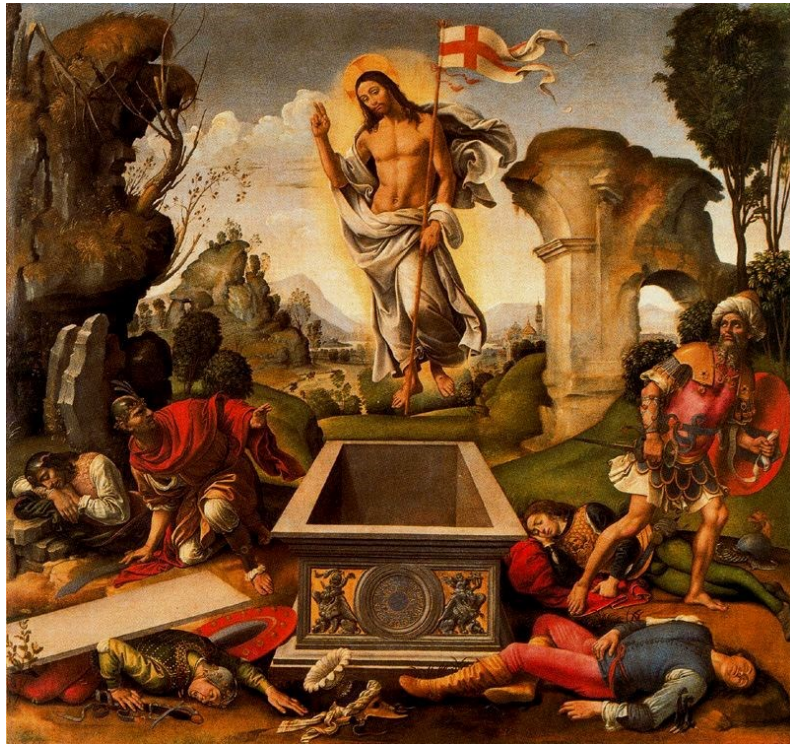


# SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 12, 2020



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104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902  
419.524.2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

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## **Mass Schedule:**

There will be no Masses offered at this time. Mass will be available on WMFD TV on Sunday at 10:00 A.M. and on the St. Peter's YouTube channel, website and Facebook page.

## **Spanish Mass:**

*Resurrection Parish, Lexington*

All Masses are cancelled until further notice.

## **Parish Office Hours:**

Monday - Saturday: 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Sunday Closed

## **Pastoral Care Contacts:**

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572

*Hospital & Follow-up  
Nursing Homes/Assisted Living &  
Prayer Pipeline*

Deacon John Reef 419.529.3694

*Shut-ins/Homebound*

## **Sacrament of Baptism:**

Please contact the Parish Center to begin plans for the baptism of your baby or child.

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 P.M.  
Other times by appointment.

## **Sacrament of Marriage:**

Arrangements should always be made at the **Parish Center office at least eight months** in advance of the ceremony. A wedding date is confirmed after the initial meeting with a priest.

## **Bulletin Deadline:**

Friday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email and must receive prior approval.

## **Parish Administrative Assistant:**

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572 ext.2122

## **Pastoral Staff:**

Fr. Gregory R. Hite, *Pastor*  
Fr. Austin Ammanniti, *Parochial Vicar*  
Mr. Bill Johnson,  
*Director of Music & Liturgy*  
Ms. Lynne Lukach, *Pastoral Associate*  
Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm, *Director of  
Religious Ed. & Youth Minister*

## **Deacon:**

Mr. John Reef

## **St. Peter's School:**

Mr. Jonathan Cuttitta  
*High School, Jr. High School*  
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer  
*Elementary School and Montessori*

## **Parish Business Manager:**

Mr. Evan Mumea

## **Director of Development:**

Mr. Jason Crundwell

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A PARISH OF THE SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

**POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI'S WORDS TAKE ON NEW MEANING IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES...****TRAVELING COMPANIONS (LUKE 24:13-35)****POPE BENEDICT XVI**

The famous account of the disciples of Emmaus tells the tale of two followers of Christ who, on the day after the Sabbath or the third day after his death, were leaving Jerusalem sad and dejected, bound for a village that was not far off called, precisely, Emmaus.

