

# Christ Our Light Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston  
9677 HIGHWAY 6 • NAVASOTA, TEXAS

**OFFICES AND MAILING ADDRESS**  
**510 Manley Street • Navasota, TX 77868**

**Phone: 936-825-3920 • Fax: 936-825-7612**

**Religious Education: 936-825-1869**

**After hour emergencies: 936-825-3920**

## **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

### **Monday-Thursday**

9:15am - noon & 1:00pm - 5:00pm

**Friday 9:15am- noon**

Other times by appointment

**Website: [www.christourlight.org](http://www.christourlight.org)**

## **PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastor Rev. Elias Lopéz

Grant Holt, Permanent Deacon

Garry Janota, Permanent Deacon

Gregory Jelinek, MD, Permanent Deacon (Retired)

Matthew Krusleski, Pastoral Year Seminarian

## **ADMINISTRATION & BOOKKEEPER**

Nelda Kurten

## **COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Carolyn Katkoski

## **DIRECTOR OF LITURGY AND MUSIC**

Susan Russell

## **SACRISTAN**

Samuel Pry

## **PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Michael Culver (Chairperson), Teresa Morales, Jason Katkoski, Laura Quirino, and Sam Pry

## **FINANCE COUNCIL**

Teresa Morales, Carolynn Katkoski

## **DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN**

Deacon Grant Holt, Jason Katkoski, Mitch Kroll, Gregorio Gonzalez

## **RE BOARD**

President: Brandi Tejeda, Vice President: Jessica Herrera

Secretary: Teresa Morales, Board Members: Lucy Coronilla, Jason Katkoski, Allyson Sweeney, Den Grant Holt

## **BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Deacon Grant Holt, Danny Clark, Richard Krolczyk, and Joe Rangel

## **YOUTH MINISTER COORDINATOR**

Jessica Herrera

## **SUNDAY EUCHARIST**

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: (English) 8:00am

Sunday: (Spanish) 1:00pm

## **WEEKDAY EUCHARIST**

First Saturday 9am

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30am

Tuesday 6:00pm (English)

Thursday 6:00pm (Spanish)

## **ROSARY PRAYED IN COMMON**

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:40pm

Wednesday & Friday: 8:10am

Saturday: 5:15pm

Sunday: 7:15am & 12:15pm

## **RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION**

Tuesday, Thursday and

2nd & 4th Saturdays 5:00-5:45pm

and by appointment 936-825-3920

## **RECONCILIACION/CONFESIONES**

Los Martes, jueves y el

segundo y cuarto sábado a las 5:00-5:45pm

y por cita 936-825-3920

**Easter Sunday: April 4, 2021**



# Christ Our Light Catholic Church • Navasota, Texas

April 03 & 04, 2021

Under the Patronage of St. Patrick and Our Lady of Guadalupe

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTION

MONDAY, APRIL 05

No Mass

TUESDAY, APRIL 06

6:00 PM Marion † & Angie † Scarmardo

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 07

8:30 AM Harold J. Urbanosky, Sr. †

THURSDAY, APRIL 08

8:30 AM Torres, Rangel & Baldobino Families

6:00 PM\* Poor Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY, APRIL 09

8:30 AM Mary Ann Hass †

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

8:30 PM T. R. † and Mary † Noto

SUNDAY, APRIL 011

8:00 AM People of the Parish

1:00 PM\* Maria Elena Hernandez †

\*Spanish

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

TUESDAY, APRIL 06

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

7:00 PM English Choir Practice, CH

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 07

6:00 PM CCE Grades 1-5, SPCC Group B

THURSDAY, APRIL 08

12:00 PM English, Legion Mary, Cry room CH

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM

7:00 PM Spanish Choir Practice, CH

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

10:15 AM CCE Grades 6-9th, SPCC Group B

10:15 AM CCE Grades 10-12th, Group A & B

4:00 PM FHC & Confirmation Workshop,  
SPCC and SPH

## PALM SUNDAY DECORATIONS

The parish thanks the Altar Society for Palm Sunday decorations.

Christ Our Light Catholic Church



The Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston

The Church is open every day from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for people to come stop by and Pray.

## E-Mail Addresses for the Parish

To e-mail Fr. Elias...fr.eli@christourlight.org

To e-mail Nelda: nelda@christourlight.org

To e-mail RE Board: reboard@christourlight.org

Christ Our Light web-site: www.christourlight.org

## BULLETIN DEADLINE TUESDAY 12:00 NOON

Announcements and or articles are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office, or faxed to 825-7612 or e-mailed nelda@christourlight.org.

Events, meeting etc. for the Parish Calendar are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office in advance.

## AFTER MASS WEEKLY PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline Tuesday, 12:00 Noon. Announcements are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office. The Pastor reserves the right to pick and choose which announcements are made in this forum as there is a need to keep these to a minimum.

Todos los anuncios deben ser presentados por escrito en la oficina de la parroquia no mas tarde que los martes al mediodía. El Pastor decidirá si las noticias son de importancia para ser pronuncia das.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

To our new parishioner, we welcome you to Christ Our Light Parish. Please register at the parish office or ask one of the Hospitality Ministers to help you. For parishioners moving out of the parish or changing your address or phone number, please notify the parish office, 825-3920.



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## Sacrament of Baptism Schedule

English Baptism Class Schedule for 2021: 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM , April 10th, July 10th, & October 9th **PAR-TICIPANTS MUST REGISTER AT LEAST 1 WEEK PRIOR TO CLASS.** To register please contact Deacon Grant Holt at 936-825-6448 or Lucy Coronilla at 936-419-9296.

