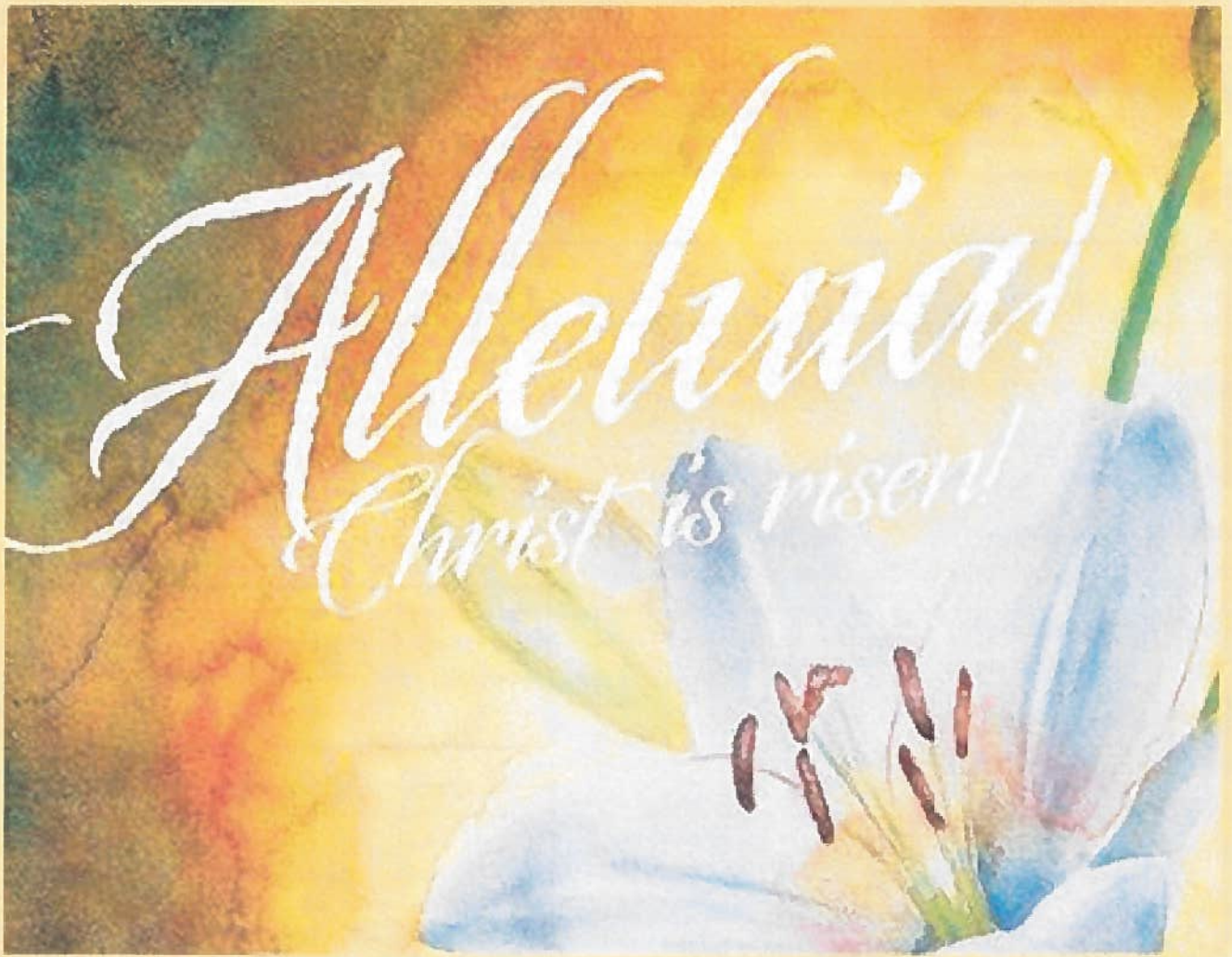


The Roman Catholic Parishes of  
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher  
St. James the Apostle, Irwin  
Sacred Heart, Goodrich

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

APRIL 8-9, 2023



Weekend Masses:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 5:00 pm	Sun. 10:30 am
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:30 am	
St. James	Sun 9:00 am	

