

For The Bulletin of  
April 5, 2015

## **EASTER SUNDAY THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION**

### *From Father Robert*

A little child was being held tightly in his mother's arms during the first part of the Easter Sunday Morning Eucharist. He might have been tired, or he might already have eaten too much of the Easter Basket chocolate. He was restless, energetic, looking all around. After the homily came the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and Sprinkling Rite with the newly-blessed water from the Great Vigil. The Presider used an evergreen branch and the water flew abundantly, some hitting the little boy squarely in the face. At first, he stopped short, startled. Then the most gorgeous and radiant smile burst over his face. He looked around at the other people being sprinkled. Soon, everyone around him couldn't help but smile. His radiance was infectious. This child was wholly alive – this child spread Easter joy.

The news of an empty tomb spread from Mary to Peter and the disciples. They ran – hope quickens us. They believed – faith urges us. They witnessed to the Good News – Good News cannot be contained. Good News is infectious. Good News brings radiance to tired, suffering, worn faces. Good News such as an empty tomb and soon an encounter with the Risen One not only cannot be contained, it changes us. Like Mary and the disciples we become witnesses to Christ's risen life. Our encounters with the Risen One compel us to be witnesses, to spread Easter joy.

Easter Sunday is more than a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. It is also an invitation to each of us to take our place in the long line of witnesses to encounters with Him and His risen life. Perhaps this is why we are so awed at the mystery: not just that Jesus was raised from the dead, but that God entrusts us with continuing Jesus' saving mission and with being witnesses to God's mighty deed of resurrection. It appears as though God trusts us a great deal. This trust is like the baptismal waters washing us anew, strengthening us to proclaim the unbelievable – that the tomb is empty; the crucified One is raised from the dead. Our encounters with the risen Jesus nudge us from unbelief to belief-acts. Our witnessing to His saving acts moves us from our own comfort zones of life to radiating the joy of the Risen One's dwelling within and among us.

We witness to Jesus' resurrection when we faithfully live our baptismal promises, witness to our belief that Jesus is alive and shares His risen life with us. Believing is radiating the joy of our encounters with Christ, bringing others to encounter Him, continuing Jesus' saving work. Believing is encountering emptiness in others and bringing them joy and hope. Believing is helping others move the large stones that block their growth and happiness. Believing is running to help those in need. Believing is turning our Easter Alleluias into good works that spread joy, hope, and faith. Believing is Easter Alleluias lived every day.

There is no greater moment than when Jesus becomes truly risen for each one of

us. How have you experienced His risen Life? How have you shared that Life?

- I have “told” others about Jesus’ Risen Life in which I share by...
- What brings me the greatest joy and helps me come to greater belief in the new Life God offers me is...
- The radiant joy I have encountered through others is...The radiant joy I have brought to others is...

**The Floral Arrangements at both the Altar and Ambo for Holy Thursday and again today are placed to the Glory of God and In Loving Memory of John Silva from Pam Silva and the Members of the Silva Family.**

*Easter Thank You’s*

The liturgies of Holy Week, The Triduum, and Easter Day would not be possible were it not for the countless people who have worked behind the scenes as well as publicly to make them possible. On behalf of all of us, I would like to thank:

**Maryann Peddicord** and the Office Staff for preparing all of the beautiful Worship Leaflets that enabled us to pray, respond, and sing our liturgies for these great days.

**Don Pearson, Our Director of Music/Organist/ Artist-In-Residence**, who along with our Choir and Cantors, has provided such beautiful music to support us in our sung prayer and inspired us with the power and majesty of our magnificent pipe/digital organ.

**The Liturgy and Art & Environment Committee Members** whose work and planning began long ago and whose

dedication to liturgy and worship has been abundantly present through each of the liturgies we have celebrated.

**Our Parishioners** for their generosity in providing the glorious Easter Environment for our Easter Liturgies and its Season who will be acknowledged by name in an upcoming bulletin of the Easter Season, as well as to **Sherry Morris** for the magnificent new hand-painted scene of the Marys coming to prepare the body of Jesus early in the morning on that First Day of the week and discovering Him risen from the dead.

**Our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, Altar Servers, Adult Acolytes, Sacristans, and Dilcia Aparicio** for laundering and ironing all the Sacred Linens that were needed for all the liturgies of Holy Week.

**Our Knights of Columbus** who provided Parking Lot Safety and Traffic Control for both Palm Sunday as well as today, and especially: **Ron France, Jose Perez, Armando Vasquez, Don Benson, Clem Bushman, Bob Goncalves, Jack Goncalves, Jose Palomino, Bob Payne, Steve Rojek, Steven Rojek, Olivia Rojek, Bill Barbanica, Bobby Zabroski, and Bob Plurkowski.**

**The Members of the Reception Committee who planned and served last evening’s Reception for Genevieve, Pam, and Robert** following the Great Paschal Vigil.

**Marc Douville** who prepared the New Fire of Easter in the Fire Sculpture and maintained it throughout the Great Vigil.

### ***Deanery Planning Process***

This coming Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. the next meeting of representatives from each of the parishes of the Deanery will take place at Holy Rosary. Our representatives are **Will Avitabile and Brian McCoy** along with myself. We are looking at the future of ministry in the Delta region with regard to parishes, schools, and staffing. I will have a summary report for you in either next week's Insert or the following week.