Spanish Baptism Class Schedule for 2021: 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM , April 25th, July 25th, & October 24th. For Infor-

mation, call Rosa Torres at 936-419-8974

ALL DOCUMENTS AND FORMS must be completed and turned in before Baptism Date. SCHEDULED Baptism will be celebrated once a month at 12 noon every 3rd Saturday following completion of the baptismal classes the prior month and Fr. Eli has been informed in ad-vance. The Sacrament of Baptism is a communal celebra-tion. Therefore, private baptisms are not celebrated here.



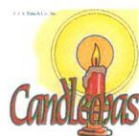


**PRAY for THE CONTINUING  
RECOVERY OR COMFORT OF  
the infirmed and homebound  
members of our community.**

Sarafina Alo, Jo Ann Clepper, Frank Crouch, Elizabeth Culmer, Herman Culmer, Eva Estrada, Liz Estrada, Lois Finke, Liz Johnson, Rachel Kammel, Mary Ann Knowles, Liz Kubricht, Glenda Lawrence, John Lawrence, Christian Mills, Leslie Mills, France Munoz, Leon Nowak, Victor Ostiguin, Leona Pasket, Cecelia Pearson, Angelina Peterson, Wallace Peterson, Irene Ramirez, Lucila Rivera, Zek Rueda, Rosalinda Salazar, Josh Sechelski, Dana Sowell, and Krysten Sowell, Jessie Valadez, III, Crystal Winkler.

**Call the parish office** when a member of our community has a need to be remembered in prayer, 825-3920.

Also, if you have added a name to the prayer list, **please call to let us know when to remove the name from the list.**  
*Thank you.*



**New Memorial Candles**

The new Candle Stands are electrical. Anyone wanting to light a candle may do so by pressing the red button and give an offering. The candle will burn for 12 hours. Memorial Candles burning for one year are \$150.00 each. Come by the parish office to schedule and pay your offering of \$150.00 for your Memorial candle.



**YOUR PARISH  
SUPPORT  
SU APOYO  
PARROQUIAL**

**TRESASURE YOU HAVE SHARED:**

**GIFTS FOR GOD — YOUR TITHE RESPONDS**

**March 27 & 28, 2021**

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| (64) Offertory Envelopes/Loose Checks |          |
| On Line Giving, Mail Ins, & Drop Ins  | 3,252.50 |
| Maintenance Fund                      | 1,727.00 |
| COL Ash Wednesday                     | 50.00    |
| Catholic Relief                       | 20.00    |

Thank you thank you for Mailing, Bringing In, and On Line Giving your Offertory. Baskets will not be passed during the Offertory. You will be able to place your weekly gift in a basket by the Baptism Font before or after Mass.

**SECOND COLLECTION**

April 10 & 11, Maintenance Fund  
April 24 & 25, Home Mission Collection

**In Our Prayers**

We remember in prayer our friends and loved ones in active military duty, both in and out of harms way, in the service of their our country. Pray for peace in the world and for our leaders.

SSG Jorge Aguilar, Jr., Alexander Cortez, Jesus Cortez, Spec. SFC Antinia Franco, 1SG, Jason Malek, Antonio Magallon, Jose Rene Milan, Christopher Munoz, Javier Salinas, Sgt. Kevin Seigler, SSgt Allen Thane

**OUR HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS  
FOR APRIL**

**Universal Intention — Fundamental rights.**  
We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorship, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



**P.E.R.A. (Perpetual Eucharistic  
Reparative Adoration)**

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on Thursdays throughout the Summer following the 8:30 AM Masses on Thursdays and will be reposed before the 6:00 PM Spanish Mass.*

*The "Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to make amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease."*

**Please call Mary Rangel @ 936-419-9024 to sign up for a time slot on Thursdays.**

**THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND**  
Web site is **FORMED.ORG**  
The Parish Code to access the website is **MVMZKF**

Then register to create an account.

**There are 2 easy ways to connect to FLOCKNOTE (pick one):**

**NOTE: Do not use Mozilla Firefox browser.**

1. Visit our church at: [www.flocknote.com/chistourlightchurch](http://www.flocknote.com/chistourlightchurch)
2. Text SPOLG to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.



April 4, 2021

# Easter Sunday

## THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

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

Celtic Images/kevrons201

### GROW AS A DISCIPLE

PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

I have happy memories when I think about all the Easter celebrations I experienced as a child. Easter baskets with nicer-than-usual chocolate; indoor Easter egg hunts – check under the lampshade! – and wearing the best of our Sunday best to Mass. I wouldn't trade these memories for anything, but writing this reflection reminds me that our modern-day celebrations and traditions don't come close to truly capturing the gamut of emotions the disciples must have felt on that first day of the week. From the fear, despair and confusion they initially experienced, to the joy that would have enveloped them when they realized what the empty tomb meant: Jesus had risen! The beloved disciple entered the empty tomb of Christ in today's Gospel, "and he saw and believed." As Christians, I think we sometimes take this foundation of our faith for granted. And so I pray for a renewed sense of awe at the stunning reality: to "see and believe" that God so loved us that he gave his only Son, who died and rose so that we, too, might live forever in God's love.

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Some days I wake up with particular joy or anticipation: "Today we are going on vacation!" Or, "Today my son graduates from college." It is a wonderful feeling, and one that helps me jump – OK, roll a little faster – out of bed. If we take to heart the psalmist's message today, we see that this is how God intends for us to awaken every day: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad." God is the author of our life, and on this Easter Sunday, we celebrate the gift of *eternal* life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In today's first reading, Peter relates how the disciples were commissioned to share the Good News of Christ's resurrection. His words remind us that the story of Easter cannot and should not be contained. Instead, we are called to witness that "everyone who believes in [Jesus] will receive forgiveness of sins through his name." That is good news worth sharing, whether on our social media feed, or with our loved ones and those we encounter each day.

**WITNESS** Happy Easter! Perhaps visit the graveside of a loved one, and take the opportunity to talk about life after death. Say a special prayer of thanks at your Easter meal. And remember to smile in the direction of new faces at Mass today!





