

# Easter SUNDAY

St. Therese Parish ~ April 4, 2021

Abbreviated  
Edition

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## Safe Environments Diocesan Liaisons

Victim Advocate .....	victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org	392.0011
Joe Crayon, Ombudsman .....	crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org	816.812.2500

If you are a victim of sexual abuse by, or to report sexual abuse involving a cleric, diocesan volunteer or employee, contact the Victim Advocate at 816.392.0011 or [victimadvocate@diocesekcsu.org](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsu.org).

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or [crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org](mailto:crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org), if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate at 816.392.0011 or [victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

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Kansas City, MO 64152  
816.741.2800

website: [www.sttheresenorth.org](http://www.sttheresenorth.org)

## Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30pm (live streamed through our Facebook page)

Sunday: 8:00am; 10:00am;  
Noon; 5:00pm

Daily Weekday Masses -

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 6:30am

Monday-Saturday: 8:30am

**(COVID-19 Protocols for all Masses)**

## Confession

Tuesday/Wednesday: 8:00-8:20am

Saturday: 2:30-4:15pm

## **Business Hours**

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 8:00am-4:00pm

School Hours:

Monday-Friday: 7:30am-3:30pm

**Bulletin Submissions must be received 8-10 business days prior to the requested date of publication, submit to [tcollins@sttheresenorth.org](mailto:tcollins@sttheresenorth.org)**

## YOUR GIFTS TO GOD & PARISH

Week Ending Friday, March 19, 2021  
Fiscal Year: July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021

	Weekly	Year-to-Date
Contributions	\$89,258	\$3,093,568
Budgeted	<u>\$80,636</u>	<u>\$2,660,988</u>
Difference	\$8,621	\$432,580
Building Loan Balance		<b>\$2,826,910</b>
Debt Retirement Contributions	\$2,927	\$307,542
Principal & Interest payments		( <b>\$352,630</b> )
Difference		( <b>\$45,088</b> )

## From the Pope's Pulpit and the Pastor's Pen



### From the Pope's Pulpit

Today the Church's proclamation echoes throughout the world: "Jesus Christ is risen!" – "He is truly risen!"

*This is a different "contagion".... It is the contagion of hope... :This is no magic formula that makes problems vanish. No, the resurrection of Christ is not that. Instead, it is the victory of love over the root of evil, a victory that does not "by-pass" suffering and death, but passes through them, opening a path in the abyss, transforming evil into good: this is the unique hallmark of the power of God.*

Easter 2020



to Christians. Christ who is our hope has risen. May glory of this day and season fill our hearts with hope now and always. May the light of the Risen Christ radiate through our lives.

Easter is a season that begins today. We first celebrate Easter Week which is called a week of Sundays. We then continue to celebrate through the fiftieth day of Easter which is Pentecost.

Next Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. There is more information in this bulletin. Adoration and Confessions begin at 1:45. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed at 3:00.

Finally, this is a birthday celebration as well. The first Mass of St. Therese Parish was offered in downtown Parkville on Easter Sunday 1950. Happy Birthday to us. May God bless all members of our parish, past, present and future.

Father Joe Cisetti

### From the Pastor's Pen

*Death and life fought in a marvelous combat. The dead leader of life reigns living.*

Easter Sequence

The Lord is Risen. Alleluia. Alleluia. A blessed Easter to all. This day is the source of our hope. Despair is a luxury not given

## STAFF COLUMN - SAM FORD, YOUTH DIRECTOR

Happy Easter! Christ is truly risen!

I've been working here as your Director of Youth Ministry for almost a year now, and this past year hasn't been easy for anybody. I often joked that Lent last year never really felt like it ended, since things everywhere shut down before Easter when COVID first really started affecting our lives.

With our high school students involved in Life Teen this past March, we spent a few weeks looking back on the year of COVID in light of the "Parable of the Two Brothers" from Luke 15, or as it's more commonly known, the story of the Prodigal Son.

If you read the story closely, you'll notice that it wasn't the younger son's squandering of his dad's fortune that caused him to come to his senses - the famine, a natural disaster which God allowed to happen, was the final straw for the younger son that caused him to come to his senses, admit he needed help, and return to his father.

Now, we as Catholics know that God never actively chooses to inflict "natural evils" upon the world, not since Noah and the flood. Rather, God permits that these things happen so that a greater good might come about. In the case of the younger son, the famine was an opportunity to turn his life around - to turn away from sin and return to the father's house.

