

An Easter Message From Your Pastor, Fr. Craig Lusk



The Paschal Proclamation

“Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King’s triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.”

(The opening text from the Paschal Proclamation from the Easter Vigil)

In a world that at times can be filled with gloom and darkness, the words of the praise of our Paschal Proclamation raises us up to the heavenly realms where there is no gloom and there is no darkness. On this Easter, may you be filled with ***Joy for Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!***

By our Baptism, we have been enlightened by Christ and we renew our faith more profoundly by our renunciation of sin and our profession of faith. May we always walk as children of light and keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts. As Jesus has risen, so too, we are all promised a share in his resurrection. Our redeemer has freed us from sin and death. We are co-heirs to the Kingdom of God even as we navigate our earthly journey of life.

We have now entered into the greatest season of our liturgical year, Eastertide, which lasts 50 days, ending on the great feast of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost Sunday.

Now, this Easter 2022, I welcome all parishioners back to celebrating our faith in Community. It has indeed been a long road since the COVID-19 shut-down in March of 2020. I am looking forward to celebrating even more fully our precious faith now that all major restrictions have been lifted by Bishop Paul Bradley. As Bishop Bradley stated in his Letter to the Faithful on April 4, 2022, “it is time to return to normal.”

I warmly welcome Rob Clark into the Church as he receives the Sacrament of Confirmation, making a public profession of faith and receiving First Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. I ask that you support Rob Clark as he continues his journey of faith. In the coming months, we will also be celebrating those who will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, and Confirmation at Saint Augustine Cathedral.

Finally, I wish my staff and parishioners of our Collaborative of St. Mary and St. John a blessed and beautiful Easter, filled with the love of our risen Lord. The new Paschal Candle, the most significant candle in the Church, is lit for the first time at the Easter Vigil after sun sets. ***The Church comes alive with that light; the light of God’s love for each of us! Alleluia!***

In His Love,

Father Craig Lusk, Pastor