



Easter

SUNDAY

APRIL 1, 2018

Our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us celebrate the feast.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Reflecting on God's Word

The conviction and enthusiasm of eyewitness accounts gives them a certain ring of truth. Yet the more eyewitnesses there are the more variance there may be in the details reported. Different witnesses may have seen different things—or seen things differently—but they usually agree on the fundamental truth about what happened.

The Easter scriptures record the eyewitness accounts of Mary Magdalene, John, and Peter. Their credibility rests not on the precise details, but on the conviction and enthusiasm of the eyewitnesses. It is their belief in the Resurrection that convinces others to believe.

Like these scriptural eyewitnesses, today's believers are also "witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead" (Acts 10:41). We are called to "testify that he is the one appointed by God" (10:42) by giving eyewitness accounts of how the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive today. Our accounts may not agree in every detail, but the core truth will be the same, that Jesus Christ is risen indeed!

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH April 2 - April 8, 2018

MONDAY

- Weekday Mass - 8:30am
- Lenten Rosary - 7pm
- Holy Name Officers Meeting - 7:30pm

TUESDAY

- Weekday Mass - 8:30am.
- S.O.S. - 6pm
- Flocknotes Presentation - 6:30pm
- Lectio Divina - 7pm

WEDNESDAY

- Weekday Mass - 8:30am
- Youth Chorale - 6pm
- Chorale - 7pm
- Bereavement - 7pm

THURSDAY

- Weekday Mass - 12 Noon
- Holy Hour - 12:30pm
- Adoration & Divine Mercy - 3pm
- Knights of Columbus - 7pm

FRIDAY

- Weekday Mass - 8:30am

SATURDAY

- Sacrament of Penance - 5pm - 5:30pm
- Vigil Mass - 6pm

SUNDAY

Second Sunday of Easter

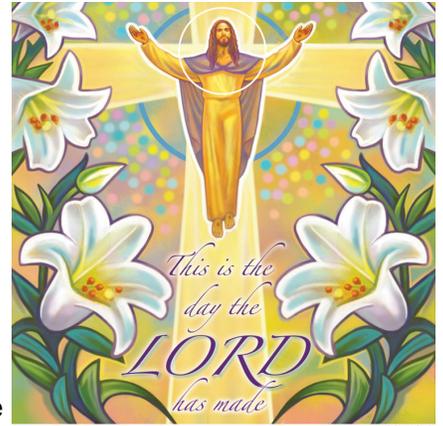
- Sunday Masses - 8:30am, 10am and 12 Noon
- Holy Name - 11am
- End of year F.I.R.E., Mass, Holy Hour, Adoration & Family Picnic - 12Noon
- Divine Mercy - 2:30pm

From the Pastor

We could actually have 2 different pages of thoughts for this day, one the Easter Vigil, and one for Easter morning. The Easter Vigil gives us the readings of creation and of God's saving graces of saving the Israelites from the hands of Pharaoh; prophecies of the Messiah, and God's call to holiness. The Gospel selections are about the First day of the week, after Jesus had been crucified, Sunday morning. Some women had gone to the tomb to anoint the Body, but the stone had been rolled away, and Jesus was not there.

The women saw a young man sitting there and dressed in a white robe. He said 'Do

not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised, he is not here. Behold the place where thy laid Him. But go and tell his disciples and Peter 'He is going before you to Galilee there you will see Him as He told you.' The woman and others were totally amazed, totally surprised, and excited. Easter is the time of New Life, New Hope, New JOY, and a fresh start to the world around us. Part of that new life are those who have received their **EASTER SACRAMENTS at the VIGIL, as they have gone through the RCIA PROCESS and been received into the Catholic Church and received the Sacraments of FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION.** Congratulations to all of them. ALLELUIA'S have returned, fresh flowers and blessed holy water add to the special atmosphere, as do Easter Baskets, parades, chocolate, and getting together with family and friends. We thank the Lord for His love for us and we move forward, on this APRIL FOOL'S DAY, rejoicing that we have not been fooled but have believed IN JESUS, THE SON OF GOD, THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD - RISEN AS HE TRULY SAID - TO GIVE US ETERNAL LIFE. GOD BLESS US ALL. FR. AL Z+



PROCLAIM THE RISEN CHRIST

On Easter morning everything—the spring weather, the flowers, birds and butterflies, the people around us in their finery, the beautiful liturgy and music—everything seems to bear witness that Jesus Christ is risen today! Like the eyewitness accounts in today's scriptures, the glorious and joyful life all around us helps us to believe the good news of the Resurrection and sing "Alleluia!" In the scriptures today we hear from Peter and Paul and John. All three speak with conviction about witnessing the resurrected Christ. John's Gospel account includes Mary of Magdala, who also was privileged to witness the Resurrection and tell others the good news. On this glorious Easter Sunday can we ourselves give eyewitness accounts that Jesus Christ is risen today, alive and active in our lives?

