

Christ Our Savior Catholic Parish

South Holland, IL

"Have you come to believe
because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have
not seen and have believed."

John 20:29



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APRIL
24
2022

SECOND SUNDAY

OF *Easter*
(OR SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 AM
Monday: 8:30 AM
Wednesday: 8:30 AM
Friday: 8:30 AM

MASS AND ADORATION

Tuesday: 8:30 AM Mass
9:00 AM Adoration

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Thursday: 8:30 AM

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 PM

RECTORY OFFICE

Address:

880 E. 154th St.
South Holland, IL 60473

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

Phone: 708-333-3550

Fax: 708-339-3336

Website: christoursaviorparish.org

Email Address:

christoursavior@archchicago.org

OUR STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Gosbert Rwezahura

Deacons

Jim Renwick
Mel Stasinski

Office & Business Manager

Brenda Griggs

Business Manager

Linda Morgridge

Religious Education Coordinator

Marsha Johnson

Office Assistant

Janis Taliaferro

Maintenance

Malcolm Moore
John Olson

WELCOME

We trust that the message will uplift and encourage you
as we share in today's Eucharist.
Please know our doors and hearts are always open to you.



Weekly Offering
 4 - 17 - 22 \$ 4,899.00
 Easter Collection \$ 10,657.00
We appreciate your support of our parish
THANK YOU!



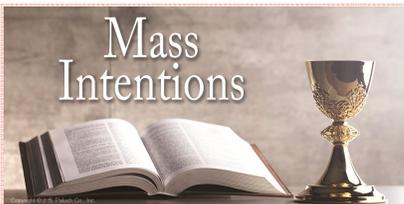
WORSHIPPING WITH US

The Archdiocese of Chicago has made the wearing of masks optional for all Masses and liturgies. We remind you of the following:

- **Maintain social distancing**
- **Report any COVID cases** to the parish office if you have been on parish property within 48 hours of symptoms or positive diagnosis so that appropriate communication can be shared with close contacts.
- **Follow CDC guidelines for isolating** if you are symptomatic or test positive. Unvaccinated close contacts must quarantine.
- **If you feel ill** in any way, or if you knowingly have COVID-19, **please do not attend Mass, parish activities or visit the parish office.**
- **Everyone is encouraged to vaccinate, boost, and wear masks.** We support everyone in their decision regarding the use of masks.

Hand sanitizer will be available before the distribution of Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

The **10:30 Drive In Mass** will continue, please park in the north end of the parking lot. Tune your radio to **90.7 FM**.



Saturday April 23

4:00 PM Deceased Members of Todd & Schmidt Families
 by Barbara Schmidt
 Loretta Kujawa (Happy 100th Birthday) by Terry & Michael
 James Voce by Suzanne Voce †
 Jim McKenna by Kathy McKenna †

Sunday April 24

8:30 AM Veronica D. Ashworth by Clayton Family †
 Joseph Montgomery (Birthday) by Thelma Montgomery
 10:30 AM Judith Mendez by Daniel & Lucy Mendez †
 Rev. Anthony Talarico by Robert & Judith Wolny †
 Jamie Mendoza by Myrna & Jess Cruz †
 Sue Bordenaro & Family by Cultural Diversity
 Okuwobi Family in Thanksgiving

Monday April 25

8:30 AM Purgatorial Society
 Luke Alexander (recovery of grandson) by Bordenaro Family

Tuesday April 26

8:30 AM Patricia Washick by Joan Elliott †
 Deacon Gene Quinn by Mary Ellen Quinn †

Wednesday April 27

8:30 AM Elmer Handler by Colette Hoffman †
 Stephen Okuwobi (Birthday) by Okuwobi Family
 Luke Alexander (recovering of grandson) by Bordenaro Family

Friday April 29

8:30 AM In Memory of Fr. Anthony Talarico
 In Memory of Divine Ntamere
 Luke Alexander (recovering of grandson) by Bordenaro Family

Saturday April 30

4:00 PM Fr. Anthony Talarico by Mary Ellen Quinn †
 Victor O. Okuwobi (Loving Memory) by Okuwobi Family †

Sunday May 1

8:30 AM Henry P. Koval by Mary Simms †
 10:30 AM Divine Ntamere by Ntamere Family †



The wine used at Mass for the Eucharist for **APRIL** is a gift in honor of Titiola Turton (Birthday)

The hosts used at Mass for the Eucharist for **APRIL** is a gift in honor of Titiola Turton (Birthday)

To sponsor the wine and hosts for a month you may put a note with a contact phone number in the weekly collection or call the rectory office. The donation for wine is \$65 and for hosts is \$45.



