

April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

St. James the Greater

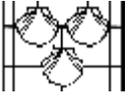


CHRIST
IS RISEN INDEED!



Easter Sunday outdoor mass.





Message from Fr. Tom

Happy Easter to all. I heard a lot of appreciative comments about the music throughout and the rituals of Triduum. It was a last-minute decision to seek out **two married couples to wash each other's feet**, and I think that added a lot to the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. Thanks to **Kathy and Jim Novotny and Brandi and Andy Niese** for lending their feet to us. It really was a lovely thing to witness. Our Passion proclaimers on God Friday were both beyond excellent, so thanks to **Barbara Pearson and Mark Lundin**. And congratulations to our newly initiated adults **Sean Styer, Randi McVinnie and Ryan Petrie** as well as our babies **Ayden Weiss and Aubrey Link**. It was lovely to have both an indoor and an outdoor baptism on Easter Sunday.

Our outdoor mass on Easter Sunday matched the **high-end of our expectation** for attendance at very close to **500 people**, based on Communion hosts offered. So, if you add in children and others who did not receive the sacrament, I think we can safely say over 500 people were there. With our current spacing requirements that is more than three times the number we could accommodate indoors, which is why we made that choice. We will monitor attendance at this Sunday's outdoor mass and perhaps take an email poll of parishioners to determine **whether to continue with a 10:00 outdoor Eucharist, or make it a special liturgy at 11:30 once a month**, to name two options. Again, we're just doing our level best to enable everyone who wants to participate directly in Eucharist to have that chance.

Thanks so much to all our **ushers, musicians and singers**, and everyone who lent voice to our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. I was taught that the word "liturgy" means "work of the people." It was clearly that last week—and every week, but so obvious and worthy of appreciation last week. Oh, and if you get a chance to check out **our YouTube Channel ("St. James Parish Eau Claire")**, you can see those liturgies, but also several **15-minute videos** of our musicians' special presentations geared toward each of four high moments in Holy Week: Palm Sunday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday and Easter.

Let me tell you about our new **Paschal Candle**, aka "Easter Candle." You'll notice that it isn't as beautiful as candles that we have used in recent years. And if you get close to it, you will see that it is plain white with no coloration and it has **five long rusty nails** piercing it where usually more decorative "nails" are used. I got that idea somewhere in my travels about fifteen years ago. I liked the starkness of rusty nails and make the clear point that the Risen Lord is also the Crucified Lord.

And these nails are special. They were used by **Irish monks who emigrated from Malleray, Ireland** to Peosta, Iowa to found a new monastery, "New Malleray Abbey," in **1849**. They quarried the limestone for their church themselves, and the wood needed for the church was **nailed together by these five nails and many others like them**. You can tell they are old nails because they are square nails, not round. On retreat there some years ago, I went into the gift shop and saw four of these nails soldered together at the tips to make a striking cross. Remembering the plain white Paschal Candle I had seen with nails, I asked the monk at the gift shop if he knew where I could get my hands on five of those nails. He pointed me to the barn with the mowers and such and another monk met me there and gladly gave me however many I wanted. I didn't want to be greedy, so I just asked for five. Sometimes I wish I had asked for more. Anyways, that's a little background on why our Paschal Candle looks different this year. I hope this information makes it more meaningful for you.

Our **Do-Everything office manager, Anne Henriksen** celebrated an important anniversary just a few days before Easter. Anne has now worked and ministered at St. James for over 20 years! I think you all know how important Anne is to our parish, and all who have seen her at the office know that even during her busiest times she will always put the person in front of her before her task list. So, if you bump into her, thank her for her service—after saying "excuse me" for bumping into her.

That's about it for now. I hope we all find ways to express Easter joy in the coming days. Blessings and Peace.

Triduum 2021

Selections from Fr. Tom's Homilies

From Holy Thursday Homily:

Leia, God willing, will be Confirmed in this church on May 8. Like all of our confirmation candidates, she sat down with me via Zoom for a brief interview so I can get to know her and we can talk about life and faith. She's a good gal and the conversation was pleasant and polite, but not super exciting, UNTIL I asked her if she had any career plans. She lit up like a Christmas tree as she started telling me about plans to be a nurse and how she is just now completing certification to be a nurse's assistant. I asked her to tell me more, and with the same Light, I believe, of the Holy Spirit, she said that when she used to visit family in the nursing home, it was not such a pleasant experience, but not that she is in this role of serving people, she just loves it. She loves to hear their stories. They love her and she loves them. Why? I have to think that it has something to do with being taken care of in your vulnerability. CNA's take care of people's bodies. Bathroom stuff, stuff that when you're the one being helped could be very embarrassing. When we are cared for in our vulnerability, with dignity and love, our hearts open to the one caring for us.

That's the power Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Yes, it's an example of service, but it is also a tender moment of them letting their guards down and being touched tenderly, in a vulnerable place, by the Lord himself. I urge you to try and imagine that in your prayer, and feel your heart open.