They were joined on their way by the risen Jesus, but did not recognize him. Realizing that they were downhearted, he explained, drawing on the Scriptures, that the Messiah had to suffer and die in order to enter into his glory. Then entering the house with them, he sat down to eat, blessed the bread and broke it; and at that instant they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight, leaving them marveling before that broken bread, a new sign of his presence. And they both immediately headed back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples of the event.

The locality of Emmaus has not been identified with certainty. There are various hypotheses, and this one is not without an evocativeness of its own, for it allows us to think that Emmaus actually represents every place: the road that leads there is the road every Christian, every person, takes. The risen Jesus makes himself our traveling companion as we go on our way, to rekindle the warmth of faith and hope in our hearts and to break the bread of eternal life. In the disciples' conversation with the unknown wayfarer, the words the Evangelist Luke puts in the mouth of one of them are striking: "We had hoped . . ." (Luke 24:21). This verb in the past tense tells all: we believed, we followed, we hoped . . . , but now everything is over. Even Jesus of Nazareth, who had shown himself in his words and actions to be a powerful prophet, has failed, and we are left disappointed.

This drama of the disciples of Emmaus appears like a reflection of the situation of many Christians of our time: it seems that the hope of faith has failed. Faith itself enters a crisis because of negative experiences that make us feel abandoned and betrayed, even by the Lord. But this road to Emmaus on which we walk can become the way of a purification and maturation of our belief in God. Also today we can enter into dialogue with Jesus, listening to his Word. Today, too, he breaks bread for us and gives himself as our Bread. And so the meeting with the risen Christ that is possible even today gives us a deeper and more authentic faith, tempered, so to speak, by the fire of the paschal event; a faith that is robust because it is nourished not by human ideas but by the Word of God and by his Real Presence in the Eucharist.

This marvelous gospel text already contains the structure of holy Mass: in the first part, listening to the Word through the sacred Scriptures; in the second part, the Eucharistic liturgy and communion with Christ present in the Sacrament of his Body and his Blood. In nourishing herself at this twofold table, the Church is constantly built up and renewed from day to day in faith, hope, and charity.

Through the intercession of Mary Most Holy, let us pray that in reliving the experience of the disciples of Emmaus, every Christian and every community may rediscover the grace of the transforming encounter with the risen Lord.

—Regina Coeli, April 6, 2008



*Der Gang nach Emmaus (The Walk to Emmaus) by Joseph von Fuhrich, 1837.  
Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.*

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## TODAY WE SEE OUR JOURNEY IS NOT IN VAIN

The women bring spices to the tomb, but they fear that their journey is in vain, since a large stone bars the entrance to the sepulcher. The journey of those women is also our own journey; it resembles the journey of salvation that we have made this evening. At times, it seems that everything comes up against a stone: the beauty of creation against the tragedy of sin; liberation from slavery against infidelity to the covenant; the promises of the prophets against the listless indifference of the people. So too, in the history of the Church and in our own personal history. It seems that the steps we take never take us to the goal. We can be tempted to think that dashed hope is the bleak law of life.

Today however we see that our journey is not in vain; it does not come up against a tombstone. A single phrase astounds the woman and changes history: "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" (Lk 24:5). Why do you think that everything is hopeless, that no one can take away your own tombstones? Why do you give in to resignation and failure? Easter is the feast of tombstones taken away, rocks rolled aside. God takes away even the hardest stones against which our hopes and expectations crash: death, sin, fear, worldliness. Human history does not end before a tombstone, because today it encounters the "living stone" (cf. 1 Pet 2:4), the risen Jesus. We, as Church, are built on him, and, even when we grow disheartened and tempted to judge everything in the light of our failures, he comes to make all things new, to overturn our every disappointment. Each of us is called tonight to rediscover in the Risen Christ the one who rolls back from our heart the heaviest of stones. So let us first ask: *What is the stone that I need to remove, what is its name?*

Often what blocks hope is *the stone of discouragement*. Once we start thinking that everything is going badly and that things can't get worse, we lose heart and come to believe that death is stronger than life. We become cynical, negative and despondent. Stone upon stone, we build within ourselves a monument to our own dissatisfaction: *the sepulcher of hope*. Life becomes a succession of complaints and we grow sick in spirit. A kind of *tomb psychology* takes over: everything ends there, with no hope of emerging alive. But at that moment, we hear once more the insistent question of Easter: *Why do you seek the living among the dead?* The Lord is not to be found in resignation. He is risen; he is not there. Don't seek him where you will never find him: he is not the God of the dead but of the living (cf. Mk 22:32). Do not bury hope!