If you're looking for proof that God wants to bring good things out of bad situations, look no further than the reality of the Resurrection. The Easter story isn't a myth or legend - it really happened! Jesus actually lived and died almost 2000 years ago. For our sake and for our salvation, Jesus Christ, the Word who became Flesh and dwelt among us, accepted death on a cross. He was crucified because of our sinfulness, and he conquered death in the Resurrection so that we might join him in life everlasting. Perhaps this past year of COVID could be

for us what the famine was for the younger son: an opportunity to both reevaluate and reset in our relationship with God. Certainly, this past year has brought immense suffering and hardship the world over - I don't want to minimize that; but in the midst of all of that suffering, we know in light of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection, that God still wants to bring good about in our lives. He wants to encounter us daily in prayer, in the Sacraments, and in the community of believers. He wants to be the center of our lives. He wants to spend eternity with us, and He wants to start eternity now.

As our Lenten pilgrimage this year comes to an end, let us give thanks to God for giving us so wonderful a Redeemer. May we all know the friendship and presence of God in our daily lives this day and every day!

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## ST. THERESE MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCES

Elizabeth T. Goodson – April 3  
Zeigel W. Neff – April 5  
Norbert J. Bauer – April 7  
Grace Lillian Kreimer – April 8  
Frances V. Pasini – April 8  
Loyola C. Martin – April 9

## BIRTHDATE REMEMBRANCES

Donald C. Kehs – April 4  
Regina (Moore) Hurd – April 4  
Donald E. Paige – April 6  
Marceline W. Winfrey – April 6  
Robert P. “Bob” Fisher – April 7  
Rev. Timothy Rooney – April 8

## Prayers and Sympathy

For all those who have died, especially Kenny James, husband of Hope.

May all who have died in Christ know the fullness of Resurrection Life.

## St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry appreciates the support received regularly.  
Our special request is for:  
**Cooking Oil, Spices,  
Dish soap, Salad Dressing**

## Altar and Rosary

**Our Lady's Gift Shop**-We are open after weekend Masses! Questions: Gift Shop [dhartline@kc.rr.com](mailto:dhartline@kc.rr.com), A&R contact Kelly Johnson 816.506.9386 and the other officers at: [aandr@sttheresenorth.org](mailto:aandr@sttheresenorth.org).



## Divine Mercy Sunday

NEXT SUNDAY  
April 11, 1:45-4:00pm

Adoration/Confessions:

1:45pm

Chaplet of  
Divine Mercy: 3:00pm

Benediction with  
Blessing of the Images:  
3:30pm (or following  
confessions)

Divine Mercy Sunday is most joyful and Holy. Jesus told St. Faustina that He wanted the Sunday after Easter to be the Feast of Divine Mercy.” This feast is to be not only a day for worship of God’s Mercy but also a day of grace, particularly for sinners. On that day all the Divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened.” (Diary #699)

“I am offering a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces. That vessel is this image with the signature, Jesus I trust in You. By means of this image, I shall be granting many graces to souls.” (Diary 3’s 327,742)

“My daughter, encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given to you. It pleases Me to grant everything they ask of Me by saying the chaplet. When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one. (Diary #154)

Learn more about Divine Mercy (history, chaplet, novena (Start the Novena on Good Friday), etc. at [www.TheDivineMercy.org](http://www.TheDivineMercy.org)

## Knights of Columbus

### Attention all Catholic men 18 Yrs +

Want to make a bigger contribution to your parish, community and nation? The Knights of Columbus may be your answer. Call or email Bill or Rob. We are doing great things and can do even more with your help. Bill Robinette, Grand Knight, 816.520.5656 Rob Perschau, Membership chairman, 816.516.9693

### DEALING WITH GRIEF?

Have you experienced a loss of a loved one, maybe a spouse, child, grandchild, parent, etc., and are attempting to deal with the grief? The Knights of Columbus Council 7199 have started a support group for men from St. Therese. If you are grieving for any reason, consider joining us for an opportunity to tell your story to others who have been through, or are grieving. We meet to support each other. Reach out to Rob at [findinghelp7199@gmail.com](mailto:findinghelp7199@gmail.com).

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our April meetings will be Monday, April 5, and the General meeting will be Monday, April 12. Both meetings are at 7:00 via Zoom for planning. Watch your inbox for the link to meetings.

