

APRIL 4, 2021

EASTER SUNDAY

Our paschal lamb,
CHRIST,
has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us
celebrate the feast.

1 CORINTHIANS 5:7-8



Mary ran to tell Simon Peter and the other disciple that the tomb was empty. No doubt confused and concerned, Peter and the other disciple set aside whatever fear might have occurred to them and ran to see the tomb for themselves. We do not always understand God's ways. We too are confused at times; our lives are marked by moments of uncertainty, and at times we are afraid. We can learn from Mary, Simon Peter, and the other disciple and step out in faith, trusting that we will find the Lord in the midst of the circumstances of our lives. When life gets complicated, as it often does, the best thing to do is step out, perhaps even run to the Lord!

BEAR WITNESS

We may not have opportunities to address crowds of people and share the gospel with them. Still, we are called to bear witness to our faith in the ways that we

are able, in word and in deed. We cannot share what we have not fully embraced ourselves, however. The Easter season is the perfect time to reflect on Christ's Paschal Mystery, the unfathomable love of Jesus who shows and shares God's love perfectly. Our Lord gave his life so that we might have life, and have it to the full. Christ's victory over sin and death is our victory, our promise of eternal life with God in the fullness of time. See in Christ's life, passion, death, and resurrection the sign of God's mercy. Let this Easter day be a moment in which you allow yourself to be touched by Christ's incredible, undying love. Then, renewed in faith, look for ways to bear witness to the mercy, forgiveness, compassion, and love of the Lord with others.

Today's Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider
PERMANENT DEACON:

MASS TIMES:

Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM

Tues. - Fri. 9:00AM

Wednesday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tues, Thurs & Fri: 9:00 AM
Wednesday: 5:00 PM

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday: 45
minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six
(6) months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit

Catholic Church

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holy.spirit2@yahoo.com

Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Greg Mooney. Valerie Branch. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Yvonne Scott. Ulysses Cormier. Bollinger Family. Kate Guthrie. Charlie Parker. Molly Dunn. Richard Schuetz. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Ed & Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazzino. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

New active recruit, Dawn Quinn, US Army (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Emma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen (Acts 10:34a, 37-43).

Psalm: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118).

(1) Second Reading: All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (Colossians 3:1-4) or

(2) Second Reading: Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8).

Gospel: Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb (John 20:1-9) or Mark 16:1-7 (or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-15ab, 16-21; Mk 16:9-15

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

Mass—Intentions

Holy Sat. 4/03 Easter Vigil 8:30PM. Barbara & Joseph Pericak+ (M. Catalano)

Easter Sun 4/04 Karee Haney (Joe Fazzino)

Tue 4/06 Carolyn Edwards+ (M/M Hurley)

Wed 4/07 Ron Szczepanski+ (M/M Hurley)

Thurs. 4/08 Lou & Delbert Laskoskie+ (M/M Clymer)

Fri. 4/09 Edel Quinn+ (Legion of Mary)

Sat. 4/10 Carolyn Edwards+ (Rosary Group & E. March)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through February 28, 2021

Expenditures \$ 4,051

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,745

Attendance 3/27 Sat 44 3/28 Sun 58

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.

April Pope's Intention:

Fundamental rights. We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

NEW BORN: For I remember it is Easter morn, And life and love and peace are all new born. —Alice Freeman Palmer

EASTER PEOPLE: We are Easter people and Alleluia is our song! —St. Augustine

REJOICE AND BE GLAD

During the first three or four centuries of Christianity, if you asked a Christian to name the feast days of the church, your answer would have been a puzzled stare, for there was only one feast: the Resurrection of the Lord. Every Sunday was a feast celebrating the one great feast. Even though our calendar now has many beautiful and holy feasts, we must continually be called back to the fact that all these other feasts exist because of the feast of Christ's passover from death to life. The psalm today proclaims this message well: "This is the day." It is not one of many days, but it is the day of all days, the one that gives all the others their origin, purpose, meaning, and destiny. Listen carefully to Peter's speech in Acts with its recollection of the Passion, to the words of the apostle Paul, and to the account of Mary Magdalene, John, and Peter finding the empty tomb, and you will hear the many wonderful works that God has done for us through Christ. Rejoice and be glad!

Easter Food Donations: We would like to thank all of our generous parishioners that donated food for the Easter Boxes. We were able to put together 20 boxes and approximately 40lbs of food per box. Also, a thank you to our parishioners that helped fill the boxes and distribution of boxes. Our food ministry would like wish each and everyone of you a very Blessed 2021 Easter.