## Easter Sunday April 4, 2021

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works  
of the LORD. — Psalm 118-17

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Every 1st weekend of the month (Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses) blessing of all who have a birthday or Wedding Anniversary during the month.

### MONTHLY REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASSES

Refreshment will be served after Masses the first Sunday of each month. The refreshments and service will be provided by the following:

Altar Society—January and July  
Pastoral Council—February and October  
Finance Council—March and September  
R.E. Board—April and August  
Stewardship—May and November  
Choir—June and December

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

**Easter Sunday** — *“Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.” Colossians 3:2* On this day we thank God for His Son, Jesus, who died, rose and opened the gates of heaven for us. We celebrate and sing “Alleluia.” Let’s try to keep the joy of this Easter season in our hearts throughout the year! Pray daily and listen for how God is calling each of us to joyfully use our gifts to fulfill His salvation plan.

### Boletín de Mayordomía—Reflexiones

**Domingo de Ramos**— *“Pilatos nuevamente les dijo, ‘Entonces, ¿qué haré con el hombre al que ustedes llaman Rey de los Judíos?’ Y la multitud nuevamente gritó, ‘Crucifícalo!’” Marcos 15:12-13* Jesús no dijo “cualquier cosa que hagas por el más pequeño de mis hermanos, lo harás por mí” Todos los días se nos presentan oportunidades para ayudar a alguien. Cada día tenemos la oportunidad de ver el rostro de Jesús en otros y de ser el rostro de Jesús para otras personas. Cada día nos encontramos con alguien necesitado. Recemos para pedir la fuerza y el valor para ser la respuesta a la oración de alguien.

### ALTAR SOCIETY

The Altar Society Meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on April 12th in the Parish Hall.



happy  
easter

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Pray for  
Vocations



PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

to the Priesthood and Religious Life especially in our

Archdiocese.

### MEMORIALIZING THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

If you are interested in memorializing the Sanctuary candle, in memory of, in personal reverence and petition or Special Intention for the week, stop by the parish office for more information.

ParishSOFT  
Giving

SIGN UP NOW

Sign Up for Christ Our Light  
Online Giving Now

Christ Our Light now accepts online giving. Parish Soft is our parish's online giving program. Enroll at the link the below. It is secure and easy to use. You will be able to use Parish Soft for normal tithing and special collections throughout the year. Apps are available, so your cell phones/tablets can be used for online giving.

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/dl?uid=chri510191>

### CELEBREMOS/LET US CELEBRATE MISSALETTES

Missalette's starting February 17 to April 10, 2021 are available to purchase for \$5.00. Do not leave them in Church. Take them home with you, bring with you each weekday or weekend Masses you will be attending. Stop by the parish office at 510 Manley Street.



# DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2021

DSF Goal \$25,000.00  
Gifts Received \$8,335.00  
30 Doners

**Sacramental Preparation Programs — Sacramental Preparation Programs offer formation for parish leaders, clergy and team members who prepare families for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Adult Confirmation.**

## IGNITE

Ignite Parish Goal \$208,632.00  
Gifts Amount Received \$62,858.00  
38 Doners

### City of Navasota

Is hosting the Annual Trash Off the morning of April 10th. If you would like to volunteer there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. For more information please contact Lucy Coronilla or Jessica Herrera.

## FEAST OF FAITH

### The Eucharist: Food for Resurrection

How do we celebrate Easter, the greatest of our Christian feasts? By doing what we do every Sunday and every day: celebrating the Mass. On the first Easter, as the heartbroken disciples walked the road to Emmaus, the Lord was with them but they did not realize it. They only recognized him “in the breaking of the bread” (Luke 22:35).

It is the same for us. In the Mass—the breaking of the bread—we meet the risen Lord together. We meet him in each other—for by our baptism into his death and resurrection, we have become members of one body, the Body of Christ. We meet him in his word—in the liturgy the scriptures are proclaimed to us, that they might take root and grow in us. And we meet him in a special way in the Eucharist, the sacrament of his Body and Blood, which is food for resurrection: “whoever eats this bread will live forever” (John 6:51). The Lord is risen indeed, and it is the Risen One who truly presides at this and every Eucharist.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## FIESTA DE LA FE

### La mesa de la Palabra

De la mesa de la palabra vamos a la mesa eucarística. La Constitución sobre la Sagrada Liturgia tuvo eso en mente de forma muy clara al pedir que: “A fin de que la mesa de la palabra de Dios se prepare con más abundancia para los fieles ábranse con mayor amplitud los tesoros de la Biblia, de modo que, en un período determinado de años, se lean al pueblo las partes más significativas de la Sagrada Escritura”. Fue de esta manera que no sólo se reorganizó un nuevo Leccionario para la Iglesia Católica, sino que se le dio una importancia aún mayor a la lectura de la Biblia, no sólo en el contexto de la liturgia, sino en toda la vida de la Iglesia. Esta reforma litúrgica hizo posible que la comunidad de creyentes conociera los evangelios de Mateo, los de Marcos, Lucas y Juan. En números claros, antes del Concilio Vaticano II sólo se proclamaba el 5% del Evangelio de Marcos y, del Antiguo Testamento, sólo se proclamaban 258 versículos, de los 25,044 versículos que lo componen, es decir, sólo el 1%. Un gran paso, sin duda.

—Miguel Arias, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



# Easter tide

THE SEASON OF NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

In the Catholic Church Year, the two major cycles of seasons, Christmas and Easter, are far more than a single day of observance. Like Christmas, Easter itself is a period of time rather than just a day. It is actually a seven-week season of the Church year called *Easter tide*, the fifty days that begins at sundown the evening before Easter Sunday (the Easter Vigil) and lasts for six more Sundays until Pentecost Sunday. For the newly baptized, this is a period of *mystagogy* (being "led into mystery"), a time for prayerful reflection on the experience of their sacramental journey. The symbols and rites of the Easter season are channels of this grace.

