

**For The Bulletin Of  
April 16, 2017**



**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE  
RESURRECTION**

***From Father Robert***

On behalf of myself, the Pastoral Staff, the Pastoral Council, and the Finance Council, the Leadership of the Parish, I want to welcome each and every one of you to our parish. We are blessed by your presence and we pray that your being with us will be a blessing for you as well. Whether you are a member or a visitor, please know that you are always welcome with us. Easter is actually more than Easter Sunday – it is an entire “season” of seven weeks, culminating on the Great Fiftieth Day with the Feast of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and marks the beginning of the Christian Community. The mystery of Christ’s rising from the dead is so great that it takes seven full weeks to comprehend it, to understand it, to believe in it, to live it. We believe that everyone who is with us today is here for a reason – God has brought you here to experience the new life He offers us in Jesus. Perhaps something in our worship will have touched you profoundly: the music, the proclamation of the Good News of God’s Word, the preaching, the warmth, the hospitality,

the worship environment – whatever it may be, it is God’s way of inviting you to deepen your faith life and walk the journey of Christianity and discipleship with us. If there is anything we can do for you or any questions you may have, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of our staff – we are here to serve you. May you be richly blessed today as you gather with family, friends, and loved ones as together we celebrate the new life and the victory which Jesus Christ has won for us over death and the grave. Resurrection Life begins now!

***Reflecting On The Gospel and Living  
The Paschal Mystery***

It is clear that during Easter we celebrate new Life, risen Life. But what is equally clear is that we cannot celebrate life without celebrating light and love. This is the Easter mystery: “He had to rise from the dead.” He *had* to so that in the Easter mystery darkness becomes light, death becomes life, and sacrifice becomes love.

At this point in the gospel Mary of Magdala, Peter, and “the other disciple whom Jesus loved” are no better off than we are. They witnessed a “stone removed from the tomb” and “saw the burial cloths there,” but did not encounter Jesus in the empty tomb. They see, but not what they hope to see: Jesus alive. Neither do we see without our physical eyes this Jesus Who “had to rise from the dead.” But, like the disciples long ago, over time we encounter Jesus in various ways and our seeing becomes believing. Here is the mystery of Easter: we want to see and believe, but since resurrection is so out of our human experience we simply can’t understand. Belief came gradually to those first witnesses, and then only

when they had a personal encounter with Jesus (some disciples “ate and drank with Him”). Our own belief in the risen Jesus gradually grows throughout our life as we continually encounter Him in our own eating and drinking with Him. We encounter the risen Jesus in Eucharist when we eat and drink *with Him* – when Jesus’ very Body and Blood become our nourishment. We also encounter the risen Jesus in each other when we witness by the goodness of our lives to Gospel values. We encounter the risen Jesus in the sure joy that comes from reconciled relationships with each other that witness to our reconciled relationship with God. We encounter the risen Jesus when we “clear out the old yeast” and “receive forgiveness of sins.” All of this assures us that we are a new creation formed in this resurrection Life – the source of our Easter joy.

The Easter mystery is something we accept in faith. Jesus had raised people from the dead – for example, the son of the widow of Nain and His own friend, Lazarus. But they were only resuscitated and would face death again. Jesus is not merely resuscitated; He is raised up from the grave to new Life, never to die again. This is why we can say that Jesus conquered death. When we die, we live forever. Our belief enables us to share in this same risen Life. Yes, our mortal bodies will die like Jesus’ and Lazarus’. But this risen Life that is already within us through baptism is forever. We believe it, we live it, we embrace it. *The* mystery: we share in eternal Life – risen Life with no end.