Confessions:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 4:15 pm
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:05-7:20 am
St. James	Sun 8:35-8:50 am

Church Mailing Address:

207 E. 5th Street

Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2550

Quotable: " To be content, to find true love, is what essentially drives us all, but if found, would it be recognized?  
 —Saint Ambrose

Sunday of Divine Mercy			April 15-16, 2023	
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, April 15 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, April 16 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, April 16 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, April 16 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dave Emling Gery Wright Todd Datweiler Bob Schultz	David Kirkpatrick Dale Pfeiffer	Jerry Ogrentz Jeff Martin Dallas Ferris Dan Forsythe	Brent Fulton Erik Wheeler Corinn Wheeler Darren Lovell
Lector	Dave Emling	Darlene Cipcich	Dave Ladehoff	Dana Masching
Servers				Caroline Fulton Charlotte Fulton
Greeters			Greeter— C. Forsythe R. Leader—Rita Theisen	Stacy Powers

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Monday, April 10 (SMM)**

8:00 am +Janet & Harlyn Bever (Mariann Lane)

**Tuesday, April 11 (SH)**

8:00 am +Harold Fournier (Ken/Denise Wenzelman)

**Wednesday, April 12 (SJ)**

8:00 am +Sondra Hertz (Karen Diefenbach)

**Friday, April 14 (SMM)**

8:00 am +JR Matern (Mark/Sue Richie)

**Saturday, April 15 (SMM)**

5:00 pm For All the Parish Family

**Sunday, April 16**

7:30 am (SH) +James Riley Tina Berns, Bernice Pool,  
Bernadette Denault, Bonnie Draper, Hilda  
Riley, James Palinski (The Family)

9:00 am (SJ) +Noreen Saathoff (Rita Thiesen)  
+Dorene O'Connor (Dallas/Joyce Ferris)

10:30am (SMM) +Francis & Aldine O'Brien (The Family)  
+Alice Buckley (John/Bev Schneider)

**A Look Ahead**

April 29/30—2nd collection for Missions Appeal  
 Wednesday, May 10—K of C Blood Drive at SJ 3pm-7pm

**Questions of the week:**

How has my life been transformed since three years ago?  
 What can I make new in my life, in my community, in the world?

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550  
 Deacon – Ron Gagnon— rjgckg@aol.com  
 Home—815-933-4077  
 Parish Email – smm\_sja\_sh@yahoo.com  
 TriParish web page – [www.triparishcatholics.org](http://www.triparishcatholics.org)  
 Like us on Facebook [triparishcatholiccommunities](http://triparishcatholiccommunities)  
**Tri Parish Church office** –Barb Riker 426-2550  
 Julie Bisailon 426-2550  
**Bulletin** – Debbie Jensen - 426-2550  
 debjen04@gmail.com  
**Religious Education** –  
 St. MM – Jill Fulton [jfulton.stmm@gmail.com](mailto:jfulton.stmm@gmail.com)  
 St. James – Carolyn Levyclevystjames@gmail.com  
 Sacred Heart – Rhonda Berns – 426-5015  
**Parish Nurse** – Jackie Eberle – 815-421-4048  
**Prayer Line**– SMM—Pat Wagner 815-592-0773  
 SMM -Janice 815-426-2574 [Jdstreefarms@aol.com](mailto:Jdstreefarms@aol.com)  
 St. James— Mary Offerman—602-670-8888 (call or text)

## Collections Week of April 1-2, 2023

St. Margaret Mary—\$3,085

St. James—\$2,408

Sacred Heart—\$1,050

Thank you for your generosity!



Give blood.  
Give life.

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive  
Wednesday, May 10 3pm—7 pm  
at St. James Parish Hall  
For appointments call or text  
Joe Petersen 815-861-9634  
Appointments preferred

### Gospel Shorts

### Easter Day

The message of Easter is for all mankind ... not just the nice, the pretty, the kind, or the smart. God loves the drug dealer on the street just as much as anyone else. And he has the same amount of love for a murderer in jail as he does for you. His love is unconditional, and he gives it to us this Easter, and throughout the year.



