Happy EASTER
The Parish Community of
Saint Brigid
Amherst, MA
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413 256 6181
150th Anniversary 1871-2021
April 4, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

THURSDAY, April 1, Holy Thursday
7:00 PM for the soul of Frances Lysonski
FRIDAY, April 2, Good Friday
12:00 noon en español Good Friday Service
3:00 PM Stations of the Cross
7:00 PM Veneration of the Cross
SATURDAY, April 3, Holy Saturday
8:00 PM for the soul of Gladys Beaulieu
SUNDAY, April 4, Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord
8:00 AM for the soul of Charles & Mary Abramson
10:30 AM for the soul of John & Ann Gedmin
12:30 PM souls of Gloria Diaz & Michael Marrero
MONDAY, April 5, Easter Weekday
8:00 AM soul of Stanislaw, Alexandria & Peter Blasko
TUESDAY, April 6, Easter Weekday
8:00 AM for the soul of Gladys Beaulieu
WEDNESDAY, April 7, Easter Weekday
8:00 AM for the soul of Frances Lysonski
THURSDAY, April 8, Easter Weekday
8:00 AM for the health of Nicole Burgos
FRIDAY, April 9, Easter Weekday
8:00 AM for the soul of Blanche Smegal
SATURDAY, April 10, Easter Weekday
8:00 AM for the soul of Theodore Handerek
SATURDAY, April 10, Sunday of Devine Mercy
4:00 PM for the soul of Lee Shumway
SUNDAY, April 11, Sunday of Devine Mercy
8:00 AM St. Brigid's Parish
10:30 AM for the soul of Gloria Richetti
12:30 PM for the souls of Ruben & Martha Dardano

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! Happy Easter! Thank you for your presence and prayers as we celebrate this special feast. I especially extend a warm welcome to our parishioners and anyone who is visiting family, or students who are with us! As we gather today on this holy ground of our parish, we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our parish. If you are with us today but do not worship with our community on a regular basis, I welcome you home to the Catholic Church and extend an invitation to visit with us to answer any questions you may have about our faith. We are here to serve you! If you or a loved one would ever like more information about becoming Catholic, please feel free to reach out to us. I pray that you and your loved ones have a blessed Easter! When you come before the Lord, please pray for me, for the other Priests who serve our diocese. Remember our Religious Sisters and Brothers working to many parishes and missions. Know that we will pray for you, your loved ones and your intentions. We may not see each other each day but may we meet each day in our prayers! Mass is celebrated everyday at 8:00 am, seven days a week. In Christ!

Fr. John Smegal

ROSARY AT 7:30AM
The Rosary is recited at 7:30am in the morning! A meditation of the life of Jesus as seen through eyes of his mother Mary. Please join us as frequently or infrequently as you like. What better way to begin the day! Please join us!

The LORD does righteous deeds,
brings justice to all the oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
to the Israelites his deeds.
Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
He will not always accuse,
and nurses no lasting anger;
He has not dealt with us as our sins merit,
nor requited us as our wrongs deserve. Ps 103

CAN YOU COUNT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT ST. BRIGID'S HAS HELPED THIS YEAR?
These are some of the ways we have helped:
Donation of $500 to Providence Ministries from the Lasagna Dinner for the Needy, holiday baskets, military baskets, college baskets, winter jackets, school bags and supplies, baby clothes, summer basketball camps, sneakers, donation toward funeral expenses, cemetery lots for infants, cemetery markers, second collections, Christmas giving tree, children tickets to sporting events, honoring our police and firefighters

COLLEGE EXAM PRAYERS
The members of St. Brigid's Parish want to salute and support the college students during their time of exams. At this time students may be at home. Be sure we have the correct address! We send a package of goodies and a prayer for their success! Help us encourage our students as they face exams by letting us know their address, phone number, any food allergies they might have and when they are taking their exams. Please contact the rectory 256-6181. College students deserve our support!

