

April 22, 2012: Third Sunday of Easter



Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day." — Lk 24:45-46

Excerpta from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1978 CCD

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, April 22 (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48)

8:00 am- Willie Holik & Bonnie Grahmann
10:30 am- For our Parish Family (**First Holy Communion**)

Monday, April 23, St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr (Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29)

7:00 am- Elizabeth Hermes
10:00 am- Joe & Annette Novak, Benefactors (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, April 24, St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr (Acts 7:51--8:1a/Jn 6:30-35)

7:00 am- Jose Guadalupe, Adriana & Carlos Hernandez
Wednesday, April 25, St. Mark, Evangelist (1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20)

7:00 am- Alois Bittner
8:05 am- Julie Whiddon

Thursday, April 26 (Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51)

7:00 am- Julius & Helen Grahmann and Florentine & Adela Janak Families
10:00 am- Edward Belcik (Stevens)

Friday, April 27 (Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59)

7:00 am- Gus Werner, Jr.
8:05 am- Elizabeth Fuller

Saturday, April 28, St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest (Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69)

5:30 pm- Dwayne Janak and Alvin & Annie Schneider
Sunday, April 29, World Day of Prayer for Vocations (Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18)

8:00 am- Jerome & Victoria Respondek
10:30 am- Tommy & Maggie Timm
5:00 pm- For our Parish Family (**Spanish Mass**)

Bulletin & Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Marcus & Marjorie Grahmann in memory of Dawson Andrew Grahmann.

Vigil Light Sponsor: In memory of the Lucario and Cappelano Families.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$4,895; Catholic Education-\$1,884; Loose-\$995; Children-\$48.

Flowers this weekend behind the Altar of Sacrifice are in memory of William & Ilene Pastucha and Adolph & Caroline Polasek by Jennifer & Micheal Bradberry.

Anniversaries:

Jessie & Elrose Kahanek 56 years April 28

Truck Raffle tickets are available for purchase at the Rectory for \$100 each. Prizes are a 2012 Chevrolet Silverado LT1500 Crew Cab (Value \$38,090) plus 13 other prizes! The drawing will be held at the Sacred Heart Parish Spring Picnic on May 27 at the KC Hall.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

-Baptism Preparation Class, 9:00 a.m., Rectory. Please call the Rectory in advance to register.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

-Rosary & Evening Prayer, 5:30 p.m., Church.
-KJZT #2 Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Family Center.
-Parish Finance Council Mtg., 6:00 p.m., Mary's House.
-Parish Advisory Council Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.
-Men's ACTS Meeting, 7:00 p.m., St. Joseph, Yoakum.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

-CCD: Grades K-12th, 6:00-7:15 p.m.
-English Second Language Class, 6:00 pm, Family Center.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

-Fiddler's Frolics, Knights of Columbus Hall.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

-Fiddler's Frolics, Knights of Columbus Hall.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

-Catholic Daughters will receive Holy Communion in a body at the 8:00 a.m. Mass.
-Fiddler's Frolics, Knights of Columbus Hall.
-St. Michael Church Festival, Veterans Memorial Park, Weimar. Fried Chicken & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, bingo, cake walk, country store, game booths, music.
-Covered dish supper in Family Center after Spanish Mass
-Firefall Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration, 6:00 pm in Sacred Heart Church.

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Doug Blumberg, Dan & Danielle Grady, Rose Thumann, Bill Gohlke, Sterlin Ritchie, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Anita Bohuslav, Paul Najvar, Irene Bordovsky, Milissa Zamora, Rhonda Janak, Larry Korenek, Red Kahanek, Theresa Steffek, Hank & Marion Morris, Angela Hermes, Chris Layton, Vernell Bozka, Denise DeBord, Frank, Patrick & Robben Nemecek, Geneva Strmiska, Brenda Bludau, Lois Dornak, Frank Rocha, Patricia Schlageter, LaNora Konvicka, Bobby Lee Drozd, Anne Mae Technik, Grace Ritchie, Benedict Brosch, John Schlageter, Frank Konvicka, Magdalene Steffek, Chibana Alfaro, Lambert Pollock, Liz Woytek, Frank Gutierrez, Sr., Delores Grahmann, Joyce Bucek, Bernice Neskora, nursing home residents & the homebound.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Sylvia Kallus* and *Daisy Dellinger* of our Parish Family. *May they & all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

KJT Wied #43 member appreciation dinner Sunday, May 6 at St. Mary's Hall. Registration at 11:30 am. RSVP by Friday, April 27 to the Home Office at 1-800-245-8182 or Rebecca Till at 594-4328

Calendar Membership: **Apr 12:** Seth Migura-\$100; **Apr 13:** Mike & Tammy Fikac, Victoria-\$100; **Apr 16:** Irene Szwarc-\$50; **Apr 17:** Edward & Patty Grahmann-\$50; **Apr 18:** Wyatt Kelly, Huntsville-\$100.