There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven ... and rolled back the stone and sat on it. Matthew 28: 3

### Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

St. James—

- ◆ It's Baby Shower time! Our Lenten charity drive is for the Pregnancy Resource Center in Kankakee. Donations of baby and toddler items will be accepted throughout Lent. There is a list of the most requested items on the bin.

### Sacred Heart—

- ◆ We will be starting the bathroom remodel at Sacred Heart. Anyone wishing to work on this project or donate labor or materials, please call Ken Wenzelman at 922-7086 or Joe Petersen at 861-9634
- ◆ The week of April 9th, the St. Joseph candle burns in prayer for Jeff Cooley.
- ◆ Our CCW will be selling "Split the Pot" tickets from this weekend until our parish breakfast on May 21 when the drawing will take place.
- ◆ Our CCW Spring Luncheon will be on Thursday, April 13 at 11:30 am this year. There will be progressive Bunco and card games. The day will include basket raffles, door prizes, and other raffles. Everyone is welcome to come share the day with us.

### All Parishes:

- ◆ Call or email the parish office to request your statement of donations to the parish for 2022.

ALLELUIA  
ALLELUIA  
ALLELUIA

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### A Stewardship Moment

### The Resurrection of the Lord – Easter Sunday April 9, 2023

The reading from the Acts of the Apostles reminds us that we, too, bear witness to the risen Lord. The presence of Christ is within us, making us new, transforming us, turning us into stewards of the Good News. There is no more time for holding grudges, disliking others, seeking vengeance, maintaining old prejudices, tolerating bias. We are Christ's joy and instruments of his peace. Our world is re-ordered. Reflect on how we are called to let Christ's forgiveness, reconciliation and love permeate our lives. We are Easter people. Rejoice! He is risen! Alleluia!

### The Sunday Gospel in Everyday English

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance. She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, breathlessly panting, "They took the Master from the tomb. We don't know where they've put him."

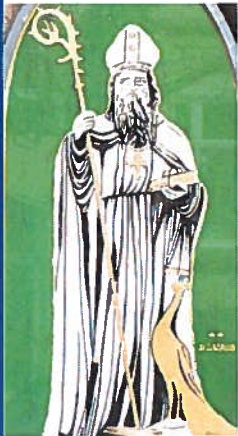
Peter and the other disciple left immediately for the tomb. They ran, neck and neck. The other disciple got to the tomb first, outrunning Peter. Stooping to look in, he saw the pieces of linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. Simon Peter arrived after him, entered the tomb, observed the linen cloths lying there, and the kerchief used to cover his head not lying with the linen cloths but separate, neatly folded by itself. Then the other disciple, the one who had gotten there first, went into the tomb, took one look at the evidence, and believed. No one yet knew from the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead (*from John 20*).





**This week we have two obscure saints of the week:**

**St. Waltrude of Mons (April 9)** was the daughter of Saint Bertille and Saint Walbert of Hainault and the sister of Saint Aldegundis. She was married to Saint Vincent Madelgaire, count of Hainault, a lord in King Dagobert's court. She was also the mother of two sons and two daughters – including Saint Landericus of Soignies, Saint Madalberta and Saint Aldetrudis. She convinced her husband to become a monk, and he is now known as Saint Vincent Madelgaire. Waltrude was a spiritual student of Saint Guislain. She took the veil from Saint Aubert. Waltrude founded a religious community in Mons, Belgium, but lived as a member, not a leader. She was the target of much slander from the secular world.



**St. Liborius (April 9)** was born to a noble family of Gaul. Liborius was a priest and later the bishop of Le Mans, France from 348. He was a friend of Saint Martin of Tours. Liborius served his diocese for 45 years, building many churches. The transfer of his relics from Le Mans to Paderborn, Germany led to a sister-city relation that has lasted for over 1,000 years.

(I was assigned to St. Liborius parish in Steger as a deacon back in 1989 and later as the associate pastor from 1997 to 2000. I found three churches in this country named for him).