Thank you,

*Bob Mailliard, Bryan Todd and Stan Evans
Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team*

**APRIL 4th: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD at 9:00AM
HELD IN THE PARISH HALL.**

April Second Collections: 3rd & 4th: "Building & Maintenance." 10th & 11th: "Retired & Infirm Priests of the Diocese." 24th & 25th: "Catholic Home Missions."



Please join us as we pray the
patriotic rosary for peace in America



**First Saturday of each month after the 9:00am Mass
Due to Holy Saturday, rescheduled to Saturday April 10th**

Cenacle of Life: Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm**. Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

To fulfill the **Legion of Mary** work obligation they are making information posters for our parishioners & visitors. The information will not be new to most of you, though some of it may be. It is their hope that each of you will find something in the information that encourages your spiritual growth. Look for these posters in the entrance to the parish hall. They may also be placed outside also be placed outside, weather permitting.

Cycle Prep Info Night—Monday, April 12th, 7:30 pm (Zoom) The Family Life Office is hosting an online info night with Cycle Prep creator and host, Christina Valenzuela on Monday, April 12th at 7:30 pm. Cycle Prep is a self-paced online course for parents and daughters, which introduces girls to menstrual cycles, periods, and body literacy in a way that: upholds the dignity of the body, respects parents as primary educators, and supports our Catholic faith. For more information and to register please visit www.stphilipinstitute.org/events

Catholic East Texas The Catholic East Texas is back and online! New articles are posted online weekly. Be sure to subscribe to keep up with all the latest news in the diocese! catholiceasttexas.online/

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT MEN & WOMEN

ALTAR SERVERS, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, LECTORS, USHERS

WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR MORE INFORMATION TO SIGN-UP

FOR ONE OR SEVERAL OF OUR MINISTRIES



**Holy Spirit Garage Sale
June 4th & 5th**

We started pricing and you can **drop off items every Wednesday between the hours of 9:30—11:30am. NO CLOTHING or ELECTRONICS.** Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868 if you have questions or unable to drop off items on Wednesday mornings.



FR. MIKE CONFESSION TIMES:

**EVERY
SATURDAY 4:15—4:45PM
&
SUNDAY 8:15—8:45AM
BEFORE MASS ON WEEKENDS
OR
FOR APPOINTMENT CALL HIS CELL#
903-490-3883**

Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Sat., Apr. 3rd at 8:30pm and Sun., Apr. 4th at 9:00am.

Protocols for weekend Masses:

1. **Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
2. **Masks: read page three**
3. **No socializing** in the parish hall. Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.
4. **Chairs** set-up 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**

Weekday Mass Tues. — Fri. of this week at 9:00am

Protocols for weekday Masses:

1. **Masks: read page three**
2. **No socializing** in the Narthex. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
3. **In church alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
4. **Limited seating maximum 31.** In order for the households to maintain at least 6 feet separation.



Because of the progress being made against the COVID-19 pandemic in Texas, Governor Greg Abbott has announced that he is increasing the capacity of all businesses and facilities in the state to 100 percent and lifting his mask requirement for the state.

Governor Abbott said that COVID-19 has not disappeared and that “removing state mandates does not end personal responsibility.” The governor stressed that removing these mandates doesn’t abandon safe practices. The same applies to our churches. We are still in a pandemic that has tragically caused over 500,000 deaths in the United States and there is still a virus that can easily spread if we are not careful.

I ask and expect all clergy and faithful to continue to take measures to keep everyone safe. This is essential in order to protect the health of our communities and so that we do not lose the progress that, by God’s grace, has been made against COVID-19.

In light of the actions taken by the governor, I issue the following updates and instructions:

Dispensation. The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Day of Obligation that I issued in March of 2020 is withdrawn as of **March 10, 2021**. Many have already returned to Mass, and I encourage everyone to do so now, aware of the centrality of the Mass to our lives as Catholics and the obligation attached to it.

One does not have an obligation to attend Mass if you are sick or in a high-risk category for COVID-19; if you were recently in contact with a sick person; if you care for the sick or homebound; if you are pregnant; or if you have a *significant* fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass.

Seating at Mass. Pastors may open additional pews in churches, but all must be responsible for observing social distancing (6-feet between households) according to CDC guidelines. Depending on the church, seating every other pew may still be the best way to maintain social distancing, per the Texas Minimum Standard Health Protocols for churches. Pastors should consider making special areas available for vulnerable persons.

Masks. While there is no requirement to wear masks, and it is an individual choice, I encourage all to continue to follow the recommendations of the CDC.

Holy Communion. Churches in the diocese will continue to distribute Holy Communion only under the form of bread. Ministers of Communion must continue to observe the practices that are currently in place.