## The Paschal Candle

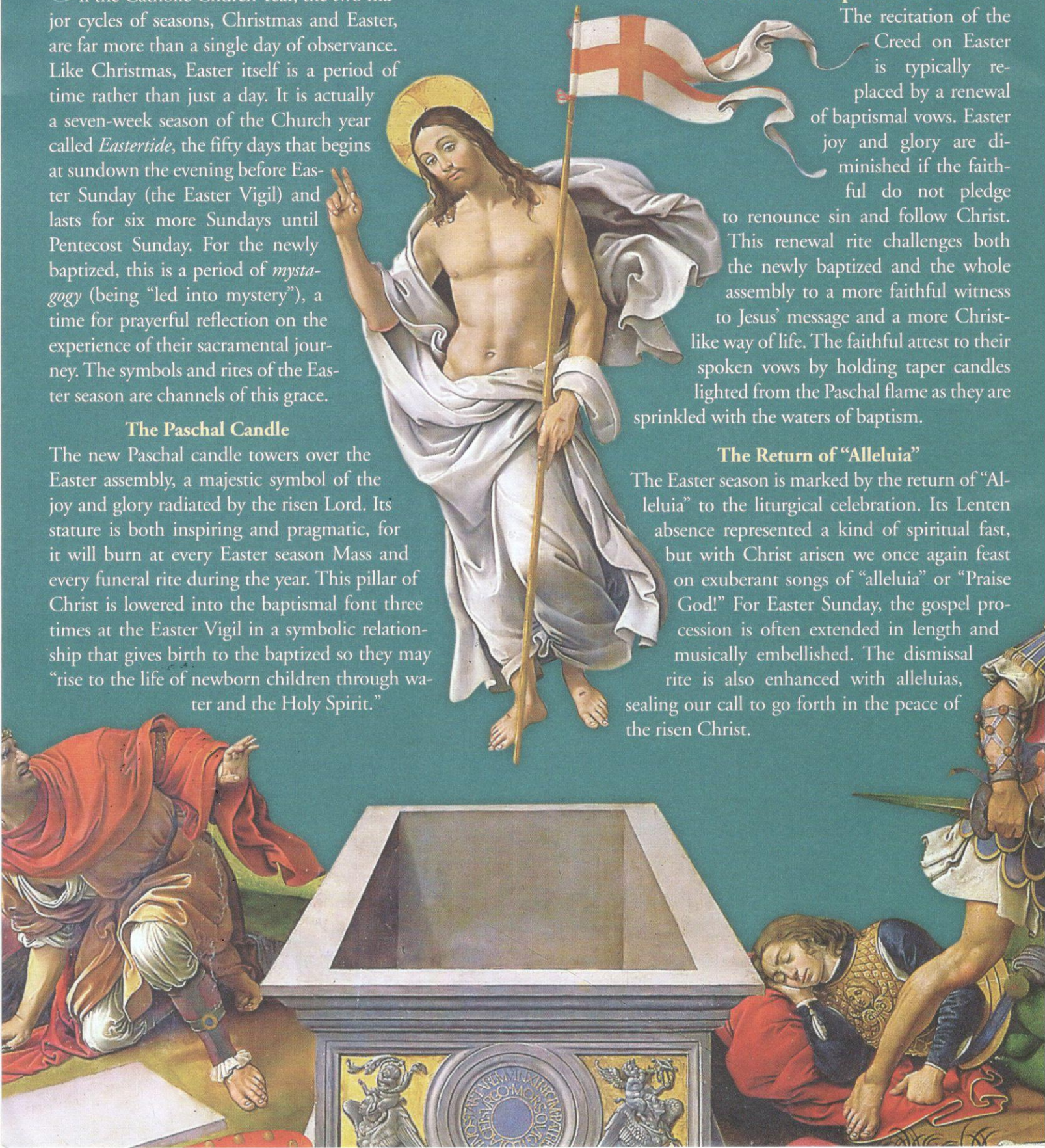
The new Paschal candle towers over the Easter assembly, a majestic symbol of the joy and glory radiated by the risen Lord. Its stature is both inspiring and pragmatic, for it will burn at every Easter season Mass and every funeral rite during the year. This pillar of Christ is lowered into the baptismal font three times at the Easter Vigil in a symbolic relationship that gives birth to the baptized so they may "rise to the life of newborn children through water and the Holy Spirit."

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The recitation of the Creed on Easter is typically replaced by a renewal of baptismal vows. Easter joy and glory are diminished if the faithful do not pledge to renounce sin and follow Christ. This renewal rite challenges both the newly baptized and the whole assembly to a more faithful witness to Jesus' message and a more Christ-like way of life. The faithful attest to their spoken vows by holding taper candles lighted from the Paschal flame as they are sprinkled with the waters of baptism.

## The Return of "Alleluia"

The Easter season is marked by the return of "Alleluia" to the liturgical celebration. Its Lenten absence represented a kind of spiritual fast, but with Christ arisen we once again feast on exuberant songs of "alleluia" or "Praise God!" For Easter Sunday, the gospel procession is often extended in length and musically embellished. The dismissal rite is also enhanced with alleluias, sealing our call to go forth in the peace of the risen Christ.





## JESUS' RESURRECTION

What happened on Easter was a complete surprise to the disciples. The Jesus that they had known and who had died was suddenly experienced as alive again. This new life, described



as resurrection, was not just a restoration of one's former life—a resuscitation from the dead. The prophets Elijah and Elisha had brought people back to this life, as had Jesus for the daughter of Jairus, the son of the widow of Nain, and Jesus' beloved friend Lazarus. Although their return from the

dead left them temporarily alive, they would die again. But Jesus' resurrection was a new life that would not be subject to death again. It was eternal life, permanent and undying existence in the presence of God forever.

