

# ST. ROMUALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

394 N HWY 259 · HARDINSBURG KY 40143

April 1, 2018 - Easter Sunday

## dear Padre

### Parish Office:

Phone: 756-2356

Fax: 756-2099

Hours: Monday - Friday

8:00am - Noon, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Email: [stromuald@bbtel.com](mailto:stromuald@bbtel.com)

[www.stromuald.org](http://www.stromuald.org)

### Pastoral Staff:

*Pastor*, Father Brian Johnson

Email: [Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org](mailto:Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org)

*Deacon*, Tony Anthony

*Deacon*, Mike Wiedemer

*Administrative Asst*, Jane Haynes

*CRE: Adult*, Rosa Hockenberry

*CRE: RCIA*, Marie Rose

*CRE: 7-12*, Gayle Poole

*CRE: K-6*, Kim Brumfield

### Pastoral Council:

Dana Bland, Kevin Oelze,

Janet Bland, Danny O'Reilly

Chris Brumfield, Don Payne,

Gera Jarboe, Gail Pollock

Harry Mattingly, Pam Pollock

Joellen McGary, Mark Rhodes

### St. Romuald

#### Interparochial School:

Phone: 756-5504

[www.stromualdschool.org](http://www.stromualdschool.org)

Principal, Rob Cox

### School Board

#### Representatives:

Jamie Barr, Amy Flood,

Jennifer Payne

***I've just returned from a visit to the Holy Land. When we visited the tomb of Jesus, we saw a simple marble slab in a small chapel. Is our faith based on an empty tomb?***

I am happy to answer your question on this highest truth of our faith—the resurrection of Jesus. Our faith in the resurrection is not based on an empty tomb or a little marble slab. There are many explanations for an empty tomb, most which would not contribute to the belief in Jesus' resurrection.

Our faith in the resurrection rests not only on the physical reality of the empty tomb but, more importantly, on the eyewitness accounts of those who saw Jesus, talked to him, and walked with him after his resurrection.

There are many reports in the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles that chronicle the appearance of Jesus after the resurrection. Details vary, but one constant is found in all the accounts: Those who saw the risen Lord had such a powerful experience that they couldn't keep it to themselves. They had to run and tell somebody.

Think of this as a Christian "big bang theory." Jesus' followers had such a tremendous initial experience of the risen Lord that they could not hold it in. They told their friends, neighbors—anyone who would listen.

Excitement spread to neighboring villages and hamlets, then to surrounding countries and cultures. Eventually, Christianity expanded, sometimes under great persecution, throughout the world. Could such endurance and dynamism result from only an empty tomb? No. Only an experience of the risen Jesus could bring this about.

[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



# Masses for the Week

## April 2nd - 8th

Tues	1:00 pm	Martha Matthews (Extended Care)
Wed	5:00 pm	Bryan Mattingly (DM)
Thurs	9:30 am	Sonny Burch (Medco)
Fri	9:00 am	Genevieve Alexander Fam. (MO)
Sat	8:00 am	Frank Neel
	5:00 pm	Herman Barr (JK)
Sun	7:00 am	Kenny Glasscock Fam. (KofC)
	10:00 am	Harold Payne (BP)

# Stewardship of Finance

## Easter Sunday's Collection will be published next week:

Sunday Collection.....	
Building Fund.....	
Children.....	
Loose Change for the Poor.....	
Funeral Meals .....	

### Parish Financial Summary

July-January, 2018

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$327,500</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$293,500</b>
	<b>\$ 34,000</b>

**Thank you for your financial stewardship!**

# Worship and Sacrament

**Anointing of the Sick:** Anointing of the Sick is celebrated with the parish community every first Wednesday at 5:00 pm Mass. Yet, anytime, anointing is available for illness, preparation for surgery or for recovery, by calling Fr Brian.

**Baptism:** Congratulations on the birth of your child! Your Church Family is excited about your family growing and our family growing! We look forward to celebrating your child's baptism! Preparation for new parents or those new to the parish is held by appointment. Call Fr Brian.

**Marriage:** Congratulations on your engagement! Your Church Family wishes to help you fully prepare spiritually and walk with you into this lifetime commitment to each other. In order to allow sufficient time, couples must contact the parish office at least 6 months before the anticipated wedding date.

**Confession/Reconciliation:** Every Wednesday 4:00-5:00 pm; every Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm, every first Saturday after 8:00 am Mass, or anytime by simply asking or calling Fr Brian for appointment.