**Reflections Things We Learn with Age**

As we weave through life's journey, here are things we learn with age:

*Age 5: Goldfish don't like Jell-O.*

*Age 8: The Tooth Fairy doesn't always come. Sometimes he's broke.*

*Age 11: Girls sweat just as much as boys.*

*Age 16: You can never have too many friends.*

*Age 23: Life is like a blind date: Sometimes you just have to have a little faith.*

*Age 27: Everything sounds romantic in a foreign language.*

*Age 38: It takes a lot of creativity to find out what's right and what's wrong.*

*Age 39: You should treasure your children for what they are, and not for what you want them to be.*

*Age 42: You shouldn't buy cheap shoes, cheap tools or cheap toilet paper.*

*Age 46: It's easier to KEEP up than to CATCH up.*

*Age 48: You should invest in your family first and your career second.*

*Age 50: The quickest way to meet new people is to pick up the wrong ball on the golf course.*

*Age 52: Always make little decisions with your head and big decisions with your heart.*

*Age 64: Being a grandparent with grandchildren is God's compensation for growing older.*

*Age 66: You can't throw mud without getting a little on yourself.*

*Age 68: If you can't forgive and forget, you can at least forgive and move on.*

*Age 71: The best tranquilizer is a clear conscience.*

*Age 73: You can tell how good a parent you were by observing your children with their children.*

*Age 76: A jack-ass dressed in a tuxedo or a mink coat is still a jackass.*

*Age 78: Optimists live longer than pessimists, which is why I'm still alive.*

*Age 83: I still have a lot to learn.*

Sacred Heart Parish C.C.W.  
Goodrich  
588 S. 10,000 W. Rd.  
Bonfield, IL

# Spring Luncheon

With

## Cards & Bunko

Cash & Basket Raffles,  
Door Prizes

**Thurs. April 13th**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**Ticket \$10.00 at the door**

### COMMUNITY QUILTERS

**Do you sew?**

**Can you cut?**

**Can you iron?**

**We are hoping you will join us!**

**NO FEES OR DUES!**

**Just fun!**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month**

**St. James Irwin hall**

**9am – 12**

**For more information call:**

**Patti 815-614-3757 or Karen 815-953-8016**

*"The University of St. Francis (USF) welcomes international speaker Br. Michael Perry, OFM, for a free, one-hour sustainability presentation to the community on Tuesday, April 25, beginning at 7 p.m. The presentation, Addressing Sustainability: Becoming Partners with Creation for the Sake of the Poor and the Planet, will take place in the Moes/Presidents Room in Tower Hall on USF's main campus, which is located at 500 Wilcox Street in Joliet. Virtual access through Zoom will also be offered.*

#### Questions Catholics Ask

#### Is a college degree needed for religious life?

Can I enter a religious order without a college degree?

In most cases, yes, you can enter a religious order without a college degree. Many communities, however, will strongly encourage you to get a degree either before entering the community or while you are in formation.