From the Desk of Father John

Today is First Holy Communion Sunday here at Sacred Heart. Congratulations to the following 44 young people of our parish family who are receiving Our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time:

Jorge Aguillon-Hernandez, Preston Amsden, Dawson Belicek, Allie Bludau, Jillian Brown, Chandler Caraway, Samantha DeLaRosa, Emma Etzler, Alexis Evans, Erin Fawbush, Patrick Fields, Preslie Foster, Jaden Gonzales, Cole Grahmann, Elizabeth Grahmann, Emilie Griffin, Luke Guevara, Landre Gutierrez, Trinity Harper, William Harper, Quade Henneke, Brittney Hernandez, Chase Janak, Cole Jansky, Korbin Koehne, Lauren Koehne, Victoria Kraatz, Kenna Kubenka, Austin Kutac, Dallas Layton, Morgan Machac, Myles Machicek, Kadin Munson, Trace Patek, Price Pruett, Derek Rees, Matthew Roznovsky, Bailey Schindler, Brooke Shimek, Rebecca Steffek, Dylan Vornsand, Brazos Wood, Courtney Woytek, John Luke Wysocki, and Juan Aguillon.

Religious Education (CCD) ~ Office 798-3124

Angela McConnell, Coordinator

www.facebook.com/SacredHeartReligiousEducation

Apr 22: First Communion, 10:30 a.m. Mass.

May 2: End of Year Catechist Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

May 9: Closing Mass & May Crowning, 6:15 p.m.
5th Grade youth involvement Mass.

May 13: 8th Grade Recognition Mass, 2:30 p.m.

May 19: Confirmation Sponsor & Candidate Practice & Day of Reflection, 10:00-12:00 p.m., Family Center.

May 20: Confirmation, 10:30 a.m. Mass.

May 26: H.H.S. Baccalaureate Mass, 5:30 p.m.

**Sacred Heart Catholic School News
Office 798-4251**

May 13: Baccalaureate at 10:30 a.m. Mass.

May 17: Senior Graduation, Knights of Columbus Hall.

May 24: Last day of school.

Last Firefall for the Spring in honor of Graduating Seniors. All graduating seniors of Sacred Heart Parish and Missions, and all 8th grade and high school youth are cordially invited to attend the last Spring Firefall Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration on **Sunday, April 29** from **6-7 pm** in Sacred Heart Church. The intention of the Holy Hour will be for the blessing and success of all graduating seniors. An individual benediction will be given to each Senior who is present at the Holy Hour. A hamburger supper reception will be given at the Youth House by the Youth Group for all the youth who attend the Holy Hour. Please come and show your support to our graduating Seniors! **Please call Fr. Tommy at the rectory to RSVP for the hamburger supper by Friday, April 27 by 4pm.**

Sacred Heart Booster Club Fried Chicken Supper, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 2, K.C. Hall. Drive thru to go only. Tickets \$7 each for sale at Hoffer's Drive In, S.H. School Office & the Rectory.

Catholic Home Missions Appeal, April 28 & 29.

The Catholic Home Missions Appeal works to support home mission dioceses in the United States by supporting seminarian formation in poor dioceses. Often home mission priests and lay ministers require special training to attend to the unique needs of their faith communities. Your support is necessary for the success of these and other projects. Please help strengthen the Church at home through your generosity to this Appeal.

MAKE-UP SESSION of the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training and Refresher Course.

All current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who did not attend the course on Holy Tuesday **AND** all those interested in becoming commissioned to serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion who have not attended the training, must attend the make-up session with Fr. Tommy on **Monday, April 30** from **7:00-9:00 pm** in the church. For current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who miss this final class and do not contact Fr. Tommy, we will assume that you no longer wish to serve as an Extraordinary Minister.

Diocesan Boy's Vocation Camp to be held July 15-18.

Application forms are now available from Fr. Tommy for the Diocesan Boy's Vocation Camp to be held at Cooper's Farm, July 15-18. Young men who have completed their 8th grade year by the summer through 21 years of age are eligible to attend the camp. This camp is staffed by the Diocesan Seminarians and some of the junior clergy of the diocese. Spaces are limited, so sign up today!

3rd Sunday of Easter – When Jesus appears to His disciples after His resurrection one of the things that He does, according to both Luke and John, is to eat fish in their presence. For the Gospel writers this is a way of indicating that the resurrected body, whatever it may actually be, is also a human body. The risen Lord is no ghost; He is bodily raised from the dead! This truth is at the core of our faith. As Peter states in the first reading today, "God raised Him from the dead; of this we are witnesses."

We are witnesses of that same truth today. The old jokes about fishermen all have exaggeration as a theme. The biggest one always gets away. Fifteen-inch fish are suddenly twenty-five inches, and five pounders end up becoming ten pounds in the telling of the story. As Christians, we have our own story to tell. But it's not a fish story. It is a story about the One who conquered sin and death through His own death and resurrection. Through our baptism we are raised to new life by the Author of life. Like Peter, who was himself a fisherman, we are called to testify to this truth in the world. It's time to go fishing!

The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

TODAY

Acts 3:13–15, 17–19
1 John 2:1–5a
Luke 24:35–48

MONDAY

John 6:22–29
“... believe in him whom [God] has sent.”