This risen Life is not empty, it is not sterile, it is not for one’s own sake. It

was very “early in the morning” that Mary and Peter and “the disciple whom Jesus loved” went to the tomb. Risen Life dispels darkness and brings light and clarity to Who Jesus is. He is Savior – the One Who sacrificed His all out of sheer divine love for us. Risen Life cannot be separated from the light and love it brings. Eternity is eternal light; eternity is everlasting love; eternity is risen Life unceasing. Jesus *had* to rise from the dead so that we might come to believe that our human existence is not all there is. Our everyday Gospel living leads us on a path toward the light of wisdom, the steadfastness of love, and the eternity of Life that awaits those who accept Jesus’ call to be disciples who see and believe.

I offer you the following questions for further reflection and meditation on the Easter Scriptures:

- \* The darkness that risen Light dispels for me is...The love I receive in this light is...The Life I share is...
- \* Those who help me to see and believe in the risen Jesus are...because...
- \* I find it easiest to encounter the risen Jesus when...For me, the joy of new life is...



### *This Year’s Paschal Candle*

Each year for the past twelve years, our magnificent Paschal Candles have been hand-crafted by Martin Marklin, the

foremost artisan and creator of Paschal Candles in the world. Presently he and his family and the Marklin Candle Company are based in Contoocook, New Hampshire. The Paschal Candle for 2017 is called “Apis Mater,” which is Latin for “Mother of Bees.” He writes in his explanation for this year’s design: “The *Exsultet* praises the bee whose work builds the precious torch of the Paschal Candle. Apis Mater, literally translated ‘Mother Bee,’ is an introspective candle that shines with the joy of community life, the discipline of hard work, and the love concealed in sacrifice.” In his brochure that describes the place and role of the Paschal Candle, he also writes “Each year as the sun sets on the eve of the first Sunday after the full moon after the vernal equinox, Christians around the world gather to light a bless a fire. The flame from that fire ignites a candle – the Paschal Candle – which then leads a procession into a darkened church. From that single candle, all who gather light individual candles. Standing next to this pillar of fire, normally a deacon sings the great Easter Proclamation, the *Exsultet*. This ancient hymn recounts God’s saving hand throughout history. It celebrates that night when Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphantly from the grave. Lighting a candle to mark significant life changing moments, however, is not unique to the Easter Vigil. Think for a moment of the times when we light candles: we mark the beginning and passing of life by lighting candles on birthdays and at funerals; flowers and candles immediately mark the site where lives were lost due to a tragedy; peace marches are held at night in candlelight; the Olympics begin with a flame that has been carried across the globe; and in our homes, candles add

warmth and romance to dinners with our beloved. This inextricable bond between candles and the need to mark life’s moments transcends nationality, race, and culture. It is an expression of what it means to be human and alive.

It has been said that a candle not lighted is dead. We light candles, in fact, to have light. And it is for the sake of the flame that a candle exists. As such, a candle is the very symbol of a sacrifice...wax is consumed to produce light. How appropriate, then, that a candle should remind us of Christ, Who gave His life that we might have eternal light. “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” The final passages of the *Exsultet* extol the virtues of the Paschal Candle, and more significantly, the creatures who labor to make it.”

I hope you will take some time during this Easter Season to stand before our magnificent Paschal Candle and experience its beauty, its colors, its “honeycomb” design, a “torch so precious.”



***Funeral Liturgies In The Coming Week***  
We extend our sympathy to the following families who will celebrate

Funeral Liturgies during the days of Easter Week:

To The Lucido Family who will celebrate the Funeral Liturgy for Rosario Lucidio, husband of Floriana, on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. at Holy Angels/Holy Cross Chapel, Antioch, followed by Committal at Holy Cross Cemetery.

To the Giannella Family who will celebrate the Funeral Liturgy for Eleanor Giannella on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, at 12:00 Noon at the Willow Glen Chapel, San Jose.

