

SAINT PAUL PARISH

IGLESIA SAN PABLO



EASTER SUNDAY

He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. - Jn 20:5-7

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Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Who are you? This question was most assuredly asked of Jesus on the day of resurrection and it is a question asked of each of us. Our identities can be described in so many ways. We can start with our gifts and our talents, expertise and unique personality expressions. We can describe things we like and things we prefer to set aside. As descriptive and captivating as these can be, none come close to our essence, our real and true self. While accurate in their own right, the self who lives and interacts with the world is the self we want others to see, the one we project. But there is much more to us just as there is much more to Jesus.

Jesus could describe himself based on all of the same criteria we use for ourselves. After all, Jesus is totally human. With all that people witnessed and all that Jesus knew about his physical human self, his divinity also shined forth. There was so much more to know about him. Whereas once Jesus was transfigured on top of a mountain before his disciples' eyes, so today he is transfigured before our eyes as he reveals his resurrected self as the Christ. Alleluia, Christ is risen! His glorified presence stands before us showing us that we are all much more than we see ourselves to be and show to others. We have a depth, purpose, and essence that go way beyond the superficial treasures of our existence to the very core of who we are.

Within each one of us is a spark of Divine Love where creature and Creator meet, and we are known uniquely by the name God whispers to us. It is not the earthly name that was given to us but the one that flows from Divine Power and claims us as one who is special and chosen in God's eyes. This is the self that will rise one day with the eternal Christ of God and live eternally as God provides. This is the self that when free from all superficial constraints layered upon it in this life can discover and know freedom in a way never possible before. This is love lifting us up and transforming us into who we really are, not who we want or need ourselves to be. Who are you? A special, unique child of God who has been fashioned in God's image, sustained by the power of God's love and kept eternally with the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Get to know this deeper, truer self as it is who you really are. ©LPi



Domingo de Pascua

Nos narra el evangelio de hoy que: “El primer día después del sábado, María Magdalena fue al sepulcro muy temprano, cuando todavía estaba oscuro, y vio que la piedra que cerraba la entrada del sepulcro había sido removida”. (Juan 20:1-2). Triste y confundida por el dolor y sin ninguna esperanza debió de haber llegado María Magdalena al sepulcro. Imagínese el silencio de la mañana. Gozar sin saber ella que era el silencio de la Pascua. Estar ahí de pie ante el sepulcro donde su amado había sido puesto. Dejarse ella interrogar por lo que ve. Abrir el corazón a la esperanza, a causa de un sepulcro vacío. ¡María quiere encontrar al Señor! Ninguno de los tres protagonistas de la escena ve al Señor todavía.

Tal como María, Pedro y el otro discípulo, debemos situarnos en la mañana de la Pascua. Hemos sufrido tanto durante la pandemia. Vacíos enormes se han tenido que llenar. Cada familia, cada persona ha formado su camino de búsqueda durante este tiempo. El Señor se deja encontrar. Solo hay que buscarlo y seguirlo con el corazón disponible a su encuentro. La Iglesia se inunda de alegría con Dios al resucitar a Cristo de entre los muertos. El mensaje de este Domingo de Pascua es que todos los que sufren, saldrán vencedores. La muerte, ¿dónde está la muerte? Ya no existe, los sepulcros son provisionales, son de paso, quedarán vacíos al resucitar. Para entender todo esto hay que entender la Escritura: “Él debía resucitar de entre los muertos”. (Juan 20:9). ©LPi

Readings for the week of April 4, 2021

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/

Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [5b]/Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-24, 25-27 [22]/Jn 21:1-14

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

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 ©LPi

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Counseling Services

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Misas de la Semana † Masses for the Week

Saturday/sabado March/marzo 27, 2021

6:30 +Maricela Álvarez
+José Carmen Peña López

Sunday / domingo March/marzo 28, 2021

8:00 Por la Salud de Manuel Magaña
+Juanita Becerra
+Guadalupe Meza
+Socorro Estrada
+Manuel Ramirez
+Angelita Salinas

10:00 +Ryan Edward Ochoa
+Basilía Duarte
+Shirley Burbage

12:00 En Acción de Gracias Adalberto Martínez
En Acción de Gracias Magdalena de la Paz
+Maurilio Rodríguez
+Ma. Concepción Valadez
+Federico Sahagún
+Álvaro Sahagún

2:00 Por las Animas del Purgatorio
+Ma. Dolores Navarro Sánchez
+José Cruz Ramírez

**Pastor/Párroco
Rev. Orlando Flores**

**Associate Pastor/Vicario
Rev. Misabet Garcia Gil**

**Deacon/Diácono
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