

Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY Living the Gospel

March 31, 2024 • The Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Week was originally an entire week of rest

By Philip Kosloski



The Church used to forbid any type of servile work for the entire week of Easter.

For many Christians, the celebration of Easter ends on Sunday night. Easter decorations are put away and the house returns to normal life.

However, historically speaking, the Church used to forbid any servile work during Easter Week, the week following Easter.

Dom Prosper Gueranger explains this tradition in his Liturgical Year.

Formerly the whole of this week was kept as a Feast, with the **obligation of resting from servile** work. The edict published by Theodosius in 389 forbidding all law proceedings during the same period was supplementary to this liturgical law.

The Council of Macon thus words its decree: "It behooves us all to fervently celebrate the feast of the Pasch, in which our great High Priest was slain for our sins and honor it by carefully observing all it prescribes. Let no one therefore do any servile work during these six days which followed the Sunday, but let all come together to sing the Easter Hymns and assist at the daily Sacrifice and praise our Creator and Redeemer in the evening, morning and mid day.

The Church still celebrates this week as an octave, meaning that each day is a liturgical continuation of Easter Sunday.

However, modern society no longer recognizes this special week, though on occasion Catholic schools, or certain Catholic countries, will delay their spring break until the week following Easter.

Even if you are unable to take off of work for this week, it is still meant to be a week of celebration and rejoicing, as the Easter season has only begun!

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Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 Am & 11:30 AM

Follow the Sunday Mass on our website, **btsp.org**.

Confessions will be held Saturdays 2:45-3:45

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Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

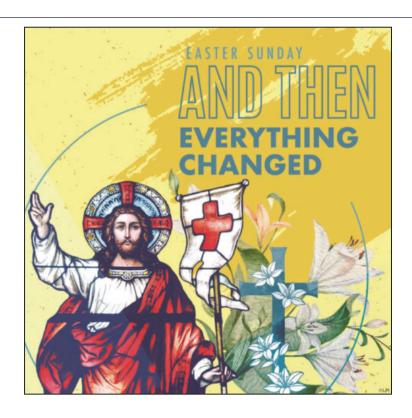
Outside Chicago, there is a small cemetery in the woods behind Mundelein Seminary, where I was a student. One night I was exploring it. I looked up and was shocked to see an imposing seventeen-foot angel towering over me and preparing to blow a trumpet. Adrenaline rushed through me. I gasped and uttered, "Oh my God!" Quickly I realized it was in fact a massive bronze statue. I tried to calm myself down. But it still freaked me out.

As we begin to celebrate Easter today, this image might seem a bit unnerving. But please recall that for the first disciples on the morning of the resurrection, it was precisely that. It wasn't joyful at first, it was terrifying. It wasn't peaceful, it was unsettling. In that Jerusalem cemetery, something otherworldly had happened. Angels announced that he was no longer dead, but alive. They had blown their trumpets, so to speak, and Jesus had risen. Soon the disciples' shock in that dark cemetery would turn into joy.

We all have our own places of the dead, too, don't we? Deceased loved ones. Our tired patterns of blame. Relationships stuck in resentment. Indifference to the poor. Lost dreams. Despair about our future. Fear of sickness and death. These are our "cemeteries" where we don't expect much to happen. Today we enter — if we dare — those places with the disciples. See the mighty angel standing there, trumpet ready to blare!

— Father John Muir

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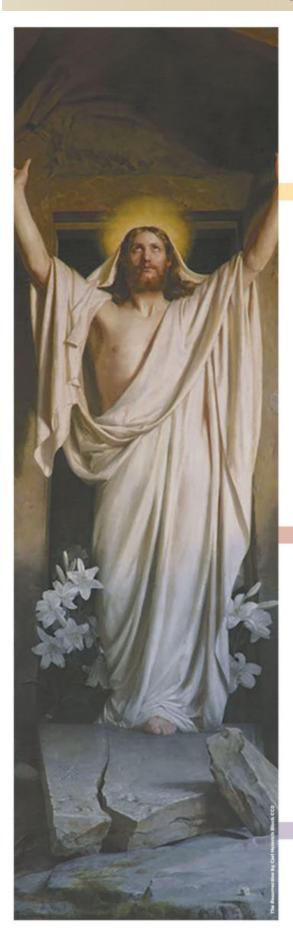


Written by

FAITHFUL

DISCIPLE

Thoughts Worth Sharing



March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 | Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 | Jn 20:1-9

