www.olmcsi.org](http://www.olmcsi.org)). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

### **April 12: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

Acts 10:34A, 37-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23  
Colossians 3:1-4

### **April 19: Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24  
1 Peter 1:3-9



### **KEEP CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISH THROUGH FACEBOOK**

**Fr. Hernán and Fr. Marc and Fr Luis Mario are offering virtual Masses and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament through our Facebook page. Connect and follow us to see these transmissions in your homes. Facebook Page: olmcsi**  
**Masses on Sundays; 10:00 am (English); 11:30 am (Spanish)**  
**Masses from Monday to Friday; 12:00 pm (Spanish); Thursdays 11am (English)**  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; daily at 7:00 pm (Spanish)**

**YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT** – How can you continue supporting your parish? **1)** You may mail us your weekly contribution envelopes. **2)** You may drop off your weekly contribution envelopes. **3)** Register for online giving. The financial stress of no collections will put the physical and staffing needs of the parish in **SERIOUS JEOPARDY**. We are all together in this crisis, and our family of faith that we call the Our Lady of Mount Carmel – St. Benedicta – St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, has always been and will continue to be with you through this. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you in these trying times.

**REGISTER for ONLINE GIVING** - WeShare allows parishes to receive online gifts and give their parishioners a safe and easy way to do so. You are able to set up recurring donations and manage your online giving accounts. If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy! Customer service number 1-800-950-9952.

1. Visit <http://www.WeShare.com> and register for a new account.
2. Click on the collection you wish to donate to.
3. Click Recurring Donation, then enter your donation amount and frequency.

Once you've added your account information, donations will automatically deduct from your account. It's that easy!

**ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** - It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

### **PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

**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 in 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.**

**SEEDS OF FAITH** - There is a brevity, a certain terseness, in the scripture readings for Easter Sunday. Peter's speech in Acts is built of direct, pointed sentences. Paul's letters are based on straightforward creed-like statements. Even the Gospel story only briefly recounts what will turn out to be one of the most remarkable events in human history—the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Advertising agents call these encapsulated points of information "bullet points." Scripture scholars call them kerygmata, or "kernels" of our faith. Actually, "kernels" or "seeds" are good terms for these statements, since throughout the Easter season, we will hear in the Acts of the Apostles, the Letters of Paul, and the Gospel accounts of the days following the Resurrection exactly how these kerygmata began to flower, how they continued to grow through the life of the early church. May these Easter "seeds" of faith serve a similar purpose for us, too, so that the life of the Risen Christ will flourish in us and through our witness in the coming days. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

### **POPE FRANCIS: PRAYER TO PROTECT THE WORLD**

O Mary, you always shine on your path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the holy of the resurrection. Amen.

***Dear parishioners, our entire Parish Staff joins together in extending to you our best wishes and all of the joy of Easter. Since Easter is fifty days long, we look forward to that wonderful day when this situation is over when we will finally have the opportunity to greet you personally and to once again celebrate all together the***