To the Braae and Cantando Families as they celebrate the Funeral Liturgy for Francine Braae, the mother of Cherith Cantando on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. here in our church.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.*

**Save  
the  
Date**

***Birthday Celebration***

You are invited to join me and my family in celebrating my 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Sunday afternoon, April 30<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the parish hall. **Dorothy Lamendola is celebrating her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday the same day!!!** Together we will welcome family, friends, and parishioners to join us in this wonderful celebration of life. Our Social Events

Committee, the YLI, and the Knights of Columbus are all working together to make this one spectacular event. A meal of mixed green salad, hot garlic bread, pasta, and dessert will be served, along with beer and wine, available at a nominal charge. A donation will be requested of each person attending that will benefit the YLI and its outreach ministries, including our parish. Please save the date and plan to join us for this wonderful occasion. Please be sure to obtain your ticket from the members of the YLI who will be selling them following all the liturgies this weekend and on April 29 and 30. **Tickets will also be sold at the door.**



...to all those who have worked so hard to make our celebration of Holy Week, the Triduum, and Easter such wonderful worship experiences: **Don Pearson, Director of Music/Organist/Artist-in-Residence, The Choir and Cantors; Adult Acolytes, Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, Lectors, Art & Environment Committee members, the Altar Guild, all those who contributed to create the environment (please see the special flyer in today's bulletin listing donors), the Office Staff who created**

and printed the beautiful worship leaflets for all the liturgies.

...to those who cut, washed, dried, trimmed, and bundled the more than 3,800 palm fronds for the blessing and distribution of palms for last Sunday's Palm Sunday Liturgies: Carlyn Costello, Pablo & Norma Villegas, Doris, Rima, and Mary Theresa Radovan; Drake Sparling, Rose Necor, Hanny Reingold, Carole Miller, Pat Kramer, Patricia Britton, Carolyn Van Gilder, Kathleen Maasberg, Monika Kauer, Nancy DiMaggio, Janice Kegler, and Lee Oliver.

...to those who arrived early in the morning before the sun had risen to clean the church and parish hall in preparation for the weekend: Carole Miller, Jack Goncalves, Mency Osborne, Cathy Romeo, Angela Bueno, and Steve Rojek.

...to those who clean and maintain the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall: Robert Goncalves, Virginia Noack, Mary Ewing, Patricia Britton, and Harlan Young.

...to Dilcia Aparacio who does such an excellent job of washing, ironing, and caring for the Sacred Linens.

...to our Sacristans and Altar Guild who prepare the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist each week: Peter Degl'Innocenti, Pam and Rich Confetti, Vincent Rodriguez, Harlan Young, Rowena Cayaban, Monika Kauer, Cynthia Enrique, Belen Farin, Nancy Santos and Rose Salamanca.

...to our counting teams who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week: Jeannine Ford, Harlan Young, Melodye

Costanza, Yvette Young, Alicia Perez, Joe Fanfa and Bev Iacona.

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Mall volunteers who transported last week's donations: Bob Carvalho and Barbara Jackson.

...to our faithful weekly bulletin assembly team: Bob Carvalho, Carole Miller, Dave Costanza, Judy Quicho, Belen Farin and Dilcia Aparicio.

...to our wonderful Parking Lot Security who keep watch over our vehicles during weekend liturgies: Don Benson, Dave Simpson and Bob Goncalves.



### *From Caring Hands*

Dear Father Robert,

I can't thank you enough for the opportunity to come to St. Ignatius, and take part in the Palm Sunday Masses this weekend. Special thanks to Maryann Peddicord for helping schedule me, and to Carolyn Krantz for her constant support as well.

It was a privilege to attend the Masses, and the liturgy was particularly meaningful to me (as was the rest of the service and the music chosen.) The church itself is even lovelier than Pat Kramer had indicated.

It's no accident that your congregation is so gracious. They are fortunate indeed to have your insight, wisdom, gentle humor and loving leadership. Thank you

on behalf of EVERYONE at Caring Hands for your support of the program, and everything you said so beautifully all weekend which got people to stop at the table to find out about serving frail seniors.

I look forward to visiting the Church again. Please have a blessed week this week and a wonderful Easter!

In gratitude,

Stacy

Stacy Appel

Volunteer Coordinator

Caring Hands Volunteer Caregivers

Program

John Muir Health