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Wishing you a blessed Easter! One of our commitments in growing as disciples of Jesus, especially at the beginning of this most important season of Easter, is to study Scripture. John's Gospel today depicts the story of the empty tomb - the reactions of Mary of Magdala and the two disciples trying to make sense of what they had seen. What we may have missed, however, are the words of St. Peter in the first reading from Acts speaking of Jesus: "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." Jesus appeared post-resurrection to those to whom he was closest - the witnesses chosen by God whom he had commissioned to preach the Gospel to all people, so all might believe in him. In this way the chosen few, Christ's heralds, would bring the Good News of his resurrection to the many. So we too, now, are witnesses, chosen by God in our baptism and come to this table of thanksgiving and sacrifice. By faith we grow as his disciples, ready to go forth to lead others to him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As we know, these first disciples of Christ went on mission throughout the known world to preach to the Jews as well as the Gentiles.
Their task was not easy; all endured opposition and hardship; many
were martyred. But gone was the fear they may have felt at the
crucifixion; by the power of the Holy Spirit these early missionaries
were full of courage and commitment, and were driven to proclaim
the risen Jesus to all. What does this have to do with us today? By
virtue of our baptism, we also are chosen by God to be his witnesses in the world. We are called to "preach the Gospel" with how we
live our lives. When we trust in the promises of Christ and know the
peace that only he can bring, it gives us the strength to testify to
friends, family and others that God loves us and has redeemed us.
Good News indeed.

GROW & GO Christ is risen, Alleluia! The Resurrection means that nothing can separate us from God's love and presence with us. Spend time this week in prayer contemplating these two truths: The purpose of our lives is to continually GROW in intimate relationship with God; and Jesus' final command to his disciples and us is to "GO and make disciples of all nations." (Mt 28:19)



Are You Hoping to Receive One of the Seven Sacraments With Us?

Matrimony

Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

Baptism

We are honored that you would like to choose Blessed Trinity Catholic Church for the baptism of your child! We ask that you please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for information regarding the pre-baptism class before scheduling a baptism.

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9-12 and 1-4 Closed for Lunch Noon to 1 pm

Journeying Through Grief

"Grief is not a sign of weakness. It is a tribute to the loved one who died, and a healthy response to our heart ache."

If you would like to be part of a Grief-Support "group" or you would prefer "one on one" support, please call Rachel between 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the parish office, 727-867-3663

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 30, Easter Vigil

8:00 p.m. Merlene Roberts (liv)

Sunday, March 31, The Resurrection of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Edward J. Giardina (dec) 9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners 11:30 a.m. Marlene Romani (dec)

Monday, April 1, Monday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Jean Doroski (dec)

Tuesday, April 2, Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Fred Deuel (dec)

Wednesday, April 3, Wednesday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, April 4, Thursday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Deacon Lionel Roberts (dec) **Friday, April 5, Friday in the Octave of Easter** 8:00 a.m. Elly McManus (dec)

Saturday, April 6, Saturday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Connor Gibb (liv), Megan Gibb (dec) and

Bridget Ruth Gibb (dec)

Saturday, April 6, Vigil for Divine Mercy Sunday

4:00 p.m. The Comeau and La Rosa Families (dec)

Sunday, April 7, Divine Mercy Sunday

8:00 a.m. Deacon Lionel Roberts (dec)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Marlene Romani (dec)

Scripture Class

Blessed Trinity Scripture Class will begin a new study, continuing with Q Place "Change, Facing the Unexpected," started March 12 and will end April 30. Class is held in Courtyard Hall on Tuesdays from 10:00-11:30 am. Books are \$12.00. For further information please call Barbara Townsend (727) 867-3605.

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A Happy Ending Isn't the Whole Story

"Is there a happy ending?"

When my kids were young, we never made it past the first whiff of any narrative tension before I got this question. As soon as whatever princess or furry woodland animal who was the hero of the story got into any small scrape, they wanted that reassurance, "Is there a happy ending?"

I can't say I blame them. Don't we all feel that way sometimes? We enter into a relationship with someone or some situation, and we just want to protect ourselves. We want to know it's not going to go badly — or, if it does, that we will be able to come back from it. It's a human instinct, a reflex. Our inclination to protect ourselves makes it so that we sometimes want to press fast-forward on the bad stuff and skip straight ahead to the happily-ever-after.

Easter is the ultimate happy ending. It's the day of miracles. The day when all the stones roll away and all the sins are forgiven. It's the day that puts everything right.

But if we learned anything from this week — from the Passion and death of the Lord — it's that we can't press fast-forward on the hardships of life. That tension, that loss, that fear — it's crucial, isn't it? As Catholics, we are who we are because of Easter. But Easter doesn't happen without Good Friday.