APRIL SPLIT THE POT

To enter the drawing, drop your \$5 Split the Pot envelope in the collection box. To increase your chances of winning, additional \$5 envelopes will be available at the exit doors. The drawing will be done on Tuesday, April 26th.

CURRENT POT \$ 575

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Our group strives to develop a deeper understanding of scripture on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM in McMahon Hall to reflect the upcoming weekend readings. We will end with a decade of the Rosary. All are welcome!

SENIOR HOSPITALITY April 28th

All are invited to meet in McMahon Hall on Thursday at 9:15 AM for coffee and good company. Bring a smile and a friend. Sign up in the back of church.

TASTE OF CHRIST OUR SAVIOR June 12th

Volunteers needed to prepare dishes, setup, serve and clean-up. If interested, please contact Sarah Gula at gula01@msn.com or 219-314-8123.

COFFEE AND May 1st

Join us for hospitality with your parish family on Sunday, May 1st after the 8:30 and 10:30 AM masses.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The apostles perform many signs and wonders among the people. Many are added to their numbers (Acts 5:12-16).

Psalms — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — John, caught up in the spirit, envisions the glorified Lord, the first and the last, the one who lives (Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19

PRAYER OF THE WEEK Divine Mercy Sunday

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can I come to grasp more fully the meaning of my baptism?

Second Sunday of Easter Believe It or Not

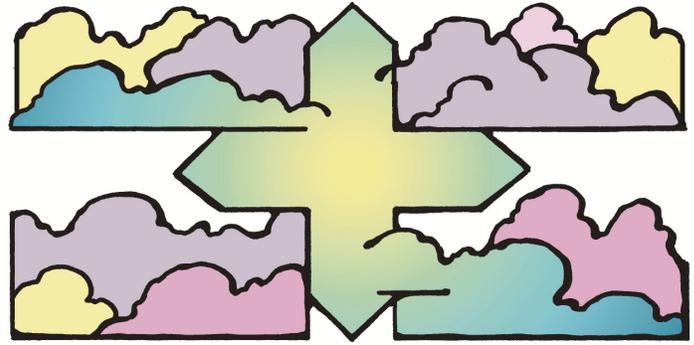
In today's Gospel we hear Jesus say three times, "Peace be with you." This was a common greeting, but the disciples were hiding in fear so they needed reassurance. Jesus gives them that reassurance in three ways: his resurrection, forgiveness of sins, and a blessing for future disciples.

The disciples had seen Jesus crucified and were afraid any of his followers would be treated the same way. So when Jesus appeared to them, he showed them his wounds and let them touch him. He wanted to show them that he was not a ghost; he had risen from death and death has no more power over him. They can now take courage because they will share in the Resurrection themselves. Breathing on them, he bestows the Holy Spirit, source of our courage.

That leads to the second reassurance, forgiveness of sins. Jesus died to take away our sins; now he shares that with his disciples. Anyone troubled by guilt can be forgiven. The disciples themselves probably felt that need, since they had deserted Jesus and one even denied knowing him. He now sends his apostles with the mission to free others from sin. We too can forgive others (and ourselves) knowing that God has forgiven them and us.

Finally, the story of Thomas and his doubts about Jesus' resurrection gives us some hope. Jesus blesses those who "have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29). We usually think the apostles were "more" blessed for having seen and heard Jesus. But Jesus reverses that expectation; we are blessed, even two thousand years after the Resurrection.