### The Resurrection Mystery

"O truly blessed Night," sings the *Exsultet* of the Easter Vigil, "which alone deserved to know the time and the hour when Christ rose from the realm of the dead!" But no one was an eyewitness to Christ's Resurrection and no evangelist describes it. No one can say how it came about physically. Still less was its innermost essence, his passing over to another life, perceptible to the senses. Although the Resurrection was an historical event that could be verified by the sign of the empty tomb and by the reality of the apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, still it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something that transcends and surpasses history.

—*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #647



## TERMS OF THE EASTER SEASON

**Alleluia:** From the Hebrew word meaning "Praise the Lord," Alleluia is a special acclamation of joy in the Easter Season.

**Ascension:** Originally celebrated on Thursday (40 days after Easter), now all U.S. dioceses except 6 celebrate it on the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

**Easter:** The first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox, Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. The Church considers every Sunday in the year a commemoration of Easter.

**Easter Duty:** After having received First Communion, every Catholic in the United States must receive communion at least once a year during Easter time, defined in the U.S. as the period from the First Sunday of Lent to Trinity Sunday, a week after Pentecost.

**Easter Season:** The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday.

**Paschal Candle:** A large decorated wax candle that is a symbol of the risen Savior, the light of the world. It is lit during Mass from the Easter Vigil to the Ascension, and used thereafter in baptisms and funeral liturgies.

## MASS READINGS FOR THE EASTER SEASON 2021

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

**2nd Sunday:** Acts 4:32-35;  
1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

**3rd Sunday:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5a;  
Lk 24:35-48

**4th Sunday:** Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2;  
Jn 10:11-18

**5th Sunday:** Acts 9:26-31;  
1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

**6th Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48;  
1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

**Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11;  
Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13; Mk 16:15-20

**7th Sunday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26;  
1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 17:11b-19

**Pentecost:** Acts 2:1-11;  
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23  
or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15



# Stewardship

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving

April 2021

**No living creature can match the physical strength and stamina of the common ant. One observer who watched an ant dragging a dead grasshopper, weighed the bodies of both.** The ant was pulling 60 times its own weight. To equal such a feat, a 150 pound man would have to drag a load of four and a half tons! What great gifts God has given to all creatures. We can only admire the remarkable powers of the tiny ant!

But human beings were made to do more than haul tons around. God has given you the power to help change the world for the better. You have no idea how much you can do to use your abilities to help mankind. Criticizing or complaining accomplishes little. But as soon as you start “doing” even one little thing for Christ you will begin to realize your tremendous power.

Our abilities should be dedicated to God. The abilities of the successful Christian business person are needed in God’s church. The trained, efficient teacher should be using his or her talent in the church, as well as in the school-room. The person gifted in music should contribute to an effective music program in the church. The doctor and nurse will find many ways of using their abilities for furthering the Christian church.


Young people in choosing their life vocation should ask how this profession can contribute to the work of the kingdom of Christ. What a blessing it would be if people were willing to tithe their abilities as well as their money! The secretary, the carpenter, the plumber, the painter, the teacher, the artist, the musician, as well as others could make vital contributions to the church by using their particular tal-

ent for the work of the church. If one’s work is legitimate, there is some way that that talent can be used for God.

The story is told of a young Christian artist by the name of Joseph Peterson. As he rode the streetcars he noticed the many advertisements in the cars, yet no advertisements for Christ and the church. He decided to use his gift in preparing

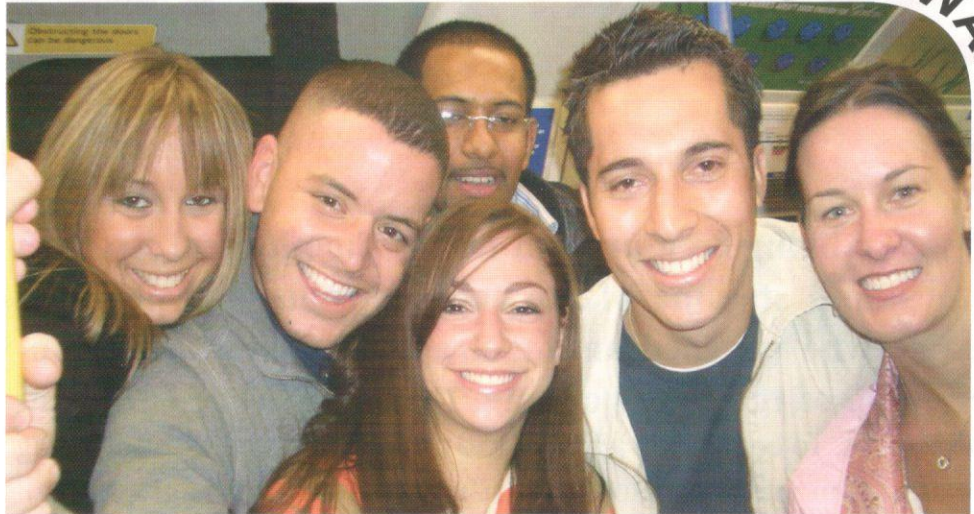
*Ministry is an integral part of the Christian life that flows from our being baptized and confirmed into a life dedicated to discipleship. Our sacramental initiation into ministry establishes our lifelong task as one of discernment - learning where and how our talents and abilities can best be used to build up God’s people.*



Gospel cards to be displayed in the cars. Twelve years later he was giving full time, managing an office force, and was sending 8,000 cards monthly to 120 cities of the United States, Canada, South Africa, Australia, India, British West Indies, and Hawaii. 







### Givers Have More Fun than Takers

**G**od has given us the sun to light the world and keep us warm. He has given us darkness so we'll be able to sleep at night. He has given us trees to climb and build forts in and sit under to rest. He has given us water to swim in and drink when we're thirsty and to wash with when we have to.