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Paschal Mystery is the key to our Christian faith: the dying and rising of Jesus that is the pattern of our life. In their first steps on the road of faith, the catechumens feel the cross of glory traced over their eyes, on their lips, across their shoulders, on their ears, over their heart, and on their feet. The mystery is that even death gives way to life for those who are held in the embrace of Jesus. Today, many new Christians arise from the waters of the font. Yet the font is not the destination of their journey. The goal is Pentecost, fifty days from now, and a lifetime of praise to the Father, in Christ, in the embrace of the Holy Spirit, for the sake of the world. "Neophyte," our ancient word for newly-baptized people, means "newly-planted" in Greek. If someone in your parish has just been baptized, welcome them today. The smiles on their faces and the light in the eyes is a foretaste of heaven.

PARISH NEWS

We Welcome into the Community of Faith

Giancarlo Jude, son of Christina Oros & Vito Grassi

Mia Isabella, daughter of Karley & Joshua Atchison

June Rose, daughter of Breanna Koyro & Dylan Riggle

Pre-Marriage Class

Our next weekend for our Marriage Preparation Program will be May 4 & 5, 2018. Couples must attend both the Friday evening session from 7pm until 10:15pm and the Saturday morning session from 9am until 1pm to complete the diocesan requirements for marriage instruction. Call 412-795-3388 to register.

Pre-Baptism Class

A class is required for any new parent(s) wishing to have their baby baptized at Our Lady of Joy Parish. The class will be offered at 7pm in the Father Marchukonis Hall on May 2, 2018. Call 412-795-3388 to register.

Bereavement Ministry

Our bereavement ministry will have a seven-week grief support series beginning Wednesday, April 4 from 7-8:30pm. We will meet in classroom 2 downstairs. Our support group is for those who have lost a loved one and are seeking the company of others in their time of need. We will meet every Wednesday through May 16. All are welcome. If you or someone you know might be interested please call Liz Bachtel at 724-337-0049 or the Religious Education office at 412-795-4389.

S.O.S. Seminar

Penn Hills Lawn & Garden

Thursday, April 12 at 1pm in the Father Marchukonis Hall. Join us for a demonstration on container gardening. This can be practical as well as aesthetically pleasing. On top of flowers and foliage, you can plant vegetables like tomatoes, carrots and herbs into containers and add a little homegrown flavor to dinner.



DIocese of Pittsburgh Abuse Hotline
1-888-808-1235

Our Lady of Joy SOS Ministry

1. Faith in Action (FIA)

Patricia Kline - 412-468-0296
FIA Office - 724-327-3353

2. Senior and Caregiver Services

Carl Vitalbo - 412-798-9147
Barb Manganello - 412-795-9753
Barb Kelly - 724-327-3996

3. Social Services

Beth Harkay - 724-327-1178

4. Seminar/Information Sessions

Kathy Ballina - 412-795-4717

5. Legal Information Services

John Fullen - 724-327-6014

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).

(1) Second Reading — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (Colossians 3:1-4) *or*

(2) Second Reading — 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* Mark 16:1-7 (*or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35*).

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, 14-15ab, 16-21; Mk 16:9-15

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

**This Week's
Priest's Private Mass Intentions**

Monday - April 2

8:30 am Living & Deceased of the
Papciak, Blodgett, Anzlovar
Benton Families (Family)

Tuesday - April 3

8:30 am Norma Zapf
(Ken & Michelle Schaper
and Nancy Matijak)

Wednesday - April 4

8:30 am Ruth Tomasits
(Bulletin Stuffers)

Thursday - April 5

12 Noon Alice Keally
(The Mahr Family)

Friday - April 6

8:30 am John Brown
(Family)

Saturday - April 7

6:00 pm For all the People of the
Parish

Sunday - April 8

8:30 am Mary Lou Liscotti
(Jennie Marcotulli)

10:00 am Al Franci
(Family)

12 Noon Gloria Manka
(Husband)

Sanctuary Candle

Our Sanctuary Candle burns in Honor of the Blessed Sacrament and In Loving Memory of **Jaime Vick Moran**. Requested by the Vick Family.

In Memoriam

In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of **Virginia Spohn**, mother of Mary Lou Spohn Myers.

May her soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.
Amen.

The Victor

Today the Victor o'er his foes
For human consolation rose. Alleluia.
—*Surrexit Christus hodie*, Translated
by J. M. Neale

PARISH NEWS



Our Lady's Closet

Come shop at Our Lady of Joy's new clothing closet in the Father Marchukonis Hall. We have "free" men, women, children's clothing and shoes. When the Church is open - Our Lady's Closet is open.

For donation questions, please call Carol at 412-793-9567. Shop and have fun!!

Our Lady of Joy Men's Retreat

OUR LADY OF JOY invites our men to St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center the weekend of April 20th. A spiritual awakening awaits you there. Nestled on the South Side slopes, St. Paul's Retreat Center is a place that offers the comfort and relaxation that nourishes the spirit. It is a place where you can rest your body from the stresses of everyday life, reflect on your relationship with God, and revitalize your soul through fellowship and prayer. The theme of this year's retreat is " **In Christ, United in Mind and Heart** ". For more information call Dennis Boles, Promoter, 724-327--5040 or Larry Howard, 412-704-7093, and pick up a brochure on the table in the entrance.