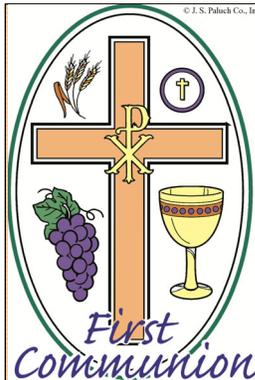
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DIFFICULTY, SURVIVAL, AND GLORY

In Revelation, John the Evangelist tells us what we can expect as followers of the risen Jesus: distress, endurance, and a kingdom. Although we are only eight days into our fifty-day Easter feasting, we cannot ignore the distress weighing down our daily lives. Jesus' resurrection does not erase individual suffering, but his glorious triumph over death cultivates endurance in our hearts. We remember that Jesus did not spare himself, and we ask for the strength to endure as he did. Imitating Christ helps us grow as members of God's royal family. As beloved citizens of the Kingdom of God, we recognize our kinship with all people. Peter demonstrates his care for others as he heals multitudes of broken, suffering people. In the Gospel, Thomas accepts his own spiritual healing when Jesus helps him to believe. In times of difficulty, survival, and glory, we borrow Thomas' declaration of faith: "My Lord and my God!" Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



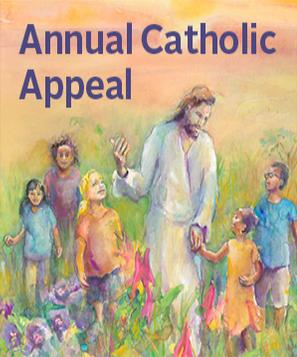
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*Jesus said to them,
"I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me
will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me
will never thirst"*
John 6:35

CONGRATULATIONS

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Alejandro Govea Jr. | Francis Ogugua |
| Alexander Sepulveda | Grace Dicks |
| Allison Sepulveda | Jacob Horta |
| Arianna Diaz | Maria Iheanacho |
| Carolina Ibarra | Nicole Ruiz |
| Charlotte Read | Shaun Iloka |
| | Travis Read |

Bless these children as they join us at the Eucharistic table

	2022 Annual Catholic Appeal Christ Our Savior Parish
	Parish Goal \$25,395
	Amount Pledged \$ 17,080
	Amount Received \$14,165

Easter Flower Memorials

In Memory Of:
 M/M M.O. David(Parents) & all my other family members
 BY: Binta Akuntonda

In Memory Of:
 Peter Ogumba, Gabriel Onwuegbuzie, Moses Okoji, Augustine A. Onwuegbuzie, Tanico & Zenabu and all the faithful departed souls
 BY: Victor Onwuegbuzie

"Save the Date"
 Sunday, May 15th at 10:30 Mass
 2022/2023 Rose Award
 Scholarship Presentation

Christ Our Savior Parish South Holland, IL
 Reception in the gym following Mass
 All are invited.

The Rose Award is named after Felicia Rose Horton, a faithful parishioner of Christ Our Savior Parish. Felicia was the Associate Director of Marketing for the Office of Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Chicago at the time of her untimely passing in March of 2021. The Rose Award was established by family, friends, and work colleagues of Felicia Rose Horton seeking to honor her memory and support African American 8th grade girls attending Catholic schools who demonstrate promise, leadership, and service with their high school expenses.

Three recipients are receiving the Rose Award Scholarship for 2022/2023:
 Antonette Baker *St. Margaret of Scotland School,
 Marcia Cage * The Academy of St. Benedict, the African, Hannah Melton *Sacred Heart (Chicago).

Please keep the students and their families in your prayers as the start a new chapter in life.



Pray for the Sick

Kathleen Bauer, Ronald Bentle, Shirley Beukema, Sue Bordenaro, John Bromly, Roni Caldwell, Margaret Chavers, Jorge Chevere, Dolores Cox, Franklin Crevier, Debbie Davis, Bill Doptson, Mary Faulkner, Art Giacomia, Taylor Harding, Laura Harris, Ann Herman, Jeff Holden, Ruby Ingram, Dolores Janich, Mike Kelly, Walter Komanski, Mary Kozlowski, Marilyn Krolo, Loretta Kujawa, Eason Lynch, Marilyn McAllister, John Magon, Mary Marson, Daniel Mendez, Emily Nyugen, Marian Panny, Mae Frances Patton, Adela Pena, Marian Peters, Linda Powell, John Roberts, Mary Lee Rosland, Ava Rupp, Thomas Ruvoli, Pasquale Santucci, David Sikorski, Tim Spratte, Maryanne Sucharzewski, Jean Marie Sullivan, James Tomaszewski, Cindy Torres, Dan Voce, Edward Voce, Mary Ann Voce, Denise Washington, Ramone Watts, Rosemary Watts, James B. Watts Jr., Cheryl Watts-Izard, Debra Worthy, Margaret Whitley, Vicente Zamora

All praise and glory is yours, Lord, for you have called us to serve you in love. Bless them so that they may bear their illness in union with your Son's obedient suffering. Restore them to health, and lead them to glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

If you or a loved one needs prayers due to an illness, please call the parish office to put your name on the prayer list. Names are kept on the list for four weeks unless we are notified the person has not recovered. Please contact the parish office at 708-333-3550 and leave a message if you would like to have your loved one on the list for another four weeks.