There is another stone that often seals the heart shut: *the stone of sin*. Sin seduces; it promises things easy and quick, prosperity and success, but then leaves behind only solitude and death. Sin is looking for life among the dead, for the meaning of life in things that pass away. *Why do you seek the living among the dead?* Why not make up your mind to abandon that sin which, like a stone before the entrance to your heart, keeps God's light from entering in? Why not prefer Jesus, the true light (cf. Jn 1:9), to the glitter of wealth, career, pride and pleasure? Why not tell the empty things of this world that you no longer live for them, but for the Lord of life?

Let us return to the women who went to Jesus' tomb. They halted in amazement before the stone that was taken away. Seeing the angels, they stood there, the Gospel tells us, "frightened, and bowed their faces to the ground" (Lk 24:5). They did not have the courage to look up. How often do we do the same thing? We prefer to remain huddled within our shortcomings, cowering in our fears. It is odd, but why do we do this? Not infrequently because, glum and closed up within ourselves, we feel in control, for it is easier to remain alone in the darkness of our heart than to open ourselves to the Lord. Yet only he can raise us up. A poet once wrote: "We never know how high we are. Till we are called to rise" (E. DICKINSON). The Lord calls us to get up, to rise at his word, to look up and to realize that we were made for heaven, not for earth, for the heights of life and not for the depths of death: *Why do you seek the living among the dead?*

God asks us to view life as he views it, for in each of us he never ceases to see an irrepressible kernel of beauty. In sin, he sees sons and daughters to be restored; in death, brothers and sisters to be reborn; in desolation, hearts to be revived. Do not fear, then: the Lord loves your life, even when you are afraid to look at it and take it in hand.

In Easter he shows you how much he loves that life: even to the point of living it completely, experiencing anguish, abandonment, death, and hell, in order to emerge triumphant to tell you: "You are not alone; put your trust in me!" Jesus is a specialist at turning our deaths into life, our mourning into dancing (cf. Ps 30:11). With him, we too can experience a Pasch, that is, a Passover – from self-centeredness to communion, from desolation to consolation, from fear to confidence. Let us not keep our faces bowed to the ground in fear, but raise our eyes to the risen Jesus. His gaze fills us with hope, for it tells us that we are loved unfailingly and that however much we make a mess of things, his love remains unchanged. This is the one, non-negotiable certitude we have in life: his love does not change. Let us ask ourselves: *In my life, where am I looking?* Am I gazing at graveyards, or looking for the Living One?



*Why do you seek the living among the dead?* The women hear the words of the angels, who go on to say: "Remember what he told you while he was still in Galilee" (Lk 24:6). Those women had lost hope because they could not recall the words of Jesus, his call that took place in Galilee. Having lost the living memory of Jesus, they kept looking at the tomb. Faith always needs to go back to Galilee, to reawaken its first love for Jesus and his call: to *remember him, to turn back to him with all our mind and all our heart*. To return to a lively love of the Lord is essential. Otherwise, ours is a "museum" faith, not an Easter faith. Jesus is not a personage from the past; he is a person living today. We do not know him from history books; we encounter him in life. Today, let us remember how Jesus first called us, how he overcame our darkness, our resistance, our sins, and how he touched our hearts with his

The women, remembering Jesus, left the tomb. Easter teaches us that believers do not linger at graveyards, for they are called to go forth to meet the Living One. Let us ask ourselves: *In my life, where am I going?* Sometimes we go only in the direction of our problems, of which there are plenty, and go to the Lord only for help. But then, it is our own needs, not Jesus, to guide our steps. We keep seeking the Living One among the dead. Or again, how many times, once we have encountered the Lord, do we return to the dead, digging up regrets, reproaches, hurts, and dissatisfactions, without letting the Risen One change us? Dear brothers and sisters: let us put the Living One at the center of our lives. Let us ask for the grace not to be carried by the current, the sea of our problems; the grace not to run aground on the shoals of sin or crash on the reefs of discouragement and fear. Let us seek him in all things and above all things. With him, we will rise again.