TUESDAY

John 6:30–35
“... it is my Father who gives you the true bread.”

WEDNESDAY*

Mark 16:15–20
“The one who believes and is baptized will be saved.”

THURSDAY

John 6:44–51
“No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father . . .”

FRIDAY

John 6:52–59
“... I live because of the Father . . .”

SATURDAY

John 6:60–69
“It is the spirit that gives life.”

*Feast of Saint Mark

New and Forgiven Life

Lent, in the minds of many, is the time to deal with sin. Easter is a different story. In fact, as today's readings tell us, the forgiveness of sin is an essential dimension of our Easter faith.

In Acts, Peter proclaims the risen Christ and almost immediately adds, “Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out . . .” The First Letter of John tells us that the risen Christ, seated at the right hand of the Father, is even now our advocate who pleads our cause should we sin.

Finally, in today's Gospel, the risen Jesus gives a mandate and a mission to his followers to preach the forgiveness of sins to the nations beginning in Jerusalem and extending out to the ends of the earth.

The relationship between the Resurrection of Jesus and the forgiveness of sins deserves our full consideration. When Jesus rises from the dead, he breaks two connected bonds, that of sin and that of death.



Death is the result of sin, as Paul explains to the Romans, “. . . sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned . . .” (Romans 5:12)

When Jesus rose from the dead, he freed us from sin and death. He freed us from sin, and this means we can find forgiveness. He freed us from death, and this means, although we will die physically, we can enter into full and eternal life. In Jesus, the possibility and hope of true freedom from the twin enslavements of sin and death are real and available to us.



The Faith of the Church

The Church, mandated by the risen Lord to bring the good news to the whole world, has understood that reconciliation and forgiveness are essential to her mission. In the second Eucharistic Prayer of Reconciliation, the Church asks God for the grace to be a sign of unity and an instrument of peace for all (Cf. *Second Eucharistic Prayer of Reconciliation*).



Questions of the Week

Forgiveness of sin is freedom from sin, and freedom from sin is freedom to be ourselves, to live a new and authentic life. It is easy to see that finding forgiveness is already a participation in the risen life of the Lord.

Adults

Can I name a time when I forgave someone or when someone forgave me or when I encountered God's forgiveness?

Children

What is it like knowing that God really forgives me if I ask for forgiveness?

Responding to God's Word . . .

If you live long enough, you will be "battered." All of us—at one time or another—have been hurt, misjudged, and perhaps even demeaned. And if we take an honest look at our lives, we may have done the very same offensive things to others. We carry around the dead weight of having been hurt and having hurt others. This dead weight diminishes the force of life within us.

Unfortunately, this sad state of affairs does not mellow with time. Sometimes, it grows worse. Resentments fester, and often, lurking in our minds is some plan to even the score.

There really is only one way out of this painful, gnawing, and deadening situation. The key is forgiveness. And although it seems to be a human impossibility, the divine power of the risen Christ breaks through all the human encrustations, just as that same power broke through the barriers of the tomb.

To share Christ's gift of forgiveness means to participate in the new life and freedom of the Resurrection with an honest assessment of what this new life in Christ really looks like. And then we must live it.

SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

In the home. As a variation of prayers at the table, use the text of the prayer for peace at Mass "Lord Jesus Christ who said to your Apostles . . ." Exchange the sign of peace as well.

In the workplace or in school. Take an initiative to build a bridge—even a very small one—between people who may have been at odds.

In the community. Find out what resources are available for conflict resolution in your community.



Meditation Moment

Many Jews expected a Messiah who would make them "number one" among the nations of the world. They dreamed of a Messiah who would catapult them into a position of wealth and power. When Jesus said that he would wear a crown of thorns, not a crown of gold, they were disenchanted. They had closed their minds to those parts of Scripture that spoke of a suffering Messiah. This didn't fit their idea of what the Messiah should be like.

For reflection . . .

To what degree do I sometimes behave like many of the Jews of Jesus' day?

WHAT SEEMS TO BE GOD'S FOOLISHNESS IS WISER THAN HUMAN WISDOM. . . . GOD PURPOSELY CHOSE WHAT THE WORLD CONSIDERS NONSENSE IN ORDER TO SHAME THE WISE.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:25, 27

FROM *MISSION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

From Your Abundant Mercy, Lord

From your abundant mercy, Lord, let me draw mercy into my life. Give me new life through your forgiveness and help me to foster new life in others as a witness and instrument of your forgiveness. Let the life-giving power of Christ's Resurrection take hold of hearts that have grown cold in sin. Renew and bless them. Bless and renew the entire world with your compassion and mercy. Amen.

Carry this thought in your heart as a guide for your faith journey this week.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy . . .

Psalm 103:2-4

Profile in Faith

Saint Frances of Rome

Saint Frances of Rome (1384–1440) was a wife, mother, religious, and a woman of great charity and care, especially for the sick and poor. She was also a reconciler who brought enemies together. She fostered reconciliations that brought new life and possibilities to aggrieved parties. Her feast day is March 9.

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† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
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