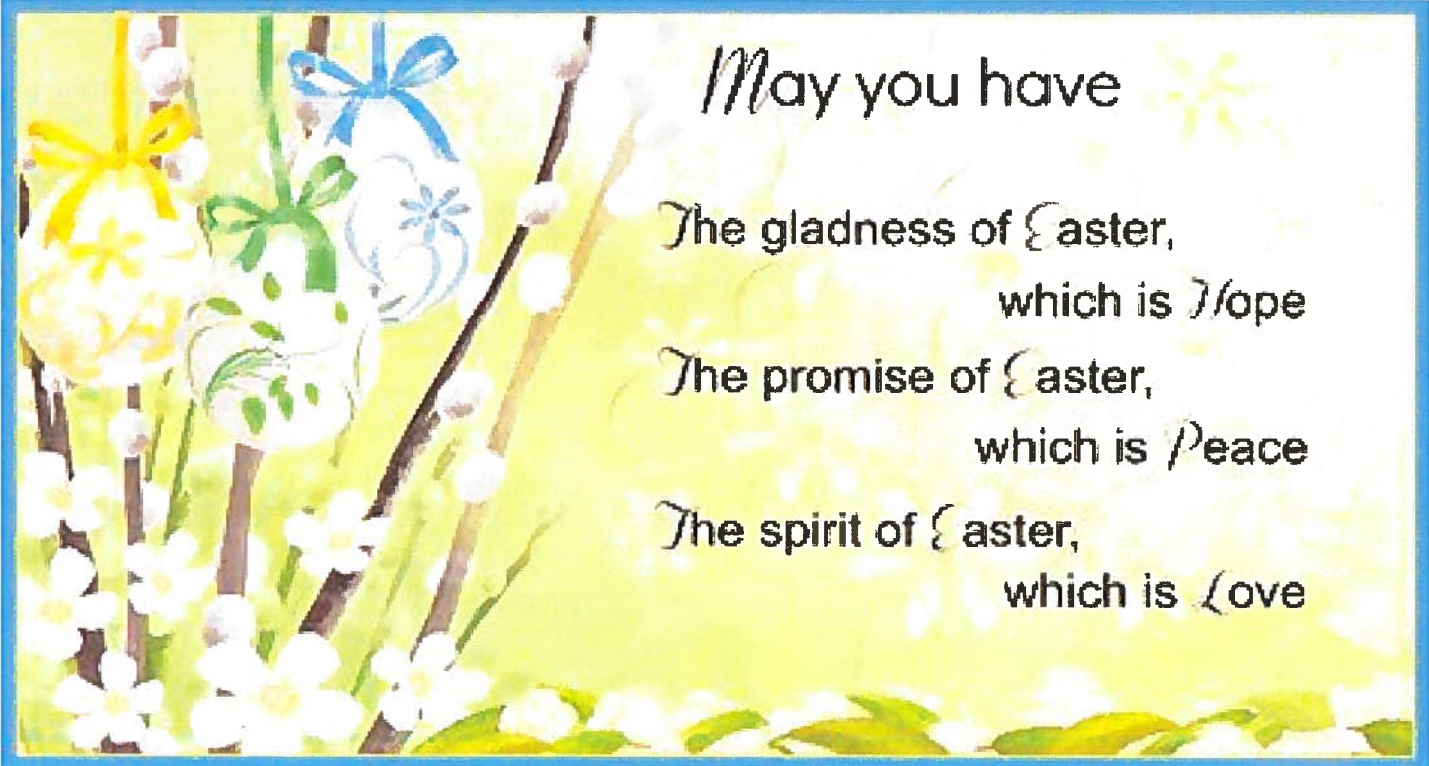
There are a couple of significant reasons why religious communities often prefer persons entering to have a college degree. First, education and college life are significant experiences that expand the doorways of one's mind and one's life experience. We discover new ideas and ways of relating with other people, God, and the world around us. We also learn a lot about ourselves. All of that is key to being in a good space to make a life commitment in a religious community.

Second, a college education is essential to discovering and becoming skilled in our talents and gifts. As a religious you will use this training well in whatever you do in your ministry and community life. Your education can help you in a particular ministry (e.g., social work, medicine, education, pastoral care) and it can help you with community responsibilities (e.g., administration, facilitation, interpersonal relationships, and so on).

Religious communities also recognize that a college education is not always possible due to personal finances or life circumstances. There is often room to work things out, especially if a person entering has had other life experience such as a full-time job.

Get to know the religious community you hope to join and talk with their vocation director to see what the possibilities are.





May you have

The gladness of Easter,  
which is Hope  
The promise of Easter,  
which is Peace  
The spirit of Easter,  
which is Love

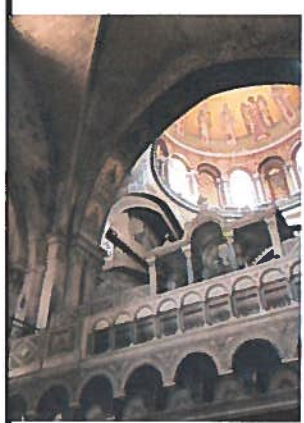
Catholic Snacks, Get Fed

What does the name "Jerusalem" mean?

"What is in a name?" Juliet once asked her lover Romeo petulantly.

Juliet might not think that names are important, but in Holy Scripture they carry a lot of weight.