Pope Francis, Easter Vigil 2019

© Libreria Editrice Vatican



*The Women at Christ's Empty Tomb by Peter Paul Rubens circa 1640. Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF ST. PETER'S PARISH BY MAILING IN YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES OR VISITING THE WEBSITE AT [WWW.MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG](http://WWW.MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG) TO LEARN ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT DURING THESE DIFFICULT DAYS!**

# Leading the FLOCK

BY BISHOP DANIEL E. THOMAS



## "At the Foot of the Cross"

Who could not have been deeply moved on Friday, March 27, 2020, as Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, led the whole world from an empty Saint Peter's Square in a powerful Holy Hour, imploring the Lord for an end to the Coronavirus pandemic and imparting to all an extraordinary *Urbi et Orbi* Blessing? Part of that prayer was a Litany of Supplication before the Blessed Sacrament. At this critical time, rather than writing a customary column this month, I share with you that Litany of Supplication and invite you to join me in praying it before a crucifix in your home, uniting all our prayers "At the Foot of the Cross."

### ***We adore you, O Lord***

True God and true man, truly present in this holy Sacrament.

#### **We adore you, O Lord**

Our Savior, God with us, faithful and rich in mercy

#### **We adore you, O Lord**

King and Lord of creation and of history

#### **We adore you, O Lord**

Conqueror of sin and death

#### **We adore you, O Lord**

Friend of humankind, the Risen One, the Living

One who sits at the right hand of the Father.

#### **We adore you, O Lord**

### ***We believe in you, O Lord***

Only begotten Son of the Father, descended from heaven for our salvation

#### **We believe in you, O Lord**

Heavenly physician, who bows down over our misery

#### **We believe in you, O Lord**

Lamb who was slain, who offer yourself to rescue us from evil

#### **We believe in you, O Lord**

Good Shepherd, who give your life for the flock which you love

#### **We believe in you, O Lord**

Living bread and medicine for immortality, who give us eternal life

#### **We believe in you, O Lord**

### ***Deliver us, O Lord***

From the power of Satan and the seductions of the world

#### **Deliver us, O Lord**

From the pride and presumption of being able to

do anything without you

**Deliver us, O Lord**

From the deceptions of fear and anxiety

**Deliver us, O Lord**

From unbelief and desperation

**Deliver us, O Lord**

From hardness of heart and the incapacity to love

**Deliver us, O Lord**

***Save us, O Lord***

From every evil that afflicts humanity

**Save us, O Lord**

From hunger, from famine and from egoism

**Save us, O Lord**

From illnesses, epidemics and the fear of our brothers and sisters

**Save us, O Lord**

From devastating madness, from ruthless interests and from violence

**Save us, O Lord**

From being deceived, from false information and the manipulation of consciences

**Save us, O Lord**

***Comfort us, O Lord***

Protect your Church which crosses the desert

**Comfort us, O Lord**

Protect humanity terrified by fear and anguish

**Comfort us, O Lord**

Protect the sick and the dying, oppressed by loneliness

**Comfort us, O Lord**

Protect doctors and healthcare providers exhausted by the difficulties they are facing

**Comfort us, O Lord**

Protect politicians and decision makers who bear the weight of having to make decisions

**Comfort us, O Lord**

***Grant us your Spirit, O Lord***

In the hour of trial and from confusion

**Grant us your Spirit, O Lord**

In temptation and in our fragility

**Grant us your Spirit, O Lord**

In the battle against evil and sin

**Grant us your Spirit, O Lord**

In the search for what is truly good and true joy

**Grant us your Spirit, O Lord**

in the decision to remain in you and in your friendship

**Grant us your Spirit, O Lord**

***Open us to hope, O Lord***

Should sin oppress us

**Open us to hope, O Lord**

Should hatred close our hearts

**Open us to hope, O Lord**

Should sorrow visit us

**Open us to hope, O Lord**

Should indifference cause us anguish

**Open us to hope, O Lord**

Should death overwhelm us

**Open us to hope, O Lord**

During that worldwide Holy Hour, Pope Francis stood for some time beneath the Miraculous Crucifix of *San Marcello*, contemplating the Lord's Passion. This Holy Week, as we confront whatever challenges the coming days hold, we do so standing "At the Foot of the Cross," knowing that Our Lady is standing with us in silent resolve comforting, reassuring and strengthening us, as we contemplate the Lord's Passion with Easter hope.