## That Man Is You

We have cancelled our April 10 meeting. On April 17, we will again meet in the Woolridge Center. Due to parish, diocesan, and county COVID-19 safety protocols, we will not be able to provide breakfast or beverages during the meeting, but that seems a small price to pay for the opportunity to meet in person once again. You will also be allowed to bring your own food and drink. At that meeting, Michael “Gomer” Gormley will be back to continue the discussion on becoming new men by becoming new creations in Christ. We will start the video at 7 am, and break at 8:20 so people can attend 8:30 mass.

For more information, contact Joshua Wunderlich at [joshua.wunderlich@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.wunderlich@gmail.com) or 402.570.7624.

Whether you are a long time attendee, have been gone for a while, or have never joined us before, we look forward to seeing you.

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## DEACON DOUG

### The Exsultet: Christ Our Light

At the Easter Vigil for the last few years, I have been given the privilege to chant the Easter Proclamation, also known as the *Exsultet*, named for the first word of the Latin original. I wanted to share with you the history and beauty of this proclamation from an article by Father Michael J. Flynn (abbreviated to fit in this bulletin article) that I share with the RCIA class each year.

The Paschal Candle is placed in its prominent candle stand in the church, and the deacon intones one of the most evocative and poetic hymns of praise in all liturgy: the Easter Proclamation. The liturgy's symbolic movement has been from darkness to light; now words and music are used to praise and thank God for what the light represents: God's saving activity throughout human history, culminating in Christ's defeat of death and resurrection from the dead.

Imagine how precious a candle, as the only source of light, must have been to families, churches and monastic communities as the day came to an end and the sun began to set in the early Middle Ages. There were of course no electric lights. Candles were costly, and often a single candle provided the sole source of light throughout the impenetrable darkness of the night.

In texts prior to the early Middle Ages, we find that a lengthy prayer of blessing of the candle was used. In areas of northern Europe, however, the practice of a deacon intoning a proclamation of praise in the presence of the Easter Light became customary, and during the course of the Middle Ages, this was eventually imported into regular Roman practice as well. In the Middle Ages the text we now know as the *Exsultet* became the standard hymn for the Easter Vigil. This 1200-plus year old Latin text is nearly identical to the one in our Missal today, except that the older one is about one third longer. In Southern Italy during the later Middle Ages the *Exsultet* was often written out on elaborately decorated scrolls. As the deacon progressed through the long text, the assembly was able to see beautiful illuminations accompanying the various parts of the text. These illustrations on the

"*Exsultet Rolls*" were painted upside down in relation to the text and musical notation, so that onlookers would see the figures right side up as the long scroll unfurled.

This text still serves splendidly as a present-day expression of Easter joy and exuberant thanksgiving. The *Exsultet* also provides a preview of the scriptural and theological themes to come in the rest of the Easter Vigil liturgy. Salvation history, especially God's deliverance of his Chosen People from Egyptian slavery and exile are prominent both in the *Exsultet*, and the extended Liturgy of the Word that will follow it. The text poetically recalls the Passover Feast; the candle present before the assembly is likened to the pillar of fire which guided Israel in its desert journey; their miraculous passage through the Red Sea serves as both a sign of deliverance and as a prefiguring of the waters of Baptism, another prominent element of Easter Vigils both ancient and modern. Having recalled key moments of the Old Covenant, the New Covenant between God and humanity is proclaimed eloquently in terms of the brilliant Light of Christ dispelling the darkness of sin and death for all time.

As is fitting for a text of this importance and solemnity, the *Exsultet* should always be sung. As the rubrics in the Roman Missal indicate, intoning the *Exsultet* is primarily the responsibility of the deacon.

For centuries the *Exsultet* has served as a liturgical jewel of unsurpassed beauty on this, the "mother of all holy vigils", as St. Augustine aptly described the Easter Vigil. As the *Exsultet* exhorts us, "Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness." May this venerable Easter Proclamation serve as a genuine expression of Easter hope and joy.

If you would like to review the entire text to the *Exsultet*, here is a link:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/easter/easter-proclamation-exsultet.cfm>

I have had many requests since my homily on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, for a copy of the part of my homily on redemptive suffering and for the poem entitled *The Kiss of Christ*. Some of the following paragraph comes straight from several Catholic resources. I hope you find it helpful

--- Deacon Doug

Holiness reaches out to touch everyone and gives us the courage to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and take up our own cross. We need to offer our suffering up to Christ as redemptive suffering for our sins and especially for others. Our sufferings are acceptable to the Father for the salvation of mankind because we unite ourselves to Jesus and his suffering through the grace of the Holy Spirit. Redemptive suffering is the belief that human suffering when accepted and offered up in union with the Passion of Jesus, can remit the just punishment of one's sins or the sins of another, or for the physical or spiritual needs of oneself or another. Ever hear the phrase: "Offer it up!"