**Visitation of the Sick:** Please notify Father or the office upon admission of a family member into nursing homes or hospital. Often we rely upon word from the family about illnesses of a member. Please call.

**RCIA:** Interested in the Catholic Faith? The RCIA process is a "spiritual journey" that fully initiates those who are not baptized or who have baptism from another tradition and wish to join fully the Catholic Church. Classes are offered through the year culminating at Easter! Please call the office for details!

**Membership in the Parish:** Welcome to all new families or persons moving into our parish. We are glad that you are joining the parish community. We want to visit with you and help you settle into the church. Please register in the parish office as soon as possible.

# Ministers of the Liturgy - April 7th & 8th

	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Servers	Rosary Leaders	Music Ministers
5:00 pm	Janet O'Reilly Pat O'Reilly	Shannon Aldridge Alex Bertschman	C-Tim Aldridge* C-Danny O'Reilly S-Mark Rhodes S-Carroll Whitfill	Ben Aldridge John Bertschman	Angie Bertschman	Pippa
7:00 am	Tobias Curran Cathy Lewis	Patty Curran	C-Cody Mingus* C-Michael Whitfill S-Mike Whitfill S-Tom Winchell	Joseph Curran Morgan Tabor	Mike Wiedemer	Pippa
10:00 am	Rosa Hockenberry Sandy Horsley Lisa Kennedy Cindy Payne	Nora Dailey Kathy Kiper	C-Bill Monin* C-Zack Payne S-Chase Robbins S-Chuck Robbins	Will Lewis Sean Morton	Rosa Hockenberry	Deacon Tony

Radio Minister: Randy Howard

Children's Liturgy: NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY



**He's alive! He's alive and at it again!**

Can't keep Him down or can't get anything over on Him! Have you had any of those people in your life, that you just can't get ahead of? For example, you think you are doing something good for them and they turn and repay you more! Before you can accomplish a helpful work for them, they have already done you a return kindness, even more than you started for them. That is what God does in Jesus on Easter morning! Mark 16:1 tells us that "When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him." These women want to do a good thing for Jesus, their friend. But Jesus ends up giving them more than they could even imagine: eternal life-a share in the Resurrection!

A couple of years ago, I met a wonderful Jesuit lay missionary who did ministry work in the Marshall Islands. Among the community she lived in, she said she had to be careful not to unintentionally evoke the generosity of the local poor villagers. She told the story of how moved she was because regularly the residents would give her little care-gifts, like a flower or a baked sweet roll. In her first week she learned to be prudent about giving or not giving compliments. Once, a mother that she was staying with came to breakfast and had some beautiful hand-made earrings on and the missionary commented how beautiful they were, and the woman took them off and gave them to her! They may have been the poor woman's only 'extravagance' (one set of nice earrings!). She so easily shared them, *giving them to her visiting friend!* The missionary thought she was lifting up/helping her new friend by complimenting the house-mother on her style and look, and the good woman shared the good, spread the joy by giving the earrings away! But as we can see even in my telling of it now many years later, the fashion or handicraft of the earrings was 'nothing' compared to the contagious spread of goodness & generosity through even such a small gesture! So, back on that Easter Morning, the good women go to the tomb of Jesus with spices (aromatic oils) to wash and prepare the body of Jesus for His proper and respectful burial (the rush to execute and eliminate Jesus before the Sabbath prevented the careful Jewish burial rites to be performed). Their act of love is what we now call a 'Corporal Work of Mercy' (Bury the Dead). They are going to serve Christ, gently washing his dead body, anointing the corpse with a preserving fragrant oil and then gently wrapping Him in dignified covering/clothing. **And Jesus put the move on them!** Raised from the dead now, Jesus comes back to confirm His saving grace within His disciples. God cannot be outdone! They wish to serve Him and do good, yet God has so much more to give them, more than they can imagine! Hearing that they wish to anoint His body after death, makes me remember that one of them had already extended such a caring act before his death, as we heard in Mark 14:3-9. In verse 6, Jesus says after she anointed His body, "Let her alone. Why do you make trouble for her? **She has done a good thing for me.**" So His earliest followers wish to keep on 'doing good' to Him by visiting His tomb and showing their loving respect of Him after death! Yet, Jesus turns (or returns) the goodness by blessing them beyond expectation. The gift of Resurrection and New Life! They want to faithfully keep serving Him. But Jesus' advance grace is already serving them! John 1:16 describes God's pre-emptive grace: God does good in us, before we can even move to do good ourselves. Theologians call that God's '**prevenient grace**' which is grace coming before we are even aware of it! John 1:16 says "From his fullness we have all received, **grace in place of grace.**" And St Paul teaches that grace visits us before we even think of doing good to others as he says in 2 Corinthians 9:8 "God is able to make **every** grace **abundant** for you, **so that in all things, always** having **all** you need, you may have an **abundance** for every good work." The best example of Jesus pre-empting His disciples with goodness was when He washed the feet of His disciples at the Last Supper (John 13:1-17). He asked them afterward in 13:12 "Do you realize what I have done for you?", and he challenged them to give such advance service in verse 17 saying, "**If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it.**" He did a similar 'move' once in John 4:8 when His disciples went off to own to buy him lunch-food, thinking He was hungry, even in John 4:31 urging Him to eat, yet all the while He was preparing them for the Huge 'Bread of Life' multiplication miracle feeding over 5,000 people (John 6:1-15). The Gospels are full of Jesus' acts of ministry illustrating examples of goodness falling over itself to do ever more