So, does the story of salvation have a happy ending? We know it does. But we also remember that the ending isn't all that matters.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Weekly Offering

Weekend of March 17 Including Online Giving from 3/18 to 3/24

Offertory	\$ 1	1,327
Other Donations	\$	680
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	1,215
Restoring the		
Sacred	\$	200

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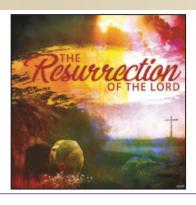


Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 31, EAS *No 6:30 am Mass*	STER SUNDAY	
8:00 am	Mass	CH
9:30 am	Mass	CH
	Easter Egg Hunt following Mass	
11:30 am	Mass	CH
7:00 pm	Divine Mercy	CH
Monday, April 1		
Parish Office re-opens.		
7:00 pm	Divine Mercy	СН
Tuesday, April 2		
10:00-11:30 am	Scripture Class	CYH
7:00 pm	K.O.C. Meeting	PH
7:00 pm	Divine Mercy	СН
Wednesday, April 3	Disting Manage	CH
7:00 pm	Divine Mercy	СН
Thursday, April 4	CVDD Masting	CYH-1
4:00 pm 7:00 pm	SVDP Meeting Divine Mercy	CYH-1 CH
-	Divine Wercy	CH
Friday, April 5 7:00 pm	Divine Mercy	СН
Saturday, April 6		
7:00 pm	Divine Mercy	CH
Sunday, April 7		
9:00 and 10:30 am	Coffee and Donuts	PH
Monday, April 8		
6:30 pm	"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group	CYH
Tuesday, April 9		
10:00-11:30 am	Scripture Class	CYH
Thursday, April 11		
6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	MR
Sunday, April 14		
9:00 am	K.O.C. Pancake Breakfast	PH
Monday, April 15	(I) (C : 41 C : '42 D C	CYH
6:30 pm	"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group	Стн
Tuesday, April 16	G : 4 G	CVII
10:00-11:30 am	Scripture Class	СҮН
Thursday, April 18	CVDD M - 4'	CVII 1
4:00 pm 6:00 pm	SVDP Meeting Choir Rehearsal	CYH-1 MR
=	Chon Renearsal	IVIIX
Sunday, April 21 9:00 and 10:30 am	Coffee and Donuts	PH
	Coffee and Donats	111
Monday, April 22 6:30 pm	"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group	СҮН
=	Life in the Spirit Trayer Group	CIII
Tuesday, April 23 10:00-11:30 am	Scripture Class	CYH
Thursday, April 25		
6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	MR
Sunday, April 28		
9:00 and 10:30 am	Coffee and Donuts	PH
Monday, April 29		
6:30 pm	"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group	CYH

Key for Events

PH= Parish Hall, MR=Music Room, CYH= Courtyard Hall, CH=Church, CYH-1= Courtyard Hall Classroom #1



Prayer for Priests & Future Priests

Eternal Father,

We lift up to you these and all the priests of the world.
Sanctify them, heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to you.
In Jesus name, we pray.

Amen.

03/31 • Easter

04/01 • Rev. Zachary Brasseur

04/02 • Bishop Gregory Parkes

04/03 • For Vocations to
Priesthood & Religious
Life

04/04 • Rev. Kyle Bell

04/05 • Rev. Anthony Coppola

04/06 • Rev. Ryszard Stradomski

"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group

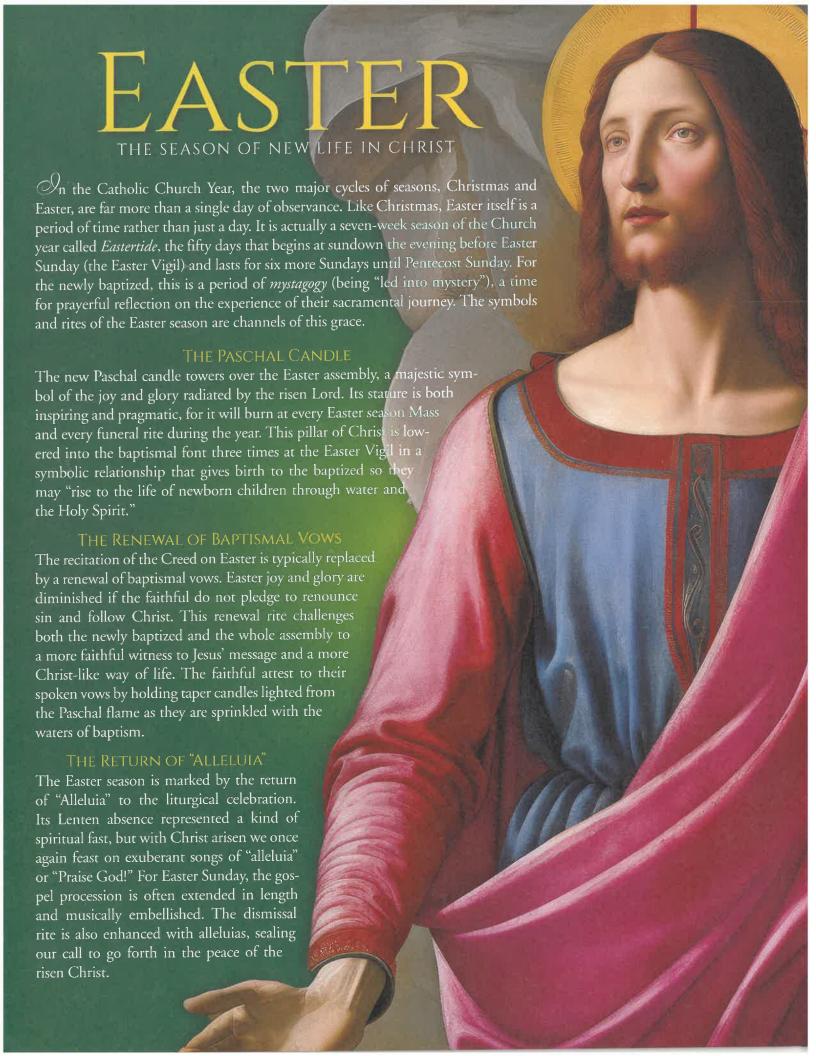
Monday evenings at 6:30 pm in Courtyard Hall.

