

From the Pastor's Desk Easter Message

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118:24).

Why do we rejoice today? We rejoice because our faith in Christ has been vindicated, **truth** has triumphed over **falsity**, **justice** over **injustice** and **tragedy** has turned into **comedy**.

The story of the suffering and death of Jesus on Good Friday is the story of the triumph of **falsity** over **truth**, of **injustice** over **justice**, of **evil** over **goodness**. Jesus was falsely charged of crimes he did not commit, and unjustly sentenced to a death he did not deserve. His good friend betrayed him, his trusted companions deserted him, and his number one man denied him. The people he loved demanded his crucifixion and chose to have the bandit Barabbas released in his place. It is a story of **betrayal** and **lies**, **dishonesty** and **meanness**, **unfaithfulness** and **wicked violence directed against an innocent** and apparently **helpless victim**. All this comes to a head on Good Friday when we see Jesus scourged, mocked, led on the death march, nailed to the cross where he dies after a few hours and hastily buried in a tomb. If that were the end of the story that would be a bad story, a tragedy, but glory be to God it is not.

Death is not the end of the story. There is one more chapter. This is the most important chapter because, as the saying goes, they who laugh last laugh best. And in the last chapter of the story of Jesus we see him rise from the dead in all glory and majesty. He is vindicated. His enemies are shamed and confused. Jesus regains his eternal glory with the Father. He is the Lord, who will prevail over all humankind, his enemies included. For us his embattled followers this is good news.

It is good news to know that **truth is immortal**. We can suppress **Truth**, accuse it of being a lie, condemn it, torture it, kill it, and bury it in the grave but on the third day **Truth** will rise again. Remember this and do not give up on **Truth** even when everybody seems to give up on it. Do not give up on **Truth**; do not give up on **Justice**. Do not give up on doing what is right. **True** will always be **true** and **just** will always be **just**. **Right** will always be **right** even when the world around us would have it otherwise. We must learn to believe in the sun even when it is not shining; knowing that by and by it will shine again. It is the end of the story that counts. That is why the church asks us today to rejoice and be glad. Even when we are going through very difficult times: through betrayal, unjust discrimination, lies, and misrepresentations; even when the enemy seems to be winning the battle in our lives. Today Christ has won. And we know that in Christ we shall overcome.

Halleluiah, Praise the Lord!

Peace & Joy, Fr. John

Prayer List

Dave Abbinanti Angie Ahlgren Elaine Ahlgren **Brody Anderson** Bernie Balsis Cheryl Bednarz Jim Bess Lou & Bertha Betti Andi Bidwell Don Billiet Cari Bridgewater Amanda Brody **Brayton Brody** Mike Brown John Michael Bystry **Lowell Carpenter** Lauren Cinnamon **Evelyn Cortes** Mike Curran Betty DeBlieck Wesley Dienst JoAn Dobbels Sid Douglas Vanessa Duarte Dr. Dale Dykstra JR & Mary Dziengel Marian Elbus Liz Engstrom Melissa Ferrel Jim Findley Sue Gruszeczka Marcelino Gutierrez Abbie Hamilton Kyle Henjum Harley Hepner Doug Hilgendorf David Holtschult Mary Jackson Ron Johnson Sandy Kaiser Thomas Keefner Mary Jean Kelly Charles "Dick" King Patty Krause Fr. Tony Labedis

Olga Larson Jean Lindstrom **Denny Marchand** Mason-Gould Family Margaret Matusyzk Matzenbacher Family Faith Marie McHale Zachary David McLaurin Jan McPheeters Maribeth Mikenas Sandy Milby Jessalyn Rashid Mildbrand Barry Miller Paul Mowbray **Betty Mower** Carolyn Nagel **Greg Neubert** Joe & Joan Nosal Michael Olynciw Al Padilla Connie Phelps Andrea Rocha Genaro Rocha Michael Rounds 15 Special Intentions Ron Shambaugh Marie Sherbeyn Mildred Steimle Betty Sullivan Andrew Swearingen Jerry Swearingen Richard Teaburg Wilma Tegeler Jay Titus Frank Tocha John Wade Joyce Wall Mickey Welling Al Wentworth Michele Wentworth Michael White Harold Wolf **Howard Whitver**

Prayers for Our Military

Nicholas Cravens Jarrett Davis Ashley Dykema John Fisher Hailee Jo Fleming Chad Forsythe Isaac Frank Mary Groy

William Hartman, Jr.
Wade Hatzinger
Katie Lane
Andrew Mosley
Ty Schierer
Kenny Steele
Dakota Van Wassenhove

Lisa Wisniewski

DEAR PARISHIONERS

Due to the impact Covid19 "Coronavirus" has had on us all, this is a slimmed down version of our weekly bulletin.

There are a variety of ways to watch Mass from home. Fr. John has Mass available on our Facebook page everyday, Monday through Saturday at 8:00 am and on Sunday morning at 9:00 am.

The Triduum schedule is: Holy Thursday, 6:00 pm Good Friday, 3:00 pm Easter Vigil, 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday Mass is at 9:00 am

The Diocese has Mass on their website at cdop.org. And, you may also watch Mass on your television, on the EWTN network.

You may also access the Parish App on your phone. To download, text "App" to 88202 or search "myParish" in your app store.

We will have blessed Palms available in the Church once we are able to meet again for public worship.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. We hope and pray that everyone stays safe and healthy during this time of quarantine.

Scripture Readings for the Week of April 12, 2020

Sunday Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;

Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9

Monday Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10,11;

Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22;

Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:35-48

Friday Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a;

Jn 21:1-14

Saturday Act 4:13-21; Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21;

Mk 16:9-15

Sunday 2nd Sunday of Easter or Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24;

1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

O Mary,

you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you,

Health of the Sick, who

at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,

keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman People,

know what we need.

and we are sure you will provide

so that, as in



and to feasting

after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

to conform to the will of the Father

and to do as we are told by Jesus,

who has taken upon himself our sufferings

and carried our sorrows

to lead us, through the cross,

to the joy of the resurrection.

Amen.

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during the coronavirus pandemic