good! Luke 7:36-50 tells of Simon the Pharisee who invited Jesus to his home for a dinner and teaching, and Jesus feeds Simon a lesson on God's forgiveness, inviting Simon to the Feast of Divine Mercy (next weekend April 8<sup>th</sup> by the way!). Another example comes with the popular scene from the Eighth Station of the Cross, (Luke 23:28) where Jesus offers comfort to the women who came to console Him along His Way. God's goodness cannot be overcome!

Resurrection is unbounded goodness, giving, giving, giving! Ephesians 3:8 describes this 'ever-living, ever growing goodness' as the 'inscrutable riches of Christ', or 'inexhaustible mercy of God!' Jesus had taught even before His resurrection about the 'ever-rising power of goodness' when he revealed the law of generosity in Luke 6:38 "Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap." An overwhelming return of goodness for any goodness shared! This is the story of Easter Morning! I saw such hearty Easter resilience recently in our two late March snows that tried to cover over the beautiful yellow spring crocuses. But even though they are small, they kept upright pushing through 4-5 inches of wet snow! That is Easter resilience! Who will outdo the other? Will the flower wither first or the snow melt away? I still see the beautiful flowers, but nothing of the 'wet and white', except the good kind way up in the sky: the white billowing, marshmallow clouds! Jesus says "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, **even if he dies, will live**, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die"(John 11:25-26). Good triumphs over evil! Even when we do Jesus wrong through our sin/the crucifixion, He is lifted to life again to extend the new grace of forgiveness to us, His persecutors! Like asparagus growing up through a manure bed, God reveals Resurrection-faith. Such faith looks for new life, seeks openings and confidently acts upon the new grounds of transformation and hope! How does God overcome death, sin and evil? Through Jesus, he accepts it to overcome it. Jesus enters a dark, cold burial like a seed to sow the goodness within to rise anew. Maybe it doesn't pan out, but God knows what wasn't working already to convert the human heart! Jesus' death and resurrection overturn prior cycles of decline with new sequences of progress, however tentative or fragile they may seem. That is goodness! Think of tender shoots that pop out of the dirt in spring. If they waited underground until their defenses were hardened fully, nothing would arise! Unlike the fearful groundhog who comes out of his hole only to retreat again if things don't go its way, Jesus rises from the dead and does not look back! After Easter resurrection, it is all sunlight and rooftops! Like Job's friend Zophar described the turnaround that comes when we push beyond ourselves in goodness by seeking God, such a move brings the purest light! He says, "Your life then shall be brighter than the noonday" (Job 11:17). Maybe we still ask, 'What new life comes after Jesus' resurrection?' every day of the Easter season I recommend reading a little of the Acts of the Apostles, to hear of the wonders of resurrection faith. From the fearful hole of the upper room, the apostles themselves will come out charging after receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit to spread God's grace. We will hear about wonders and works beyond imagination, such as some days as many as 3,000 (2:41) or 5, 000 (Acts 4:4) people joining the early Church, showing constant growth and additional new life! All this new life from Christ's death! Alleluia!

Here are some daily questions to consider in our prayer time!