Please pray for our men and women in the armed forces.

Brian Blackmore, Army
 Nathan Case, Navy
 Adam Crisman, Army
 Jeffrey Crisman, Army
 James Dorch, Army
 Jenea Eskridge, Air Force
 Stephanie Gay, Army
 Brittany Gierucki, Air Force
 Zachary Humbert, Navy
 Michael Ntamere, Navy
 Ethan Olson, Navy
 James Schassburger, Army
 Matthew Tardy, Navy
 Jason Wexelberg, Navy
 Mark Wojciechowski, Army National Guard
 Jeremiah Wolf, Army
 Lindsey Wolf, Army

May God bless you with every heavenly blessing and give you a safe journey; wherever life leads you, may you find Him there to protect you.

If there are parishioners currently serving in the United States military, call the parish office and provide the name and branch of service of your dear one and he/she will be remembered in the prayers of our community.





Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them...

My dear friends, on this 2nd Sunday of Easter, every year, we have the same Gospel reading, though the other two readings vary. The Gospel passage of this Sunday begins with the narration of the first appearance of the Risen Lord to His apostles on the day of Easter. It goes on then to narrate the appearance of the Risen Lord to Thomas who was absent on the day of Easter. The latter incident takes place on the eighth day of Easter (like today). Thus, the Gospel text of today from John (20:19-31) really links the Easter Sunday to the Octave. A very apt reading indeed to conclude the Octave of Easter! on the same occasion, Jesus institutes the Sacrament of Reconciliation. "If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you retain anyone's sins, they are retained" (Jn 20:23).

Today is the 'Divine Mercy Sunday'. It is not a mere coincidence that in the private revelations that Sr Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938) received, Jesus asked on numerous occasions that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy and that this feast be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Therefore, on 30th April 2000, when Pope John Paul II canonized his country-woman, Faustina, he said, "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church, will be called 'Divine Mercy Sunday'." In brief, this Sunday invites us to contemplate the mercy of God.

Today is the feast of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the Gospel today, Jesus gives authority to His disciples to forgive sins. It is God who really forgives. This understanding is still maintained in the formula of absolution that the priest utters during the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: "God, the Father of mercies, through the death and the resurrection of His Son Has reconciled the world to Himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church *may God give you pardon and peace*, and I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (C.C.C. # 1449). It is God who gives pardon and peace. The priest – who takes the place of the 'disciples' of Jesus today absolves in the name of the Church, that is, he frees the penitent from their guilt and blame.

Often, a lot of people ask, "Why should I go to a priest for confession?" "Why can't I confess directly to God? After all, God forgives every time we acknowledge our sins." To these questions, my simple answer is: True, God forgives me every time I acknowledge my sins before Him. But how will God let me know that He has forgiven me fully in a way that I can hear and see, except through the instrument of another human person. Of course, this human person has to be anointed and set apart (ordained) for this purpose, so that the sign becomes very real. This is the wonderful possibility available in the Sacrament of Reconciliation: the visible sign of God's invisible mercy. In the Diary of St. Faustina (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise: "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened." We will have the Sacrament of Reconciliation at our Divine Mercy celebration. So, be prepared!

Fr. Gosbert Rwezahura.



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The Divine Mercy image is a depiction of Jesus based on a vision that St. Faustina had in 1931. Jesus is shown as raising his right hand in blessing and pointing with his left hand on his chest from which flow forth two rays. The rays have symbolic meaning; red for the blood of Jesus and pale for the water. The whole image is symbolic of charity, forgiveness and love of God. The Divine Mercy image depicts Jesus at the moment he appears to the disciples in the Upper Room after the Resurrection, when he empowers them with the Holy Spirit to forgive or retain sins.

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