Christmas Shoebox

It's time to start the monthly collections for the Christmas Shoebox Program. Each month we will suggest items to be donated to fill shoeboxes that are sent to unfortunate children worldwide. The suggested items for APRIL are BARS OF SOAP, WASH CLOTHS & TOOTH BRUSHES. NOTE:

Do not donate toothpaste, candy, foods, liquids, war-related items, glass items or aerosol cans. Please deposit your donations in the Christmas Shoebox COLLECTION BOX in the back of Church. Thanks so much and may GOD bless you.



CCD / RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



FIRE Mass: 12:00 Noon April 8
CCD Sessions: April 9,10
April 16,17 - Last Sessions

First Communion Class Retreat

Saturday, April 14 begins at **9:00am until 12:00** all Second Grade students will meet in the Church. A parent or grandparent must attend with their child. Instructions will be given for reception of First Communion. Religious articles will be blessed. A snack will be provided.

FIRE Mass / Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

FAMILY INTERGENERATIONAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION will be celebrated at 12:00 Mass on April 8. All parishioners are invited to join us after 12:00 Mass for an indoor picnic in the Father Marchukonis Hall. This as all FIRE Masses is a part of the CCD sessions. **The last 2 weeks of CCD the week of April 9 and April 16.**

Sunday, April 8 is also Divine Mercy Sunday. Following the meal at 2:30pm Eucharistic Adoration will be celebrated in the church. Come join the Parish family to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, the eighth day within the Octave of Easter.

The First Communion Mass

First Communion Mass which will take place on Sunday, April 22 at 12:00 noon. Please pray for all the students as you reflect on your own First Communion with gratitude.

What is R.C.I.A.

As Catholics we all remember those special occasions that we celebrate in the church with our families. Our families get together for the baptism of our child/children, and after the baptism we all gather together to celebrate the child having been baptized. We celebrate the reception of 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation and we may even remember our own celebration of these sacraments. These times are truly blessed and are indeed important events to celebrate in our lives. This is the process in which we become full participants in the Catholic faith, we become fully initiated.



Some Catholics have a different experience of being initiated into the Catholic faith, it is called R.C.I.A. (Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults). This is a discernment process in which non Catholic adults, who wish to become Catholic, fully enter into the faith. They receive the sacraments of initiation as we did, but they receive them all at once at the Easter Vigil each year. We, as a faith community, celebrate their coming to faith and welcome them into the Catholic Church. Just as we celebrated our Baptism, 1st Communion, and Confirmation, we celebrate with these individuals as they go through the process of becoming fully initiated Catholics. Our parish community participates in the R.C.I.A. process with these new members; we pray with them, we learn with them, we journey with them, and we welcome them with our hospitality and generosity. We can become more familiar with who they are as we see them each week at church. As a parish, we need to introduce ourselves and get to know who they are.

We welcome any adult who may be interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith. This does not mean that you necessarily have to become Catholic, but you are interested in knowing more about the Catholic Religion. Those adults who are:

- Un-baptized
- Baptized in another religion
- Baptized Catholic, but have not received any other sacraments (1st Communion, Confirmation)

are welcome to enter into the initiation process. May God continue to bless our parish community as we promote the Kingdom of Heaven.

Dear Our Lady of Joy Parish,

The Allegheny County Operation Christmas Child team wants you to now that we greatly appreciate your generous donation of 287 shoe box gifts in 2017. We praise God for your gifts and for the lives of the children who receive your gifts. Your shoeboxes were among 14,440+ gifts from Allegheny County and among 8.8+ million from all over the United States. These gifts went to the following countries: the Bahamas, Columbia, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Togo, and the Ukraine. Please continue to pray for the children that they will grow in faith to become life-long followers of Jesus Christ. Thanks again!

Serving Jesus together,
Henrietta Doren
Allegheny Co OCC Team Church Relations Coordinator

Padre Pio's Relics at Saint Paul Cathedral

On Wednesday, April 4 and Thursday, April 5, a number of relics of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) will be at Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland for veneration by the faithful. The relics will be on display beginning with the 12:05pm. Mass celebrated by Bishop Zubik on April 4 and will conclude that day at 8pm. The time of veneration will continue on April 5 at 9am and will conclude that day at 8pm. Saint Pio was a Capuchin Franciscan priest in Italy who received the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, and devoted himself to healing in the name of Jesus. The Saint Pio Foundation, which is sponsoring this spiritual opportunity, will have an area where the faithful can purchase books and devotional items related to Saint Pio. Please consider visiting the cathedral as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of Saint Pio's death.

**Pork Roast Dinner
St. Januarius Parish**

1450 Renton Road
April 29, 2018
1pm - 6pm

\$10 for Adults & \$5 for Children under 12

Menu

- Pork Roast - Glass of Wine (Optional)
- Sauerkraut
- Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
- Green Beans
- Applesauce
- Bread/Butter
- Beverage
- Dessert
- Take Outs Available
- 412-793-9788 - \$.50 extra
- Bake Sale
- Chinese Auction
- 50/50 Raffle