God has given us parents so we'll have clothes and a home and somebody to help us with our homework. God has given us the whole world. Free. God doesn't ask for much in return. He asks only that we love him.


But how can we show God we love him if we can't even see him? Jesus has given us the answer to that. He said that we show our love for God by doing what he wants us to do. Also, by giving and by doing things for other people.

By giving some of your time to help with the dishes ... or make beds ... or clean the basement without complaining. Or by always paying attention in school and not talking. Or by always being nice to others, even when they aren't nice to you. These are all ways to give to God by giving to others.

Another good way to give to God is by giving to God's church: by giving to the missions and by giving something on Sunday in church when we offer ourselves to God. Don't ask your mother or father for the money. That way they would be doing the giving. You would only be putting the money in the basket for them. The thing to do is give part of your allowance, or give something out of money you earn.

What many people do is give God 10% of what they earn. Ten cents out of every dollar. This would mean that if you get five dollars each week, you would give 50 cents of it to God on Sunday. If you get 10 dollars a week, you would give \$1 of it to God. Giving 10% of what you have is called tithing. If 10% sounds like a lot, stop and think again about all God has given you!

Just think. If everybody would begin giving, then everybody would soon be getting as well as giving and everybody would be happy. That's God's plan. He wants us all to be givers. He wants us all to be happy too.

So God's fixed it so that givers have more fun than takers! 

*Throughout his teachings, Jesus simply asked that we change the way we think ... change the way we look at ourselves and our neighbors ... learn to use our life, our talents, our gifts, to serve others ... and through service to others, find that we have served and loved God.*



## Building Rafts

**S**ome birds build nests right beside the water, sometimes only inches away. If there is a flood, and the lake rises too high, the eggs will be chilled and won't hatch. This problem can be especially devastating in the case of endangered birds, such as loons, leading to dangerously low numbers of chicks being raised each year.

So scientists designed and built special rafts, covered them with cattails and other weeds, and then anchored them loosely in sheltered areas. Often, birds will use them for nesting sites. If the lake floods, these rafts will float, keeping the nests and their eggs safe

from the water. In a way, raft-building is something all stewards do. Of course, they are usually not actual rafts. However, they do help others to stay out of harm's way.

Starting, running, and donating to a food pantry all help keep away the dangers of malnutrition. This is especially important for children, the sick, and the elderly.

Providing school supplies and tutoring helps keep the dangers of ignorance away. In many cases, adults need help with learning just as much as children do.

Building and repairing homes helps keep the dangers of homelessness - crime, cold, lack of sanitation, to name just a few - away from people who

(Continued on page 4)

## Steward of the Month

### And Two Shall be as One **Submitted by: Carol Fancy Farm, KY**

**I**n a small rural town in western Kentucky, population approximately 500, there lives a married couple of 62 years. Ross and Elizabeth Curtsinger, quietly and graciously through the years have embodied the meaning of Christian stewardship. Without fanfare, both have served on parish committees, performed various ministries, chaired church picnics; fed the hungry by dedicated work with the local food pantry, clothed the naked through their support and participation in the St. Vincent DePaul Society, and shown compassion for the widowed, the poor and the sick through gifts of food, visits, cards, letters and prayers.

They do not leave their spirit of giving behind when they spend their winters in the south of Texas. There they join with other winter Texans in charity fundraisers, deliver food and clothing to families in Mexico and continue to keep tabs on the folks back home with Elizabeth's ministry of cards, letters and prayers. Together they have been as one in their life of ministry, sharing their time, talent and treasures with all ... in all ways. Their stewardship is as God intended, a constant lived out each day not just at Christmas or Thanksgiving. These special people are my parents. They never had a lot of earthly treasures, but were gifted with a rich and generous spirit and have worked hard to pay it forward. ☩

*When we give to God, who gives everything to us that we are and have, our gift says in our name, "God we love you ... God we thank you." There is always joy in loving and thanking God.*

*The more we love God, the more we will give as God has given to us. The more we give for God's works, the more the Holy Spirit will fill our hearts with joy and happiness.*






**In a way, raft-building is something all stewards do.**

Continued from page 3...

### **Building Rafts...**

because of illness, disability, or unemployment, are vulnerable to being on the street. Most importantly of all, maintaining a house of worship helps people keep the dangers of sin away from themselves. Comforting prayers, inspirational sermons, and joyous hymns can and do change lives.

The water birds never thank the scientists for the rafts. Stewards may not hear thanks as often as they should, either. But the world is a better, more beautiful place for the birds in it, and likewise for the people who benefit from Christian stewardship. 



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# Co-Responsabilidad

Inspirando una comprensión más profunda de la verdadera generosidad

Abril 2021

**N**inguna criatura viviente puede igualar la fuerza física y la energía de una hormiga común. Un observador que vio a una hormiga arrastrando a un saltamontes muerto, pesó los cuerpos de ambos. La hormiga estaba jalando un peso 60 veces mayor que el suyo. Para igualar tal hazaña, un hombre de 150 libras ¡tendría que arrastrar un peso de cuatro toneladas y media!

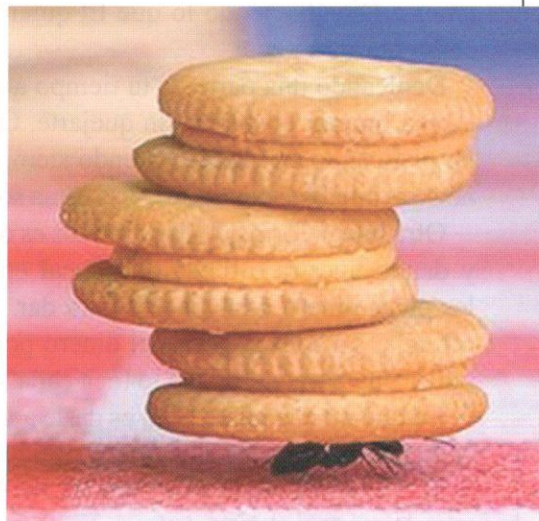
Qué capacidades tan grandes les ha dado Dios a sus criaturas. ¡No podemos sino admirar los notables poderes de la hormiga!