Holy Water and Hymnals. Parishes may make holy water, hymnals, and missalettes available. Holy water should be changed, and fonts/stoups cleaned frequently.

Events. Parish social events, classes, and other activities are permitted if CDC guidelines can be followed.

Other. Parishes should continue to observe heightened sanitization and hygiene standards for common surfaces. Hand sanitizer should continue to be made available.

Let us continue to be mindful of the sanctity of the life of each person we encounter and, in love, do our part to keep our families, friends, and communities safe and healthy.



+ Joseph E. Strickland
Bishop of Tyler



ST. PHILIP INSTITUTE OF CATECHESIS AND EVANGELIZATION

What is the Triduum?

The Paschal Triduum is the three-day celebration immediately preceding Easter. It is, according to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the source of light for the entire liturgical year. The Triduum consists of three sacred feast days: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Holy Thursday

The Gospels record the Last Supper with the 12, gathered together to celebrate a Passover meal. The Old Testament Passover ritual consisted of breaking unleavened bread, eating the flesh of a sacrificial lamb, bitter herbs, the singing of psalms, and the pouring out of the blood of the lamb in the Temple. What Catholics celebrate on Holy Thursday is the fulfillment of the Passover. We consume the sacrifice of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, and partake of his blood. Following the Holy Thursday Mass, the Eucharist, Christ's body, is taken out of the Church to an altar of repose. This symbolizes Christ going to the Garden of Gethsemane where he endured the agony of his forthcoming Passion.

Good Friday

On Good Friday, the Church enters into the Crucifixion and Death of Jesus on the Cross. Catholics celebrate a special service consisting of the veneration of the Cross, where we are invited to kiss the Cross of Jesus as an act of devotion. Most Catholic churches also have a prayer of the Stations of the Cross. Each year, Good Friday represents the Church re-living and recalling the brutal death Christ suffered for us, so that we might all have eternal life. It is marked by fasting, prayer, and an attitude of silence.

Holy Saturday

On Holy Saturday, the Church celebrates the victory of Christ over sin and death and his Resurrection. After his death and burial, Christ becomes the light of the world and conquers the darkness of evil and suffering. This is represented in the liturgy by the use of fire and the Paschal candle. The liturgy of Holy Saturday includes a wide range of readings from Scripture, which trace salvation history; it then moves to the celebration of Baptism and Confirmation, where the divine life is poured out into souls, and culminates with the celebration of the Eucharist.

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 31 March 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 26 March 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

[Continuing from last week...] Excerpts from the site, <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/12-things-you-need-to-know-about-holy-saturday>. Recall, on Holy Saturday, the earth waits in stillness for the Resurrection of the Lord. At the Vigil, just prior to the celebration of the Mass, ... a suitable place is prepared outside the church for the blessing of the new fire (the Easter Candle) whose flames genuinely dispel the darkness and light up the night. The paschal candle is lit and is blessed as prescribed by the Missal or by the USCCB. The procession, by which the people enter the church, is led by the light of the paschal candle alone (just as the children of Israel were guided at night by a pillar of fire, so similarly, Christians follow the risen Christ). Upon entry into a darkened church the light from the paschal candle is passed to the candles in the parishioners' hands. ... the deacon makes the Easter Proclamation which tells, the Easter mystery placed in the context of the economy of salvation ... **the readings from Sacred Scripture constitute the second part of the Vigil.** They give an account of the outstanding deeds of the history of salvation – 7 readings from the Old Testament chosen from the Law and the Prophets, and 2 readings from the New Testament, ... After the readings from the Old Testament, the hymn "Gloria in excelsis" is sung, the bells are rung, the collect is recited, and the celebration moves on to the readings from the New Testament – an exhortation from the Apostle on Baptism, an insertion into Christ's Paschal Mystery. Then all stand and the priest intones the "Alleluia" 3 times, each time raising the pitch. ... The resurrection of the Lord is proclaimed from the Gospel as the high point of the Liturgy of the Word. After the Gospel, a homily is given. ... **The third part of the Vigil is the baptismal liturgy** – Christ's Passover and ours, is now celebrated. Even if there are no candidates for Baptism, the blessing of baptismal water still takes place. ... Next follows the renewal of baptismal promises, introduced by some words on the part of the celebrating priest. The faithful reply to questions put to them; standing and holding lighted candles ... and are then sprinkled with water: in this way the gestures and words remind them of the Baptism they have received. ... **The celebration of the Eucharist forms the fourth part of the Vigil** and marks its high point, for it is in the fullest sense, the Easter Sacrament; the commemoration of the Sacrifice of the Cross, the presence of the risen Christ, the completion of Christian initiation, and the foretaste of the eternal Easter.



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