### ***CCISCO Night Walk Against Violence***

Our next CCISCO Night Walk Against Violence takes place this coming Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. from St. John's Lutheran Church. I hope as many of you as possible will join me for this witness.

### ***First Quarter Financial Report***

Next weekend, April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, the Members of the Finance Council will present the First Quarter Financial Report at each liturgy. Printed copies of their report will be made available to all our parishioners. Please take the opportunity to thank them for the excellent work they do in being accountable for our financial contributions, paying the bills, and making sure we are following the Budget for 2015.

### ***Divine Mercy Celebration***

Next Sunday at 3:00 p.m., those of you who are followers of the Divine Mercy Devotion are invited to join us for Sung Evening Prayer as we sing the psalms of God's mercy. Music for this service is under the direction of **Don Pearson, Director of Music/Organist/Artist-In-Residence, and Our Cantors, Louis and Stella Renner**. I am very happy to share with you that **Carolyn Krantz**, who is doing Adult Faith Formation, will

be the Homilist. She has done a great deal of work through reading Sr. Faustina's Diary and her homily will reflect that study. In addition, we will also be blessing images, statues, and icons of the Divine Mercy. Sung Evening Prayer will be followed by a lovely reception in our parish hall, arranged by **Bobbie Ocang and Steve Andreatta**. A free will offering will be received to help defray the costs of this celebration. All are welcome and invited to attend.

### ***Pastoral Care Commissioning***

On Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, all Ministers of Pastoral Care will be commissioned for their ministry to the hospitalized, those in convalescent homes, and the homebound. The Service of Commissioning will take place in the church at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Reception in our parish hall. Please RSVP to Deacon Gary if you are able to attend.

### ***Confirmation***

Our High School students who have been preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be confirmed on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral. Their photographs are on display in the narthex. Please remember them in prayer as they prepare to complete their Initiation and take their place as adult members of the parish.

### ***CROP Hunger Walk***

On Sunday afternoon, April 19<sup>th</sup>, we will once again participate in the CROP Hunger Walk, leaving from St. Andrew's Lutheran Church at 3:00 p.m. To sign up and arrange for sponsors, please speak to **Brian McCoy, Business Manager**, in the parish office.

### ***Good Shepherd Sunday***

On The Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 26<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate and observe “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Our Knights of Columbus will be making a special presentation to the parish and to our adopted seminarian, **Mario Rizzo**, who will be present with us for both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Liturgies. Mario will be speaking about his journey to the priesthood. I would invite you to write him cards of support and prayer that we can present to him at the conclusion of his talk. He represents the future of priesthood in our Diocese and we are blessed to have him as our seminarian. I am also grateful to our Knights of Columbus for giving this Sunday the attention it deserves.

### ***Liturgical Ministries Morning of Enrichment***

All Liturgical Ministers are invited to a special Morning of Enrichment on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 8:30 to Noon. Our featured Keynote Speaker is **Father John Kasper**, whose address will focus on “*Liturgy: The Work of the Assembly.*” This seminar is for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, Altar Servers, Adult Acolytes, Sacristans, Choir Members, Musicians, Instrumentalists, Organists, Liturgy Committee Members, Art & Environment Committee Members, Deacons, and Priests. There is no cost to attend. Following the Keynote, there will be break-out sessions in both the parish hall and church. The morning will conclude with a Closing Ritual at Noon. **Father Ron Schmidt**, Pastor of St. Anne’s, Byron, and I will be facilitating the break-out sessions. Please put this date on your calendar NOW! We are also inviting the liturgical ministers of all the parishes in East

County to join us. Please plan to join us for this special morning of enrichment, encouragement, and inspiration.

### ***Thank You***

...to our faithful, volunteer parishioners who arrive early each Saturday morning to clean and prepare both the church and parish hall for the weekend: **Alfred Madoshi, “Jun” Bajet, Mercy Osborne, Rose Salamanca, Steve Rojek, and Steven Rojek**...and to those parishioners who also clean and maintain the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall: **Gino Ramos and his cousin, Geri, Robert Goncalves, Mary Ewing, and Harlan Young.**

...to our parishioners who came out last Saturday morning to cut, wash, dry, and bundle the more than 4,000 palm branches for blessing and distribution: **Pablo and Norma Villegas, Hanny Reingold, Melvin Estrada and Vicki Estrada, Robert Goncalves, Mary Ng, Jan and Peter Degl’Innocenti, Pat Prejza, Carlynn Costello, Jack Goncalves, The Ngo Family, Lee Oliver, Dave Costanza, and Nancy DiMaggio.**

### ***From Bishop Barber***

“I wish to thank you and the parishioners of St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish for your efforts and hard work on behalf of ‘Reclaiming Christ’s Mission Together,’ the Capital Campaign for our Diocese. I deeply appreciate the effort which you and your parishioners have made to assist me in my efforts to carry out the work of Jesus Christ here in the East Bay. On behalf of all our sisters and brothers who will be assisted by your efforts and the efforts of your parishioners, please accept my sincere thanks. +*Michael Barber, S.J.*”

