



The DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

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Thoughts Along the Way

Entering Easter Emptiness

In the early morning darkness Mary Magdalene saw to her surprise that the huge stone had been rolled away from the tomb. “They have taken the Lord,” she concluded, and she ran to tell Peter and John. Racing back, the two men found Jesus’ grave open to anyone’s entry—and empty.

Thus did the Apostles confront the undying question of Easter: Why was the tomb empty? What happened to the buried body of Jesus Christ? Was the stone rolled away to create an exit for the unnamed “them” to take Jesus’ body out and hide it, or was the boulder removed so His followers could step into the mystery within?

The first to do so, Peter and John, walked into an entirely unexpected absence. The cloths of Jesus’ burial, were there to be seen; His body was not. Nonetheless, to the women who came to anoint the body, the tomb’s very emptiness

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Pensamientos del Camino

Entrando el Vacío Pascual

En la oscuridad de la madrugada María Magdalena vio para su sorpresa que la enorme piedra había sido removida del sepulcro. “Se han llevado al Señor”, concluyó, y ella corrió a decirles a Pedro y a Juan. Corriendo hacia el lugar, los dos hombres encontraron la tumba de Jesús abierta—y vacía.

Así confrontaron los Apóstoles la pregunta eterna de Pascua: ¿Por qué está la tumba vacía? ¿Qué pasó con el Cuerpo enterrado de Jesucristo? ¿Fue removida la piedra para crear una salida para que los anónimos “ellos” tomaran el cuerpo de Jesús y lo ocultaran? ¿O fue retirada la piedra para que Sus discípulos entraran el misterio adentro?

Los primeros de hacerlo, Pedro y Juan, encontraron una ausencia enteramente inesperada: las vendas sí vieron en

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*He is not here,
for He has Risen!*

*Él no está aquí,
porque ha
resucitado!*

Emptiness, continued

disclosed a sense of invisible presence, St. Mark tells us. A young man robed in white confirmed their disappointment—“He is not here”—only to deepen their amazement—“He has been raised!”

Like the women, like Peter and John, we too must step into the tomb of the Risen One who “emptied himself” on the Cross into absence from us in death. As we enter the Holy Emptiness of the Absent One every year in the Easter liturgy, the mystery of His invisible Presence enfolds and amazes us anew, as it did the first witnesses. For “Christ being raised from the dead will never die again,” St. Paul says; “death no longer has dominion over Him.” Nor will it have dominion over us who “were buried . . . with Him by baptism” and who “shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His” if we too “walk in newness of life.”

Why was the tomb empty? the Easter question asks. Because the vast emptiness of death could not hold Him in whom “all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.” And from that fullness of the Emptied One we have all received, life in abundance and grace upon grace.

Vacio Pascual, continua

el suelo; el Cuerpo, no. Sin embargo, a las mujeres que vinieron a ungir el Cuerpo, el vacío de la tumba reveló un sentido de una presencia invisible, San Marcos nos dice. Un hombre joven vestido de blanco confirmó su decepción—“No está aquí”—y pronto profundizó su anticipación: “¡Él ha resucitado!”

Al igual que las mujeres, al igual que Pedro y Juan, también nosotros debemos entrar en la tumba del Resucitado Quien “Se despojó de Sí mismo” en la Cruz, dejando para atrás en la muerte la gran distancia de ausencia de nosotros. Al entrar en el Santo Vacío del Ausente cada año en la liturgia de Pascua, el misterio de Su Presencia invisible nos envuelve y nos asusta como lo hizo a los primeros testigos. Porque “Cristo, habiendo resucitado de entre los muertos, ya no muere jamás”, dice St. Pablo; “la muerte ya no tiene dominio sobre Él.” Ni tampoco tiene dominio sobre nosotros, que “fuimos enterrados . . . con El por el bautismo” y que “sin duda seremos unidos a Él en una resurrección como la Suya” si nosotros también “caminamos en una nueva vida”.



Bishop/Obispo Liam Cary

¿Por qué estaba vacía la tumba? la pregunta Pascual pregunta. Porque el inmenso vacío de la muerte no pudo retenerlo a Él en Quien “toda la plenitud de Dios descansaba”. Y de la plenitud del Despojado todos nosotros hemos recibido, vida en abundancia y gracia sobre gracia.

Bishop Cary's Schedule

April 8

8:00 p.m. Holy Saturday Mass, Baker City

April 9

9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass, Baker City

12:30 p.m. Easter Sunday Mass, North Powder

April 15

1:45 p.m. Mass / Confession, Ontario Prison

April 17-21

Annual Priest Retreat

April 22

5:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Mass and Banquet, Hermiston

Confirmation Schedules:

April 11 - 7:00 p.m. St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, Baker City

April 12 - 7:00 p.m. St. Francis of Assisi, Milton-Freewater

April 13 - 7:00 p.m. St. Katherine, Enterprise

April 14 - 7:00 p.m. St. Patrick, Vale

April 16

10:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament, Ontario (English)

12:30 p.m. Blessed Sacrament, Ontario (Spanish)

April 21 - 7:00 p.m. Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston (Spanish)

April 22 - 11:00 a.m. Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston (Spanish)

April 23

9:00 a.m. Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston (English)

1:00 p.m. Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston (Spanish)

6:00 p.m. Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston (Spanish)



*“We must not separate our life from the Eucharist.
The moment we do so, something shatters.”*
– St. Teresa of Calcutta

Blessed Sacrament Parish of Ontario Holds Confirmation Retreat

Submitted by Angelica Corona

In February, the Confirmation Candidates, together with their Sponsors, gathered for the parishes yearly Confirmation Retreat. Father Joseph Thomas, Pastor, addressed the families and conducted the Rite of Welcoming and Sending Forth of the Candidates during Mass.

Blessed Sacrament's Director of Faith Development, Judith Vazquez, Catechist, Mirta Diaz, and Secretary, Angelica

Corona, were the main speakers offering presentations in both English and Spanish. Juan and Maria Quiroz, “Alianza Eterna Choir” led the group in praise and worship.

Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors had the opportunity to grow in love and knowledge of their Catholic faith as they listened to the presentations and took part in skits.

Priestly Ordination Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversaries in April.

Reverend Thomas Polimetla

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Chiloquin....April 20, 2004

Reverend Shiju Thuruthiyil

Klamath FallsApril 23, 2008

Reverend Sibi Poulose

Saint Edward, SistersApril 23, 2009

We are most grateful for the years of service of all our priests and bishop. Please keep them in your daily prayers.



APRIL 30, 2023

Good Shepherd Sunday

60TH WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

"Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers."

Matthew 9:38, Luke 10:2



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- » All our Priests
- » All Religious Men & Women
- » All men in Formation for the Priesthood
- » All in Formation for Religious Life



Today, the Church concentrated its attention on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), concentrated life in all its forms, and missionary life. - USCCB

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Want to know more about the Priesthood, Religious Life, or discerning your Vocation?

Visit the Diocese of Baker Vocations by scanning here ➤
or talk to your Pastor!



DioceseofBaker.org/Vocations-Office