**Sunday:** Happy Easter! What new word did I hear at Mass today? Like Mary, am I eager to share it with someone today?

**Monday:** Do I feel raised up to new life with Jesus? What do I experience new, having celebrated Easter new beginnings?

**Tuesday:** Does Springtime bring a sense of excitement and freshness to my life? How may I cultivate this 'newness'?

**Wednesday:** Thomas the disciple will struggle. Pray about someone you know is struggling and reach out to them.

**Thursday:** What was the last 'good news' you received? How quickly did you pass it on to someone else?

**Friday:** Pay it forward today! Do an anonymous service or act of love for someone today in honor of the Risen Christ!

**Saturday:** What am I especially thankful for this weekend? Come to Mass early and offer extra prayers of thanks.

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian Johnson

# PARISH NEWS & EVENTS



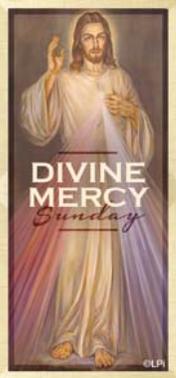
**Are you or someone you know interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith or considering becoming a Catholic???**

If yes, please contact Fr. Brian, Deacon Mike, Deacon Tony or Marie Rose at 756-2356 anytime throughout the year!

**St. Romuald Altar Society** has a limited quantity of nuts for sale. If interested please contact Ruby Davis at 270-668-5528. Thank you for all of your support.

## Celebration

**ANNIVERSARY:** Carl & Thelma Jarboe will be celebrating 57 years of marriage on April 8th.



**Divine Mercy Sunday:** Plan to celebrate God's Mercy that resurrects us from sin and death! Next Sunday (April 8) at 3:00 pm (Mercy Hour!) We will begin a Holy hour at 2:00 pm for the chaplet/personal silent prayer and confession will be available until 3:00 pm when we begin offering Mass. As a reminder the Mercy indulgence involves celebrating confession a week before or after the Holy Day, participating in Mass that day, offering the chaplet and praying for the intentions of Pope Francis!

Eucharistic



Adoration

### First Friday 24-hour Adoration:

Following the 9:00 am Mass on April 6th we begin the 24 hour adoration until Saturday morning mass at 8:00 am. We are blessed with dedicated adorers for each hour, but can use extra people for some hours. Please call Minnie Nimmo 270-617-0297 or Patsy Whitfill 270-617-2557 to volunteer spending an hour if prayer with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

### Anointing of the Sick-First Wednesdays of Month:

Father Brian will offer the sacrament of the sick, 'Anointing for Healing' at the Wednesday evening mass (5:00pm) April 4th. The Catechism specifies that those who can be anointed include 'anyone in danger of death from sickness or old age' yet also includes anyone 'prior to a serious operation', or 'for the elderly whose frailty becomes more pronounced' (Catechism #1514-1515).

**If you have a family member or friend in the hospital who would like Holy Communion brought to them, please call the office at 270-756-2356.**

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!!!

St. Romuald Interparochial School and Pre-school are now accepting applications for anyone wanting to pre-register their children for next year. We welcome your inquiries about an education at St. Romuald Interparochial School. A quality education at SRIS is truly a family experience. We have a proud "tradition of excellence." Call 756-5504, email Lori Carwile lori.carwile@stromualdschool.org for pre-school or Sheila Drane sheila.drane@stromualdschool.org, or come by the school to pre-register your children.

### DRF Update for St. Romuald, Hardinsburg:

Thank you for your generosity toward our parish goal target as of 3/22/2018

St. Romuald Target: \$12,069.67

Amount Pledged: \$9,900

Amount Paid: \$8,000

## This Week at St. Romuald

Mon		Spring Break Begins
	1:00 pm	Blue Army Rosary
	7:00 pm	Al-Anon
Tues	10:00 am	Scripture Study
	1:00 pm	Mass (Extended Care)
	4:00 pm	Rosary
	6:00 pm	St. Vincent de Paul
Wed	4:00 pm	Confessions
	5:00 pm	Mass
Thur	9:30 am	Mass (Medco)
	6:00 pm	Men's Jail Ministry
Fri	9:00 am	First Friday Mass
	9:30 am	24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration
Sat	8:00 am	First Saturday Mass
Sun	11:30 am	7-12 Religious Ed

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### We Pray For:

Gilbert Abel, Frank Adkins, Baby Barr, Roy Bennett, Pat Bland, Becky Brown, Ava Bruner, Juanita Burch, Kathy Burns, Mike Clark, Anna Carrico, Donnie Claycomb, Debbie Dubree, Davye Duggins, Sammy Duggins, Glenda Farris, Tessa Farris, Ginny Flood, Dorothy Greenwell, Linda Greenwood, Austin Harris, JoAnn Henning, Patricia Miller Henning, Kitty Himmelhaver, Bill Hinton, Robert Jackey, Virginia Jeffries, Mary Ann Johnson, Ashley Jones, Louise Kennedy, Jimmy Mattingly, Walter Manning, Bevan Michael Miller, Joe Miller, Richard Miller, Barry Nottingham, Joe Oelze, Patsy Oelze, Janet O'Reilly, Peggy Phillips, Joan & Tom Powers, Joe Priest, Mary Jo Rankin, Rita Roach, Kimberly Rolen, Suzanne Rose, Max Sharp, Bob Smith, Pam Sturgeon, Adalee Taul, Gina Thornsberry, Rufus Tivitt, Diane Whitney, Leona Whitworth, Robert D. Wilson, Anne Wolfe.



**Serving in the Armed Forces:** Mandie Adams, Kevin Arnold, Fred Barham, Austin Brown, Timothy Cashen, Ryan Critchelow, Cody Garst, Parker Findlay, James Hanor, Christian Hansen, Jack Hayes, James Howard, Charles Kuhlman, Bradford O'Reilly, Jordan Pate, Lane D. Taul, Liana Tindle, Chase Upchurch, Garrett Wadsworth

**The Office of Marriage and Family Life** has started a monthly Family Life Newsletter that includes information on events, articles, dates, and activities pertaining to families in the Diocese of Owensboro as well as couples preparing for marriage. The link to subscribe to the newsletter is on our webpage: [owensborodiocese.org/family-life](http://owensborodiocese.org/family-life).

**Knights of Columbus Events:** If you're interested in helping those in need, serving your parish, growing in your faith or having an exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. Hardinsburg Council will conduct a membership drive after each Mass at St Romuald on April 21-22. Please considering joining us. For more information visit [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org).

Put on your calendar to take your family to breakfast on 29th of April, 8 am at St Romuald's Parish Hall, compliments of the Knights of Columbus. Coffee, milk, juice, sausage and gravy.

Knights of Columbus-Hardinsburg Council Members and Family: Come out and celebrate our clergy at our Annual Clergy Recognition/Appreciation Dinner, Patio Steakhouse, Tell City Indiana , 27 April 2018, 5:30 PM (CST)

Clergy: Fathers Brian Johnson, Dan Kreutzer, Tony Stevenson, and our Deacons Tony Anthony and Mike Wiedemer. Meals for Clergy will be provided by Hardinsburg Council 2499 . Please RSVP to GK Pat O'Reilly: NLT 20 April with number in party. "



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## AROUND AND ABOUT

**Al-Anon Meeting:** Mondays 7:00 pm St Romuald Parish Hall. Come find support and understanding to recover a sense of serenity in your life.

**Pray to end abortion:** Join other Catholics and those from other faiths that gather each Saturday at 2nd and Market in Louisville from 7:00-8:00 am (EST) to pray for families entering the abortion clinic. Many children have been saved and mothers spared future grief by this prayer action and support. With God, all things are possible! Archbishop Kurtz is known to show up and pray with everyone too!

**Abortion Update:** Last week 102 women went into EMW Clinic for abortions at 2nd and Market Street in Louisville. **Please pray to end abortion.**

### Stories of Hope and Healing: Rebuilding After Divorce

The offices of Marriage & Family Life and Tribunal are collaborating on Stories of Hope and Healing: Rebuilding After Divorce, an informal panel discussion where panelists will share witness stories from their own experience of divorce. Sessions are scheduled in four locations across the diocese to allow multiple opportunities to attend. (The Tribunal Office will conduct a follow-up session in each location a month later to offer information regarding declarations of invalidity.)

Monday, April 9@ St. Thomas More, Paducah, 6:30 pm

Tuesday April 17 @ St. Romuald, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 24 @ Holy Spirit, Bowling Green, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, May 1 @ Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro, 6:30 pm

Find these dates and the follow-up sessions by visiting [Owensborodiocese.org/family-life](http://Owensborodiocese.org/family-life).