Ancient cultures put a lot of thought into naming people *and* places; a name lasted a lifetime—or a few millennia—so it had to convey some special fact about what lay behind it.



The Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

The Scriptures relate many instances of people and places being named, taking care to tell us just why that particular name was chosen. Several of these instances come from God Himself, such as when John the Baptist was born and at the Annunciation.

So—what does *Jerusalem* mean?

The word comes from the Hebrew *ir* (city) and *salem* (peace). The early Septuagint calls the city *le-rousalem*: City of Peace.

In light of the city's turbulent history, the name seems oddly chosen. This irony, however, prods us to look deeper, as acclaimed theologian Scott Hahn reminds us:

We are led to contemplate a greater reality: a heavenly Jerusalem—the true holy city and the capital of God's new creation—that is *symbolized* by the earthly city but not identified with it.  
—*Catholic Bible Dictionary*

The earthly "City of peace," where the Church was founded, symbolizes the heavenly "City of peace," where Christ will reign in glory and peace forever among His saints.

Even if you can't make it to Jerusalem in person, you can bring the Holy Land to your own home with our bestselling Holy Land Blue Glass Rosary. This lovely piece is handcrafted by Christians in the Holy Land, and features stunning blue glass beads that sparkle like the Sea of Galilee. Finished with a beautiful crucifix and a Marian centerpiece with the Jerusalem Cross on the reverse.

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April 9, 2023

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

# Easter Sunday

## The Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 | Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 | Jn 20:1-9

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE** | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

I love arriving to Mass early when the sacristan is preparing the altar, or even shortly after the prior Mass clears out. This is because I enjoy praying the rosary with fellow parishioners as well as having my choice of seat in the church, but there's also something about the silence, the stillness that permeates the atmosphere during that time. Sitting alone with one's thoughts tends to either disturb or flat-out bore many people, but consider the silence in a new light this Easter Sunday. Mary of Magdala visited Christ's tomb only to find it empty; what was the tomb like after Christ had risen and left? I'd like to think the silence of the sanctuary before Mass is like the silence of the tomb: still, peaceful and, most of all, joyful, for our Savior conquered the grave. In a way, arriving early to a silent church is like Mary arriving to Jesus' tomb and finding it empty. Soon, though, the church is filled with other believers - witnesses to the risen Christ who proclaim his victory over sin and death to share in the Eucharist before going out into the world to serve and make disciples.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After Mass, many of us are swept up in a dizzying Easter timeline full of brightness and pastels, rushing from Mass to Easter egg hunts to lunch or dinner that may leave kids and adults alike exhausted. But our Easter worship and traditions are important because they mark this day as the most joyful of all celebrations, indeed the greatest event in human history. The Lord Jesus is calling us to new life in him! We take this time to celebrate and reflect on what this means. After his resurrection, Jesus revealed himself over time to his Apostles. But before they saw Jesus and truly understood he had risen from the dead, they experienced great sadness and fear. In the same way for us, we must remember that there is no Easter without the suffering and darkness of Good Friday. St. Paul tells us in the second reading that, in order to celebrate the feast, we must "clear out the old yeast, so that [we] may become a fresh batch of dough." We can't celebrate with "the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness" - we must let Christ purify our hearts and fill them with his Truth.

**WITNESS** Let the joy of Easter fuel a new resolve to be a witness to the Resurrection. Take Easter week to contemplate Scripture, to let Jesus fill your heart with his light and forgiveness so that you may bear his witness to those you encounter in the days and weeks to come.



The three women on the tomb of Christ, by Jima Mantip, CCO



**Sunday, Apr 09, 2023**

### From hole to whole

Accounts vary. Sometimes Easter dawns with helpful instruction-bearing angels and a palpable earthshaking. In other narratives it's almost a stealthy affair: a yawning open tomb, the shroud deserted, its meaning unclear. So too we experience the Easters of our lives in a variety of ways: fervent or undecided, joyful or indifferent or possibly even sorrowing. The empty tomb is an invitation to faith, an absence that can be filled any number of ways. We pray for each other this day, that what is empty in any of us may be filled with hope and trust.

SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (EASTER SUNDAY)

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Victimae Paschali Laudes; John 20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10 (42, 41) or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35 (46). *"There was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven . . . rolled back the stone, and sat upon it."*

**Monday, Apr 10, 2023**

### God brings all things to completion

Who doesn't sometimes get impatient with God's plan for them? Consider that the waiting can not only be useful but also beautiful. "Trust in the slow work of God," wrote Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (who died on this day in 1955). He would know—this French Jesuit priest was forced to leave his teaching post and withdraw controversial statements in 1925 and was further condemned by the church posthumously in 1962. Decades later, leading cardinals started to see his ideas differently—favorably—and so did Popes Benedict XVI and Francis. "It is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability," Chardin wrote—so, like him, accept "feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete."

MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15 (261). *"And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them."*

**Tuesday, Apr 11, 2023**

### Wage peace

One of the most significant pillars of Catholic social teaching turns 60 today: *Pacem in terris*—in English, "Peace on Earth"—the encyclical written by Pope John XXIII to address the menace of nuclear war and the need to uphold international human rights, including racial equality and women's rights. Significantly, it stands as the first encyclical addressed to both Catholics and non-Catholics alike, drawing worldwide admiration for the church's willingness to confront the social and economic costs of the Cold War. "The social progress, order, security, and peace of each country are necessarily connected with the social progress, order, security, and peace of all other countries," he wrote. Let peace begin with you today.

TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 2:36-41; John 20:11-18 (262). *"Mary went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord,' and then reported what he had told her."*

**Wednesday, Apr 12, 2023**

### Leave the battlefield behind

Most people know that the Civil War, which began on this day in 1861, was largely an unjust war fought in defense of slavery in the Southern United States (then, for a time, the Confederate States of America). What many do not know is that the first skirmish of the war,

the Battle of Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina, was led in part by a Catholic, Confederate Brigadier General P. G. T. Beauregard, a Creole Catholic born and raised on a plantation in Louisiana. After the failures of the Confederacy in the war, Beauregard returned to civilian life in his home region, advocating for black civil rights (including voting), societal unity, and also became an admirer of Abraham Lincoln. May we model repentance in the face of our sins and work always for the common bonds of humanity.

WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35 (263). *"While he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened."*

**Thursday, Apr 13, 2023**

### Accountability matters

When the risen Christ appears to his dumbfounded disciples, he reminds them "that repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached in his name." Even the church itself must repent sometimes. The Catholic Native Boarding School Accountability and Healing Project is such an undertaking. Few expect rapid change, but this group of religious, church officials, and laypeople have named a "sin" the church's role in the federal efforts to dismantle Native American culture through boarding schools. That's a start. Learn more on this topic so you can be part of the healing.

THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:11-26; Luke 24:35-48 (264). *"Then he said to them, 'Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts?'"*

**Friday, Apr 14, 2023**

### Time for breakfast

Comedian Steven Wright may have been on to something when he quipped: "I went to a restaurant that serves 'breakfast at any time,' so I ordered French toast during the Renaissance." For Christians, who wouldn't choose a morning meal prepared by Jesus on the banks of the Sea of Tiberias? In one of the most memorable stories in the Gospel of John, the disciples are treated to just such an amazing repast. The risen Christ's tender care to ensure that the disciples have a good breakfast is both achingly sweet and altogether practical. He knew that to continue his mission, the disciple would need not only the warmth of his love but the strength and focus a hearty breakfast provides. Take care of your physical and spiritual health so that, you too, may be prepared to carry on Christ's loving mission each day.

FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14 (265). *"Jesus said to them, 'Come, have breakfast.'"*

**Saturday, Apr 15, 2023**

### More than mere appearances

It turns out that Jesus appeared in different forms after his Resurrection. In John's gospel Mary of Magdala, arguably one of the Lord's closest friends, thought he was the gardener. In Luke's gospel two disciples invite him to their house for dinner and haven't a clue who he is. In today's gospel from Mark, we read that "he appeared in another form." Makes you wonder whether it might still be going on. Jesus did say that we engage him in the least of others. In what form will the risen Christ appear to you today?

SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15 (266). *"After this he appeared in another form."*

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time*



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