From Good Friday Homily:

We hear Jesus tell Pilate today, "Everyone who belongs to the truth hears my voice." That echoes so much of what comes before in John's Gospel account. I think of the Good Shepherd, whose sheep recognize his voice and follow it, but do not follow the voice of an intruder who wills them no good. But he will lay down his life for his sheep so that they can have abundant life. I think of the famous prologue in the first chapter that says Jesus, the Light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, but to those who believed in him, who accepted his invitation to belong to him, he gave power to become children of God. At the Last Supper: I am the vine you are the branches. Remain in me as I remain in you. You will remain in my if you keep my commandments just as I have kept my Father's commandments. I know longer call you servants; I call you friends. Love another as I have loved you.

He is invited us once again this Good Friday to belong to him. A life of communion with him. A life of sacrificial love for others. A life that will never end.

From Easter Homily:

I was catching up with an old friend recently who told me just an awful story of love and loss. In brief, he was in a long-distance relationship, and for love of her he decided to move to a city unknown, and five days after making this major life change, she broke up with him. I couldn't imagine the emotional devastation of that. In the past I had a little taste of heartbreak myself and so we compared notes and what we concluded was that healing came from good friends who would listen to our pain. Healing came from leaning on God more and trusting God's love for us and plans for us.

We both came to realize that we were more than our pain. There is more than crucifixion. When it seems like all is lost, the love of others and love of God, help us see that all is not lost. We don't always see the Risen one right away, but where there is supposed to be death, death is not there. The tomb is empty. We find reason to hope that He has been raised, and he will raise us also.



With Easter joy we welcome our RCIA candidates, Randi McVinnie, Shawn Styer and Ryan Petrie as fully initiated members of St. James. We are blessed and look forward to the gifts and faith you will bring to St. James!



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Mass Intentions & Schedule

Weekday masses are at 9:00 AM Tuesday-Friday.
Wednesday and Friday have limited seating when school is in session.
Masks & social distancing are required.

Sat.	April 10	4:30 PM	Theresa Maenner
Sun.	April 11	8:00	Tom BaDour
		10:00 (outside)	People of St. James
Tue.	April 13		Ed "Bud" Rubesch
Wed.	April 14		Harold & Bernice Kassing
Thu.	April 15		Carl Robelia
Fri.	April 16		Francis & Rosalie Schilling
Sat.	April 17	4:30 PM	James Connolly
Sun.	April 18	8:00 AM	People of St. James
		10:00 AM	Pat Johson

Music Ministry

He is Risen, Alleluia Alleluia

As we moved from Lent to Easter Sunday, Christ is truly alive in each and every one of us. Your spirit and grace has given heart and soul to our Liturgy. Thank you ALL with your presence!



St. James is truly blessed to have so many dedicated musicians. I would especially like to thank all the voices/pianists AND our young instrumentalists. By sharing their time, energy and music. *See the photo on the back page*— Pictured: Emma Campbell w/violin, William DeBlauvey, Dawson Redenius, and Cade Shipman – percussion. Missing Hannah Sternberg w/Bass – she is home for Easter. **Let the LIGHT SHINE through each and every one of us!!** - submitted by Mary Kolstad

Sermon on the Amount

March 28, 2021

Sunday Adult Envelopes (97)	\$6,910.00
2020 same week (93)	\$8,521.00
Students	\$2.00
Plate	<u>\$141.00</u>
Total	\$7,053.00

Year to date Adult Env./CPL Income through Feb. 28, 2021:

Actual (July 1-Feb. 28)	\$436,032.14
Budgeted (July 1-Feb. 28)	\$417,320.00

Long term maintenance & facilities improvement fund and Past*Present*Future Campaign income for Mar. 28 was \$45.00 for a total since July 1, 2020 of \$50,281.36.

Sign up for Weekend Mass!

NOTICE for people just now returning to church:

We are using a signup system for the 4:30 PM and the 8 AM masses, that assigns particular seats to each person. This allows us to maintain social distancing and ensure that everyone gets a seat.

If you are internet-able, please go to the parish website stjameseauclaire.org to sign yourself up.

If you are not, please call Christine at the parish office or on her cell phone at 715-579-1523 to sign you up.

If you have a sign up for mass and cannot make it, please let Christine know so someone else can take your seat. Masses fill up, and no-shows are preventing someone else from being able to come to church.

Also—for now the 10 am mass will be outside. We are evaluating both the frequency and duration of outdoor masses; please stay tuned as we adapt to changing situations. **You do NOT need to sign up for the outdoor 10 AM mass, but please bring your own chair. Masks are required.**

Parish Staff

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Bulletin deadlines: end of day Mondays.



Scenes from Easter:
Top Welcome to our fully initiated RCIA members: Shawn Styer, Randi Ann McVinnie, and Ryan Petrie, and *left* newly baptized Aubree Link and Ayden Weiss (not pictured) *Right* Easter Egg hunt volunteers. *Bottom* Lighting of candles and blessing the Easter candle and the water at the Vigil. Musicians on Easter Sunday.



Congratulations Marie Kneer on your 100th birthday April 12!!!



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