Pero los seres humanos fueron hechos para mejores logros que arrastrar cosas pesadas. Dios nos ha dado la capacidad de ayudar a cambiar al mundo para bien. No tenemos ni idea de lo que somos capaces si usamos nuestras capacidades para ayudar a la humanidad. Con criticar o lamentarse se logra muy poco. Pero en el momento en que empezamos a “hacer” aunque sea algo pequeño por Cristo, empezamos a percatarnos de nuestros tremendos poderes.

Debemos dedicar nuestras capacidades a Dios. Las capacidades del exitoso empresario cristiano son necesarias en su iglesia. La maestra eficaz y bien capacitada debe usar su talento en su iglesia tanto como en el salón de clases. La persona con habilidades musicales debe contribuir a desarrollar un buen programa musical para su iglesia. El médico y la enfermera encontrarán muchas formas de emplear sus capacidades en la expansión de la iglesia cristiana.

Los jóvenes en vías de decidir su vocación deben preguntarse cómo puede

en dicha profesión contribuir a la obra del reino de Cristo. ¡Qué bendición sería que la gente estuviera dispuesta a dar un diezmo tanto de sus capacidades como de su dinero! La secretaria, el plomero, el carpintero, el pintor, el maestro, el artista, el músico y muchos otros podrían hacer contribuciones vitales para su



iglesia empleando en ella sus talentos. Si el talento es legítimo, siempre habrá alguna forma de usarlo para Dios.

Se cuenta la historia de un joven artista cristiano llamado Joseph Peterson. Andando en el tranvía se dio cuenta que en los carros se exhibía una gran cantidad

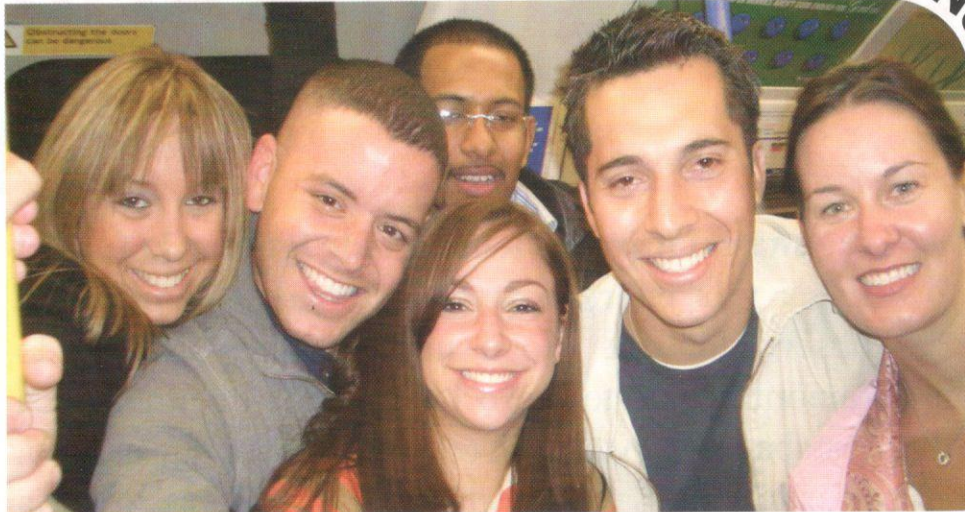
(Continúa en página 4)

*El ministerio es parte integral de la vida cristiana que surge de nuestro bautizo y confirmación en una vida dedicada a ser ministros y discípulos. Nuestra iniciación sacramental en el ministerio define la obra de nuestra vida como un constante discernimiento para saber en qué pueden nuestros talentos y capacidades ser usados de la mejor manera para la construcción del pueblo de Dios.*





## La esquina de los **CO-RESPONSABLES JÓVENES**



### Es más divertido dar que recibir

**D**ios nos ha dado el sol para iluminarnos y darnos calor. Nos dio la oscuridad para que podamos dormir por la noche. Nos ha dado árboles para trepar y construir fuertes en ellos y sentarnos a descansar bajo su sombra. Nos dio el agua para beber cuando estemos sedientos y para lavarnos cuando lo necesitemos.

Nos dio a nuestros padres para tener un hogar, ropa y alguien que nos ayude con nuestras tareas. Dios nos ha dado el mundo entero. Gratis. Y a cambio no nos pide mucho. Solo que lo amemos.

Pero ¿cómo podemos mostrarle a Dios que lo amamos si ni siquiera podemos verlo? Jesús nos ha dado la respuesta. Él nos enseñó que podemos mostrarle nuestro amor a Dios haciendo lo que Él quiere que hagamos. También dando y haciendo cosas por otra gente.

Dedicando una parte de tu tiempo a ayudar con los trastes ... o a tender la cama ... o a limpiar el sótano sin quejarte. O poniendo siempre atención en la escuela y no platicando en clase. O siendo siempre amable con los demás, aún cuando ellos no sean amables contigo. Todas estas son formas de darle a Dios dando a los demás.

Otra buena forma de darle a Dios es dándole a su Iglesia. Dando para las misiones y dando nuestra ofrenda dominical en la iglesia cuando nos ofrecemos a él. No les pidas dinero a tus padres para dar. De esa forma serían ellos quienes harían la ofrenda. Tú solo pondrías el dinero por ellos en la canasta. Lo que debes hacer es poner una parte de lo que te toca cada semana, o del dinero que ganes.