### THE KISS OF CHRIST

by Caryll Houselander

There he hangs — pale figure,  
pinned against the wood.

God grant that I could love Him  
as I really know I should.

I draw a little closer  
to share that love Divine

And almost hear Him whisper,  
"Ah foolish child of Mine!"

If I should now embrace you,  
my hands would stain you red.

And if I leaned to whisper,  
the thorns would pierce your head."

And then I knew in silence  
that love demands a price,

'twas then I learned that suffering  
is but the Kiss of Christ.

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## WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY APRIL 4	MONDAY APRIL 5	TUESDAY APRIL 6	WEDNESDAY APRIL 7
<b>EASTER</b> 8:00am Mass: Church, GSH, WC 10:00am Mass: Church, GSH, WC 12:00pm Mass: Church, WC 5:00pm Mass: Church  GSH-Good Shepherd Hall WC-Wooldridge Center	<b>NO School 4/5-4/9 Easter Vacation</b> <b>Parish Office CLOSED</b> 8:30am: Daily Mass 9:00-10:30am: Prayer Session, Parish Library 7:00-9:00pm: Knights Officer's Meeting	Masses: 6:30am & 8:30am 8:00-8:20am: Confessions 9:30-11:00am: Mary, Martha & Lazarus Prayer Group, Birkel Room 4:00-8:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration in Church	Masses: 6:30am & 8:30am 8:00-8:20am: Confession 6:00-7:30pm: RE 1st Communion Retreat & Practice, Church

THURSDAY APRIL 8	FRIDAY APRIL 9	SATURDAY APRIL 10	SUNDAY APRIL 11
7:30-8:30am: Fatima Prayaer Group, Parish Library 8:30am Daily Masses 9:30-11:00am: Queen of Peace Prayer Group, Birkel Room 7:00-9:00pm: RCIA, Wooldridge Center	Masses: 6:30am & 8:30am 9:00am-2:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration in Church	7:00-8:30am: That Man Is You, Wooldridge Center 8:30am: Mass 2:30-4:15pm: Confession 4:30pm: Mass	<b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b> Confessions: 1:45pm Holy Hour: 2:30pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy: ... 3:00pm Benediction: 3:30pm  6:00-7:15pm: Life Teen, Wooldridge Center

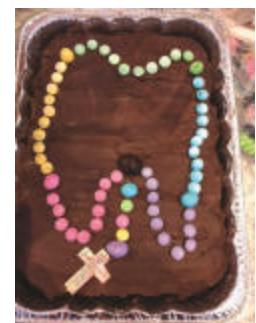
### St. Joseph's Table 2021

Have you heard that Spring is Here!! YAAA!! And in-person activities are slowly, oh so slowly, beginning to return. That would include our recent parish event – the annual St. Joseph's Table. It's hard to believe that it's been since 2019 when we enjoyed the spaghetti dinner and cannolis, Italian cookies and specially baked pies, breads and cookies. This year, the modified Table offered many the opportunity to bake or purchase a gift for the Table. And there was an abundance of baked goods, plants and bottles of wine. You could just tell that the community not only wants to bring things back, but also share their many gifts . . . of time, talent and treasure.



Every year, this event supports communities outside of the parish, with nearly a dozen benefitting from the proceeds. Today, the Sister Servants of Mary and Little Sisters of the Poor, will split the donations received from the sale of baked goods, flowers, and wine that decorated the Table. We often say, it's not the size that matters but the fact that something is given and each group will receive nearly \$1,000.

Every activity/event/prayer group and Mass is an important part of the soul of our St. Therese Parish. That was my message conveyed in 2020, as we cancelled last year's event. With its return, I can say that we are beginning to see the soul of our community come back to life. And that is truly something to celebrate!!



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## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### PRAYERS FOR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE ILL

Call the Parish Office to add or remove a name. (Due to confidentiality guidelines, only the person requesting prayer or a designated family member may place or remove a name)

Paula Acconcia	Janet Cozad	Natalie Lewis	Leticia Rabang
Eugene 'Bud' Anderson	Albert Daniels	Francis Logan	Danielle Reeder
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