*+ Daniel E. Thomas*

Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas

Bishop of Toledo

April 6, 2020, Holy Week



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**

Bill Ruhl, Jeannie Burkhalter, Aaron Blank, Cindy Lassen, Dina Riley, Eliana Nelson, MaKaya Butler, Sharon Valdry, Maria Loschinkohl, Sherry Studer, John Ziegler, Marlene Ziegler, Kim Rucker, Dorothy Trinter, Marti Selby, JoAnn Marbaugh, Baby Greyden Jack, Gwen Yockey, Mary Ann and Mel Switzer, Louise Steggall, Tammy Dudley, Keith Combs, Mady Ziegler, Elaine Johnson, Cindy Jasnek Cartier, Jeannine Klotz, Marilyn B. Williamson, Tom Powell, Chief Master Sergeant Joseph Basting, Peggy Basting Taylor, Kathy Carcione, Carol Pittenger, Charlie Henrich, Jill McMillen, Gary Caldwell, Jeffrey Davis, Willie "Frank" Williams, Catherine R. Liston, Pius Schell, Krista Marshall, Maggie Caldwell, Michael Davis, Michael Krempel, Marilyn Miller, Annette Togliatti, Rose Saul, Charlene Arthur, Alan Gallaway, Marty Moritz, Logan Page, Maxine Shannon, Gracie Shannon.

Names will only be listed for 4 weeks. If you wish to have additional time, contact the Parish Center at 419.524.2572.

**IN GOD'S ARMS...**

Shane Conry Cari Pennington

**ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD.**



**FOR ALL OF THE CURRENT IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ST. PETERS PARISH OPERATIONS DURING THESE TROUBLED TIMES, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:**

**[WWW.MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG](http://WWW.MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG)**

**THERE YOU WILL ALSO FIND DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS FOR USE AT HOME FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.**

**ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT**

ALL ADULT FAITH CLASSES ARE ON HOLD UNTIL "NORMAL" PARISH CENTER HOURS AND OPERATIONS RESUME.



**RECYCLING—NEXT DATE: MAY 8, 2020**

**FOOD COLLECTION: May 9 & 10**

**PRISON MINISTRY CORNER**

All Catholic services and programming at ManCI and RiCI are suspended for now. Please keep our brothers in prayer. Fortunately, many of them are able to watch Mass on WMFD, just as we are. They expressed their gratitude and greatly enjoyed being able to see the interior of our beautiful church.

**ST. GREGORY THE GREAT EASTER PRAYER**

*It is only right, with all the powers of our heart and mind, to praise You Father and Your Only-Begotten Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Dear Father, by Your wondrous condescension of Loving-Kindness toward us, Your servants, You gave up Your Son.*

*Dear Jesus You paid the debt of Adam for us to the Eternal Father by Your Blood poured forth in Loving-Kindness.*

*You cleared away the darkness of sin by Your magnificent and radiant Resurrection.*

*You broke the bonds of death and rose from the grave as a Conqueror.*

*You reconciled Heaven and earth. Our life had no hope of Eternal Happiness before You redeemed us.*

*Your Resurrection has washed away our sins, restored our innocence and brought us joy.*

*How inestimable is the tenderness of Your Love!*

*We pray You, Lord, to preserve Your servants in the peaceful enjoyment of this Easter happiness.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord, Who lives and reigns with God The Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.*

*Amen.*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

In the wake of all Masses being cancelled through May 3, all of our Mass intentions have also been cancelled. If you have a Mass intention scheduled through May 3, please contact Kristi Reindl at 419.524.2572 ext. 2122 or [reindl.kristi@myspartans.org](mailto:reindl.kristi@myspartans.org) to re-schedule your intention.

**SUNDAY OFFERING**

*Year to Date  
March 31, 2020*

**Sunday and Holy Day Collections**

Sunday Collection & Holy Day Collection:	\$624,002
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date:	\$639,451

<b>Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$15,449)</b>
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**School Collection**

Total School Collection To Date:	\$110,083
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date:	\$108,000

<b>School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$2,083</b>
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## SAVE THE DATE! VBS 2020!

We hope that you can join us for VBS this year with "God's Wild Adventure!" VBS will be taking place July 6- 9 at St. Peter's and 3-10 year olds are welcome to join us! It will be taking place from 9:00-11:30 A.M. daily! We are also looking for adult volunteers to help with this week!

We do have a wish list again this year and appreciate any donations that are given. Our wish list helps us keep the cost down for all of our participants! Although we ask for a \$5 donation from those participating, it is our hope that all can participate regardless of their ability to pay.

If you could prayerfully consider donating one of the items below it would be much appreciated!