**ST PAUL SCHOOL GOLF SCRAMBLE:** St. Paul School in Grayson County is having their annual Golf Scramble, at Shady Hollow Golf Course in Cub Run. There is an entry fee of \$50 per person, or \$200 per team. There will be lunch provided, and many prizes given away. To register a team, please contact the school at 270-242-7483, or contact us via email at [joanbutterworth@mediacombb.net](mailto:joanbutterworth@mediacombb.net). We are also looking for businesses to be hole sponsors for this event. To sponsor a hole, it will be \$100 per hole. To do so, contact the school at the same addresses.

# PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY

## A Word from Pope Francis:

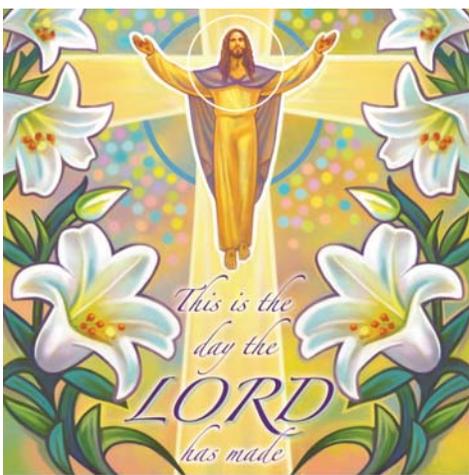
"Every Christian ought to grow in the ability to 'read within' his or her life what God is leading one to do, and to understand where and to what he or she is being called in order to carry on his mission. We need to pray and better educate ourselves to 'discern' between the voices of the "culture of death" and the voice of God. What is just 'noise' and what is God's voice? Discernment means hearing the Lord's voice, from among all the other voices we hear. The times in which we live demand that we develop a profound capacity to 'listen'. Society is full of sounds and words. God may speak in 'thunder', yet also be heard in a 'whisper'. Let us pray together that the Church may appreciate the urgency of disciples being formed in spiritual discernment to 'hear' God's voice, both on the personal and communitarian levels. (Prayer Intention 3-2-2018)

## Encountering the Gift of Marriage

The office of Marriage & Family Life would like to invite all married couples in the Diocese to Encountering the Gift of Marriage retreat being held April 13-15 at Kenlake Resort Lodge in Hardin, KY. The retreat will be led by Bob Perron, co-founder of Catholic Marriage and Family, Inc., who will use humor and personal experiences to encourage and inspire couples. Encountering the Gift of Marriage offers married couples a chance to get away and deepen their relationship in a beautiful, relaxing setting, and includes Saturday evening Mass, social times, and a chance for confession. Registration link can be found at [owensborodiocese.org/family-life](http://owensborodiocese.org/family-life).

## New Missalettes With Mass Prayers in Front Cover:

Please note that the missalettes now contain on the inside front cover the longer prayers we offer at Mass, similar to the old Mass cards that were in the pew holders. The company beginning to offer those prayers in a more accessible place conveniently replaces now those older cards that were showing so much wear and tear. But like a good Rosary, Bible or Prayer Book that shows tattered edges and wearing, it is a good sign of them being used so much! More Prayer, More Grace, More Good!



# Readings for the Week

## 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

**Called by Name Program:** Every young Catholic man should consider all vocations, including whether or not God is calling him to priesthood. However, if not invited or encouraged to think about priesthood, it may never be considered. Many young men may have the burning question within of God calling them to priesthood, but they may be waiting for a confirmation from someone else, to nudge them into seriously pursuing God's priestly call for them. Do you know a faithful young man who may have a vocation to the priesthood? We believe that our future priests will come from our own parishes and schools, but we need your help to identify them. We're looking for high school students and older. Any man you recommend will receive good information from the Vocation Office about discerning his vocation, as well as invitations to discernment retreats and other events. Tell Fr Brian, Deacon Mike or Deacon Tony, to approach them or to invite the vocation director to reach out to them.

## **CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (CLI):**

Would you like to learn how to be a BETTER LEADER? Young people (who have completed their freshman year of high school or who just graduated), The Diocesan Youth Ministry Office is sponsoring Christian Leadership Institute, June 10-15, 2018 at the Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center. If you: are or would like to be, a youth leader; would like to serve on a retreat team; are a class officer or student council member, CLI is for you. You will learn and use skills in leadership, communication, planning and decision-making through the lens of missionary discipleship. You will also help plan prayer and liturgical celebrations. For registration information contact your youth minister/youth ministry leader or campus minister today. Registration deadline is May 14th. Registrations after May 14th will cost \$10 more. Contact your Youth Minister or your Parish priest if you are interested or email [robin.tomes@pastoral.com](mailto:robin.tomes@pastoral.com) for more information.