Lo que mucha gente hace es darle a Dios el 10% de lo que gana. Diez centavos de cada dólar. Esto significa que si obtienes cinco dólares a la semana, el domingo le darás cincuenta centavos a Dios. Si recibes diez dólares a la semana, de ahí le darás uno a Dios. Dar el 10% de lo que ganas se llama pagar el diezmo. Si el 10% te parece mucho, ¡detente por un momento a pensar en lo mucho que Dios te ha dado a ti!

Solo piensa. Si todos empezaran a dar, muy pronto todos empezarían tanto a recibir como a dar y todo mundo estaría feliz. Ese es el plan de Dios. Él quiere que todos seamos dadores. También quiere que todos seamos felices.

Así que Dios lo arregló todo para que quien da se divierta más que quien recibe.



*A lo largo de todas sus enseñanzas, Jesús simplemente nos pide cambiar nuestra manera de pensar... cambiar la forma de vernos a nosotros mismos y a nuestro prójimo... aprender a emplear nuestra vida, nuestros talentos y nuestros dones para servir a otros...y descubrir que es mediante el servicio a los demás que servimos y amamos a Dios.*



## Construyendo balsas

**A**lgunos pájaros construyen sus nidos a un ladito del agua, a veces a solo pulgas de distancia. Si se viene una inundación y el nivel del lago sube mucho, los huevecillos se helarán y no podrán empollar. Este problema puede ser especialmente devastador en el caso de aves en peligro de extinción, como algunas variedades de patos, lo que conduciría a números cada vez menores de polluelos criados cada año.

Así que los científicos diseñaron y construyeron unas balsas especiales, las cubrieron de paja y ramitas y las sujetaron flexiblemente en áreas

protegidas. Con frecuencia las aves las usan para hacer sus nidos, y si el lago se desborda las balsas flotan y mantienen a salvo los nidos y los huevecillos. En cierta forma, construir balsas es algo que todos los co-responsables hacen. Claro que usualmente no son balsas de verdad. Sin embargo, les ayudan a muchos a mantenerse fuera del peligro.

Crear, administrar o donar a un comedor de beneficencia ayuda a mantener alejados los peligros de la desnutrición. Lo cual es de especial importancia para los niños, los enfermos y los ancianos.

Aportar útiles escolares y ayudar en la tutoría escolar ayuda a mantener alejados los males de la ignorancia. En muchos casos los adultos necesitan

(Continúa en página 4)

## Co-responsable del Mes

**Y los dos serán como uno solo** Enviado por: Carol Fancy Farm, KY

**E**n un pequeño poblado rural al oeste de Kentucky, con una población aproximada de 500 personas, vive una pareja que ha estado casada durante 62 años. Ross y Elizabeth Curtsinger, a lo largo de muchos años callada y graciosamente han encarnado el significado de la corresponsabilidad cristiana. Sin fanfarrias, ambos han servido en los comités parroquiales, desempeñado diversos ministerios, coordinado paseos de la iglesia; han alimentado a los hambrientos trabajando diligentemente en el comedor público; han vestido al desnudo participando en la Sociedad San Vicente de Paul, y han mostrado su compasión hacia las viudas, los pobres y los enfermos mediante sus donativos de comida, visitas, tarjetas, cartas y oraciones.

Y no se crea que dejan en casa su espíritu caritativo cuando se van a pasar el invierno en el sur de Texas. Ahí participan con otros tejanos invernales en actividades de recaudación para obras de caridad, envían comida y ropa a familias en México, y mantienen contacto con su gente en casa mediante el ministerio de Elizabeth a través de tarjetas, cartas y oraciones. Juntos han sido uno solo en su vida de ministerio, compartiendo su tiempo, talentos y recursos con todos...y de muchas formas. Su corresponsabilidad es, como Dios lo quiere, algo que viven en forma permanente día con día, no solo en la Navidad o el Día de Acción de Gracias. Estas personas tan especiales son mis padres. Nunca tuvieron muchas riquezas terrenales, pero fueron dotados de un espíritu rico y generoso, y han trabajado duro para hacer buen uso de él. ☪

*Cuando le damos a Dios, que nos ha dado todo lo que somos y todo lo que tenemos, nuestros donativos dicen a nombre nuestro: Dios, te amamos. Dios, te damos gracias. Siempre hay un gozo en amar y agradecer a Dios. Entre más amemos a Dios, más daremos como Él nos ha dado a nosotros. Entre más demos para las obras de Dios, más el Espíritu Santo llenará nuestro corazón de gozo y felicidad.*






**En cierta forma, construir balsas es algo que todos los co-responsables hacen.**

Viene de página 1...

### **Ninguna criatura viviente ...**


de publicidad, pero ninguna sobre Cristo y la Iglesia. Así que decidió usar su talento en hacer cartulinas con temas del Evangelio para exhibirlas en los carros. Doce años después se dedicaba a ello de tiempo completo, contaba con una oficina equipada y enviaba mensualmente 8000 cartulinas a 120 ciudades de Estados Unidos, Canadá, Sudáfrica, Australia, India, Indias Occidentales Británicas y Hawai. 

Viene de página 3...

### **Construyendo balsas**

tanta ayuda para aprender como los niños. Construir y reparar casas ayuda a mantener a raya los males derivados de la indigencia – el crimen, el frío, la carencia de condiciones sanitarias, por mencionar solo algunas, para mucha gente que debido a enfermedad, discapacidad o desempleo es

vulnerable a quedarse en la calle. Y aún más importante, sostener un templo o casa de oración le ayuda a la gente a mantenerse alejada de los peligros del pecado. Las oraciones de consuelo, las homilias inspiradoras y los cánticos de alegría pueden muchas veces cambiar vidas humanas.

Las aves nunca les agradecen a los científicos por las balsas. Y puede que tampoco los co-responsables escuchen frases de agradecimiento con tanta frecuencia como merecieran. Pero el mundo es un lugar mejor y más bello para los pájaros que lo habitan, así como para la gente que se beneficia de la corresponsabilidad cristiana. 



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