All are welcome!

For more information please call 727-867-3663.



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CUSTOMS OF The Easter Season

The Easter Season, which follows the celebration of Easter Sunday, is a time of joy and renewal in the liturgical calendar. It lasts for 50 days, culminating on Pentecost. During this season, various customs and traditions are observed:

Easter Octave: The Catholic Church observes the eight-day period known as the Easter Octave, beginning on Easter Sunday and ending on the following Sunday, often referred to as Divine Mercy Sunday. The entire octave is celebrated as a single solemnity, and each day is considered a continuation of the Easter celebration.

Veneration of the Crucifix: During the Easter Octave, there is a particular focus on the veneration of the Cross, continuing the reflection on Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. This devotion is often seen during the Good Friday liturgy but extends into the Easter season.

Easter Water: The Easter Vigil features the blessing of water, which is then used for baptisms and for the blessing of people, homes, and other objects throughout the Easter season. Holy Water fonts are often replenished with the newly blessed water.

Easter Candle: The Paschal Candle, which is lit during the Easter Vigil, remains in the sanctuary throughout the Easter season as a symbol of the risen Christ's presence and is typically used in liturgical processions and ceremonies.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises: Catholics often renew their baptismal promises during Mass on Easter Sunday and other occasions throughout the Easter season, emphasizing their commitment to the faith.

White and Gold Liturgical Vestments: Clergy wear white and gold liturgical vestments during the Easter season to symbolize the purity, joy, and glory of Christ's Resurrection.

Easter Sunday Processions: In some parishes, especially in certain European countries, there are processions on Easter Sunday, often led by clergy, with the faithful following behind. These processions can be elaborate and may include the display of religious statues or icons.

Easter Hymns and Liturgical Music: Special Easter hymns and liturgical music are sung during Mass throughout the Easter season, reflecting the joy and celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

These customs and traditions enhance the celebration of Easter and the Easter Season, emphasizing the central importance of Christ's Resurrection in the Catholic faith.

JESUS' RESURRECTION

What happened on Easter was a complete surprise to the disciples. The Jesus that they had known and who had died was suddenly experienced as alive again. This new life, described as resurrection, was not just a restoration of one's former life—a resuscitation from the dead. The prophets Elijah and Elisha had brought people

back to this life, as had Jesus for the daughter of Jairus, the son of the widow of Nain, and Jesus' beloved friend Lazarus. Although their return from the dead left them temporarily alive, they would die



again. But Jesus' resurrection was a new life that would not be subject to death again. It was eternal life, permanent and undying existence in the presence of God forever.

THE RESURRECTION MYSTERY

"O truly blessed Night," sings the Exsultet of the Easter Vigil, "which alone deserved to know the time and the hour when Christ rose from the realm of the dead!" But no one was an eyewitness to Christ's Resurrection

and no evangelist describes it. No one can say how it came about physically. Still less was its innermost essence, his passing over to another life, perceptible to the senses. Although the Res-



urrection was an historical event that could be verified by the sign of the empty tomb and by the reality of the apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, still it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something that transcends and surpasses history.

—Catechism of the Catholic Church, #647

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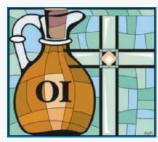
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If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from our prayer list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.



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