**Sunday, Apr 01, 2018**

**SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (EASTER SUNDAY)**

**This is the day**

Easter isn't a footnote, as the first disciples demonstrate. It doesn't matter when you come to faith, whether you were baptized as an infant or just last night. You don't win points for what you understand at the mouth of the empty tomb, whether you've studied 20 centuries of dogma about it or just rely on a gut feeling that this event changes everything. Mary Magdalene, Peter, and the beloved disciple each perceive the tomb and its significance from different angles—yet they all spend their lives as witnesses. Go and live like Easter makes a difference!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-9 or Mark 16:1-7 (42, 41) or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35 (46). "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."*

**Monday, Apr 02, 2018**

**MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**Time stands still**

A young monk chided his novice master for having prayed at the Easter Monday Mass, "On this Easter day . . ." "Certainly, you should have sung 'in this Easter season,'" the novice explained. "After all, Easter is over." The wise older priest pointed out—much more gently than deserved—that Easter Day itself lasts eight days, a full week, and only then do we move into the Easter season. Like the obliteration of the reign of death that Easter is, time itself is set on its head. Like the wedding day that, in many cultures, is simply too overflowing with joy to be contained in a single 24 hours, the spirit of hope that is Easter will not be confined. May it rise in your heart *this Easter Day!*

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15 (261). "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."*

**Tuesday, Apr 03, 2018**

**TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**A place in the heart**

Sometimes, in the least suspecting places, we can find miracles. For Mary Magdalene it was a tomb where she had gone to weep and grieve the death of Jesus. But instead she found life. She experienced the risen Jesus and became the first person to proclaim that to the world. Somehow in the midst of her grief and sense of loss, Mary left a tiny space for hope that allowed her to recognize the voice of Jesus as he called her name. The possibility for miracles great and small is with us every day. Leave open a space within your heart—you just may hear your name being called.

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

**Wednesday, Apr 04, 2018**

**WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**What do you expect?**

The disciples walking the road to Emmaus after Jesus' death were disappointed—they had expected from him something other than what they saw, and they assumed his mission had failed with his death. There is a lesson in that, taught by Jesus later in the same story when he breaks the bread and opens their eyes: Our expectations can blind us to the blessings right in front of us. Keep your expectations in check and you might

find all you could ever hope for, and much more, right in front of your eyes.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35 (263). "We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel."*

**Thursday, Apr 05, 2018**

**THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**Be brave**

The Acts of the Apostles, which we read throughout the season of Easter, is a riveting account of faith, courage, healings, conversions, and a miraculous escape from prison. It is the story of how God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, intervened in the lives of Jesus' disciples to ensure the spread of his word throughout the world. The courage of the first followers of Jesus is truly inspirational. Take some time to read Acts this month. Then consider: "In what ways is God inviting me to live more courageously? What is keeping me from responding to that invitation?"

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 3:11-26; Luke 24:35-48 (264). "To this we are witnesses."*

**Friday, Apr 06, 2018**

**FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**Breakfast anyone?**

Meeting friends for breakfast is such a delight. There's something about the morning meal together that makes life feel good. The story of the risen Jesus inviting his friends to breakfast strikes that familiar note of unity and peace. Yet the disciples named in the story were all characters that had crossed Jesus in one way or another: Peter the denier, Thomas the doubter, Nathanael the cynic, and the Zebedee brothers, who persisted in their childish sibling rivalry. The morning repast was a reconciliation service—and a nice way to start the day. Let that same spirit of unity and reconciliation begin your day today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14 (265). "When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread."*

**Saturday, Apr 07, 2018**

**SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**Do the right thing**

Sometimes you have to do what's right even in the face of opposition. Whether it's no reward at best or open hostility at worst, the world around you doesn't always approve of what you know to be the best thing. The apostles ran into the same problem—in fact, they were on both sides of it. When the religious authorities ordered them not to speak or teach in Jesus' name, they refused to obey. On the other hand, when Mary Magdalene came to some of these same disciples with news of the risen Jesus, they did not believe her. Of course it's unwise to always reject what others think of you. But when faced with a difficult situation, ask God for the wisdom and the strength to do what is right and good.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15 (266). "Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge."*

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