- 320 Juice boxes (any flavor)
- Three large boxes of goldfish crackers
- Four large bags of animal crackers
- 5 bags of apples
- Tubes from packages of aluminum foil (or any cardboard tube that is thicker)
- 2 large packages of pipe cleaners
- Four large boxes of minute rice
- Two large packages of clothes pins (with the springs)
- Black and Blue permanent markers (we would need ten of each)
- One package of coffee filters
- One package of brown lunch bags (50 count)
- One large bag of rubber bands
- 12 pool noodles (can be purchased at the dollar store)
- 1 package of Popsicle sticks (the thinner variety not the jumbo)

If you are able to provide any of these items, it would be appreciated if they could be dropped off to the parish office by April 1. Monetary donations are always accepted and welcome to sponsor children who are unable to pay to attend. We thank you for your help as we prepare to go on "God's Wild Adventures!" If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Wurm at the parish office or at [wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org](mailto:wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org). Thank you in advance for your kindness!

## ST. PETER'S POURFEST CHANGE OF DATE!



The St. Peter's PourFest will now take place on Saturday, September 12 and not on Saturday, June 6 at the St. Peter's Franciscan Activity Center. This exciting new fundraising event will be a memorable evening of entertainment, food and tastings of some of the best beer, wine and seltzers.

Mark your calendar with this new date and stay tuned for more information!

## EASTER BLESSINGS

The unknown. The uncertainty. The loneliness. The anxiety and fear.

Our first thought when we read these words? Our current situation, sheltering in place, keeping our distance from others, waking up each morning unsure what the day will bring, doing what we may have thought unimaginable: watching Easter Mass from our homes instead of gathering in our beautiful church.

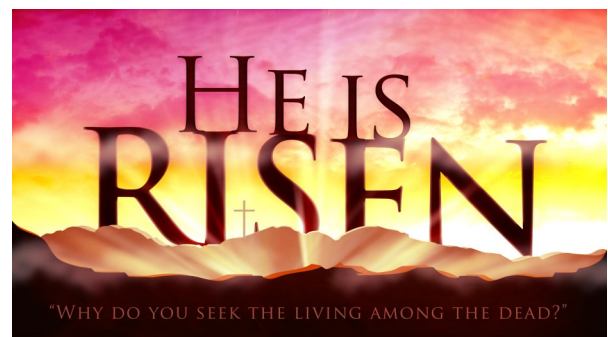
But... this isn't about us! Those words describe the followers of Jesus – the believers – who witnessed his passion, death, and burial. They are hunkering down, hiding out, sheltering in place. They are afraid the authorities will come for them next. They don't understand how the One who would bring new life in abundance is now gone. Their hearts are broken; their spirits are crushed.

But...in a short time Mary of Magdala shares the news! "I have seen the Lord!" Shortly after, Jesus appears to two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They do not recognize him until *he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread* and they realized their hearts were *burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us*. Then he appears to the apostles with the words that we take to heart: "Peace be with you....Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see....You are witnesses of these things."

He is risen! He is risen indeed! Our Lord is with us! Alleluia! Even though we in our faith community may continue to be physically apart, we are one in the Spirit. As we proclaim Christ's death and profess his resurrection until he comes again, we live the gift of each moment reaching out to others in new and creative ways, praying for courage to bring peace and love and hope to every corner of our lives.

Your sister in Christ,

Lynne Lukach





## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

The 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign is underway with a campaign goal of \$3 million. We can assure the continued existence of many important programs that help tens of thousands in our Diocese each year; education of our seminary students, care of the sick and needy are among them. We ask you once again for your help; we have to work together. Please respond generously when you are asked to make your pledge. Thank you for your attention and thank you for being my parish family. For more information, visit the Diocesan website at [Toledodiocese.org/ACA](http://Toledodiocese.org/ACA).

Our parish goal is \$55,00, so far we are at \$25,204.35 with pledges from 177 households or 45.83%. Thank you for your support of our diocesan ministries and the help you provide to our seminarians and deacons who are in formation to serve our parish's future.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS



We want to recognize and say a special prayer for the parishioners celebrating birthdays in April, especially those who are 85 years of age and above:

Katharina Engel, Florence Collins, L. Jean Wendling-Baughman, Anton Freiheit, Richard Steele, Patsy Saul, Rose Mary Dawson, Magdalena Varga, Joan Ashley, Clara Ranstatler, Charlotte Knecht, Geneieve Legenza, Rosemary Rallo, Adrian DeLeon, Theresa Plew, Irene Cervinski, and Margaret Kinney.

