

Easter Sunday

April 16, 2017



*O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son,  
have conquered death, and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we  
pray, that we who keep  
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may,  
through the renewal brought by your Spirit,  
rise up in the light of life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Collect for Easter Sunday

We have just finished, walking with the Lord, through Lent and then celebrated, these past three days, the Sacred Triduum. Today, we begin the Fifty Days of Easter, ending with Pentecost on June 4<sup>th</sup>. During these fifty days we will be prepared to go forth as disciples of Jesus, preaching his message, and bringing people into union with him.

In these weeks we will be hearing from the Acts of the Apostles, which tells us of the history of the early church. Also, in the next couple of weeks, we will be hearing the various accounts of the resurrection. These weeks offer us very fruitful readings that are for our training to become better disciples.

The first reading for the Mass (Acts 10:34a, 37-43) on Easter day, we are given a very succinct summary of the life of Jesus.

*Peter proceeded to speak and said:  
"You know what has happened all over Judea,  
beginning in Galilee after the baptism  
that John preached,  
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth  
with the Holy Spirit and power.  
He went about doing good  
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,  
for God was with him.  
We are witnesses of all that he did  
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.  
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.  
This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible,  
not to all the people, but to us,  
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,  
who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.*

*He commissioned us to preach to the people  
and testify that he is the one appointed by God  
as judge of the living and the dead.  
To him all the prophets bear witness,  
that everyone who believes in him  
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."*

Our Liturgical Year began with Advent on 27<sup>th</sup> November, bringing us into the Christmas season. The Christmas season ended on January 9<sup>th</sup> with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Witnessing this Baptism of forgiveness, on this day, we have a revelation of the Trinity, with the Spirit of God descending in the form of a Dove, with the voice of the Father coming from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17) On the Feast of the Baptism, a section of Acts 10, was presented to the Universal Church, marking the conversion of Cornelius, a Roman centurion, and his household.



On the great feast of Easter, we have another section on this sermon of Peter that he preached to the household of Cornelius, and now to the universal Church. The public life of Jesus is summarized in just a couple of sentences and then we are brought into the Triduum we have just celebrated. The end of this reading is included in the Profession of Faith that we proclaim and each feast and Sundays. Jesus is the judge of the living and the dead as he sits at the right hand of the Father.

From this Sunday until next Sunday, each day, in the Gospel, the whole mystery of the Resurrection is given to us as is Jesus is appearing in various places to differing groups. Next Sunday, Divine Mercy Sunday, has also been called St. Thomas Sunday. One of the appearances of Jesus, "On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst..." (John 20:19) illustrates the mystery of the resurrection. It reminds us of the fear that the disciples experienced, how they hid behind locked doors, and in spite of this, Jesus would stand in their midst.

During the Octave, we have several gospels depicting the resurrection, all a bit different. The first testimony of the Resurrection is the *empty tomb*. Then we have gospels where we have a young man, an Angel, and finally two angels. The

Resurrection had earthquakes, fearful soldiers guarding the tomb, puzzled disciples, and women who were the first to see Jesus and sent to tell the apostles whom they saw.

When we pray with Scripture, we are spending time with totality of Salvation history. At the Easter Vigil, the Mother of all liturgies, we have a piece of Salvation history. There are seven readings from the Old Testament (or the Hebrew Scriptures), complimented by a Psalm and a prayer. These readings trace salvation history from the moment of creation through the Exodus into the Exile and finally returning to the Promised Land. In these readings, we are faced with the Covenant statement that appears over and over again in the Scriptures: *I will be your God and you will be my people*. The readings point to the great Sacrament of Baptism which is celebrated at the Easter Vigil. It also reminds us of the merciful love of God whom we meet in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession renews the innocence of our own Baptism. It helps us recall the number of times we (and the Chosen People) have been unfaithful to the covenant statement, as we try to be as God. In reconciliation, we meet the merciful God who is always waiting for us to return into a right relationship with our God.

The Easter season, seven weeks long, is a special time to celebrate Sacraments of Initiation. At the Easter Vigil, we welcomed two students from MTU, Virginia Janes and Kyle Schwiebert, into the Catholic Church. Since they had been baptized in other Christian traditions, they were Confirmed and received First Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. They both made First Confession at the Spring Retreat at Bay Cliff, which was during Lent. Reagan Aho, Kate Filpus and Clare O'Donnell will each be making First Eucharist on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Second Sunday of Easter. Elijah Soumis will be Confirmed at the Diocesan Confirmation on Third Sunday of Easter, April 30<sup>th</sup> at St. Peter's Cathedral. As an Easter People, we need to be praying for each one of these young people as they have received or are receiving Sacraments of Initiation.

In praying for all those received into the Church at Easter, or receiving Easter sacraments in the Easter season, we can pray that they emulate the spirit of St. Paul as he wrote to the people of Colossae. (Colossians 3:1-4) May they realize that they have been raised *with* Christ, that their life is hidden *with* Christ in God, and finally that they appear *with* Christ in glory. Truly, we can learn to be Easter people as we pray over and over again, "*This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.*" The resurrection of Jesus is the reality that we celebrate, particularly each Sunday, as we gather to be the People of God. Each time we meet Jesus in one of the Sacraments, in Sacred Scripture, or any one of our brothers and sisters, we acknowledge him as the suffering, resurrected, ascended Lord in all his glory.



## ***St. Albert's Spring Graduates***

Steven Abramczyk	Jeffy Joseph	David Tascarella
Jacob Ahles	Julie Karl	Mary Tedeschi
Michael Alexson	Isabella Kesler	Gregory Thelen
Anthony Amato	Erin Knoeck	Nicholas Thomas
Angela Becia	Daniel Kulas	Timothy Tomczak
Sarah Benedict	Jeanette Kussow	Bradley Turner
Michael Best	Carolyn Lucca	Benjamin Vesel
Shaina Brohard	Maxwell Madden	Elliot Vickers
Elizabeth Champagne	Anthony Mager	Danielle Vilona
Sarah Clements	Brian Martell	John Weiss
Harley Colburn	Joshua Mazure	Thomas Whitaker
Alice Contreras	Garrett Mitchell	Devin Wickman
Erica Coscarelli	Mary Mitchell	Christopher Wilson
Frank Dara	Kelci Mohrman	Tyler Wolak
Daniel Domitrovich	Madison Mroczynski	Jason Rutkowski
Nick Dubiel	Alexander Nesbitt	
Kathryn Farkas	Frederick Perrett	
Madeline Faust	Luke Peters	
Kathryn Fife	Emily Petersen	
Victoria Fueri	Anna Polk	
Travis Gagnon	Rachel Pohlod	
Corinn Gehrke	Lizbeth Ramirez	
Andrew Groenleer	Jason Saliga	
Michael Groess	Miranda Sauter	
Kyle Gulan	Allison Schnobrich	
Brenna Heise	Alexander Schultz	
Alexander Herbst	Paul Shelcusky	
Peter Hoch	Josef Simek	
Rachel Hook	Nicholas Skarritt	
James Horner	Michael Sommers	
Brendan Hufnagel	Jessica Splittgerber	
Wyatt Hurst	Mary Stangis	
Dylan Johnson		

*Yours  
Parish  
Family  
prays  
for you.  
Pray for us!*



If you are graduating and your name is not on the list please contact the Parish office, 482- 5530