***Loving Father, you sent your Son to go before us in death and in life -- to search for us while we were lost. Renew in us this Easter grace to seek and to find and so be saved.***



**American  
Red Cross**

## SAM TRIDICO MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE

The Sam Tridico Memorial Blood Drive will take place on Wednesday, April 22 from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. in the Franciscan Activity Center. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 1.800.Red Cross, or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and use sponsor code SPHS

All social distancing and virus protection protocols will be strictly observed. The Red Cross is desperately in need of blood donations at this critical time, both in Ohio and across the nation. Red Cross workers will ensure that your safety is maintained throughout the time of your donation.

**In his Resurrection, Christ shows that he has left no stone unturned - no ruin unredeemed. He has suffered *all loss* for love of us."**

**Fr. Gregory Pinz, O.P.**

## THIS IS BIG NEWS! THIS IS GREAT NEWS!



For the 2020-2021 school year, St. Peter's Montessori Preschool will offer a full-day option consisting of half-day Montessori preschool and half-day Montessori preschool enrichment. And even better news—the Montessori preschool tuition will be slightly reduced compared to previous years.



The Montessori program is outstanding and includes language, reading, math, geography, and science. With studies proving that a child's greatest mental development occurs between the ages of 2-6, the Montessori program is a great investment and will prove to be the gift of a lifetime for your child. Call our Montessori director and elementary school principal, Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer, at 419.524. 2572 ext. 4101 for more information.

## Saint Peter's Parish & School

April 6, 2020

In times of great uncertainty and confusion, there are no quick words to describe the disruption we all feel with the challenge of COVID-19. We are praying for you and your families for your safety, good health, and a quick return to normalcy.

With Ohio Governor Mike DeWine's newest order to keep K-12 school buildings closed through May 1, we wanted to reach out to you with hope and assurance. Over the past several weeks our faculty has met the challenge of remote education with diligence and determination. St. Peter's will continue to do all we can to support our faculty and students to ensure continued excellence in education. We are quickly adapting and working on creative ways to facilitate remote learning. Our teachers are using various online tools to connect with our students.

We know that St. Peter's is so much more than a school, we are a community of faith. During this time of social distancing, we may feel separated or alone, but we can draw strength from each other.

Please keep our students, parents and school community in your prayers. While our building is temporarily closed, our primary work to educate students continues, albeit in a dramatically and abruptly changed format. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at our emails below.

On behalf of St. Peter's Parish and Schools, know that we are united with you in this holiest week of our liturgical year when we celebrate the Saving Mysteries of the Risen Christ. A Blessed Holy Week and a Joyous Easter!

***For God so loved the world that He sent His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life! (Jn. 3:16)***

Sincerely,



hite.gregory@myspartans.org  
Pastor and Local Superintendent



Ashley Rastorfer  
rastorfer.ashley@myspartans.org  
Elementary Principal/Montessori Director



Jonathan R. Cuttitta  
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HS/JH Principal

## 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.

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## THE EASTER OCTAVE

Sunday, April 5 - Sunday, April 12, 2020

Eastertime lasts fifty days: seven weeks of seven days (seven equals Biblical perfection) plus one day: perfection plus! Like an eight-day Jewish wedding, or a child who can't bear to let go of Christmas, birthdays, and school vacation, the Church celebrates the Easter Octave: “the marriage of heaven and earth,” as the Vigil calls Jesus' resurrection; our new members' baptismal rebirth; our renewal of baptismal vows; our hearts' “divine vacation” (from the Latin *vacare*, “to be empty”), newfound time and space for love of God and neighbor. Make home an Easter garden! Adorn the dining table with a pillar candle (your “Paschal Candle”), a bowl full of water (ideally, from the parish's baptismal font), a vase of flowers or bowl of sprouting grain with Easter eggs. Even non-singers can handle the three-fold Gospel Alleluia! Let that be your grace before meals, perhaps with a prayer recalling Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35): “Be known to us, Risen Lord Jesus, as you were to the first disciples, in your word, in the breaking of bread, and in everyone we meet.”

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen (Acts 10:34a, 37-43).

**Psalm** — This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118).

**Second Reading** — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (Colossians 3:1-4) or Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8).

**Gospel** — Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb (John 20:1-9) or Matthew 28:1-10 (or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35).

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## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-21; Mk 16:9-15

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9;

Jn 20:19-31

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