MILITARY PACKAGES
Do you have a son or daughter in the military? Let us know and we will send them a prayer and some cookies. Please give us their names, address and your phone number. Be specific! Please contact the rectory 256-6181. We say "THANK YOU" for your service

AN EASTER PRAYER
Good and gracious God,
Our most glorious Creator,
As we greet the signs in nature around us:
Of Spring once again regaling us in bloom,
In the songs of returning birds and fields soon to be planted,
We give you praise for an even greater sign of new life: the resurrection of your Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, that we especially celebrate at this time.
The sadness and despair of his death has given way to the bright promise of immortality.
For the Resurrection is our guarantee that justice will triumph over treason, Light will overcome darkness, and love will conquer death.
As we celebrate, we also dare to ask for your grace that we may live the promise given to us,
By imitating the life of Jesus in reaching out to the poor, the marginalized, the least among us,
As we strive to be neighbor to all those we meet,
We ask your special blessings each and every day on our President.
Working with him may we strive to make this great country of ours a beacon of hope and justice in a world hungry for peace and so in need of your love.
We praise you in this Easter season. Change our lives, change our hearts to be messengers of Easter joy and hope.
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord forever. Amen

EASTER BASKETS HAVE WE FORGOTTEN SOMEONE
We deliver hundreds of baskets over the years to those who are unable to come to St. Brigid's Parish on a regular basis. This means a personal visit to all of our parishioners, especially to those who have been an important part of our history in Amherst. Let us know if we have forgotten someone.

PANCAKES & PALMS THANK YOU!
Thank You! Every year during Holy Week we begin with Palm Sunday and a Pancake Breakfast! Thank you to the cooks, the help and all those who participated in such a great event! Great company, great meal !

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS
12 noon en español
3:00
7:00

We all have days of abundant life, as well as, death. In our daily life we experience failure and victory, pains and joys, just like Jesus did. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week where the two faces of the mystery of Christ, the Incarnate God, are revealed to us. We see life and triumph in the procession of the palms in honor of Christ the King, and the death and failure in the reading of the Passion. The palm show us that Jesus is going to suffer, but as a victor; he is going to suffer in order to rise. Palm Sunday is the opening of the Passover: from darkness to light, from humiliation to glory, from sin to grace, and from death to life. This feast is, therefore, a summary of our own experiences in this life, as well as of our hope. With Jesus, we suffer and experience joys. We are certain of our own death and of the death of others around us, but we also have a certainty of our final triumph. We also see how often people are fickle: first, they recognize the presence of Jesus as the one sent by God. Then, they want to kill him precisely because He affirms that sense of being sent. Perhaps we, too, are somewhat fickle. We recognize the presence of God and others but we then let ourselves be pulled by the prevailing attitudes of our society for a desire of prestige and personal gain at any cost.

Where do we stand as we begin Holy Week? What problems and difficulties do we experience at this time? What are our reasons of hope? What good desires, feeling and decisions have we abandoned? Why? Could I, as well as our children, renew my intentions this Holy Week as a sign of my following Jesus?

Palm Sunday
On this day, the Church begins the most solemn week of the year. It is a time for us to gather in the deep spiritual prayer. We celebrate the beginning of Jesus' passage from life to death to new life. The Liturgy begins with the blessing of the palms and a procession into the Church. Once the procession has been completed, the spirit of the celebration is determined largely by the reading of the Passion.

So they took the branches of palm trees and went to meet Him, shouting, "Hosanna, Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Holy Thursday
In the evening of Holy Thursday, the Church recalls the Last Supper, in which the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, showing his love for those who were his own in the world, gave his body and blood under the species of bread and wine, offering to his Father and giving them to his Apostles so that they might partake of them, and he commanded them and their successors in the priesthood to perpetuate this offering. This is a very beautiful Liturgy with the traditional Mandatum (was of the feet).

Whenever we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord.

Good Friday
On this day, when "Christ our Passover was sacrificed," the Church meditates on the Passion of her Lord and Spouse, adores the Cross, commemorates her origin from the side of Christ sleep on the Cross, and intercedes for the salvation of the whole world. According to a most ancient tradition, Mass is not celebrated today or tomorrow, and the altar is left bare.

Look well, you that pass by, and say if there was ever grief like the grief of mine.

Holy Saturday
The Church is, as it were, at the Lord's tomb, meditating on his passion, death, and descent among the dead, awaiting his resurrection with prayer and fasting.

A great silence prevails on earth this day.

Easter Vigil
The readings of the Easter vigil constitutes a final catechesis for the catechumens about to be baptized. For each community about to renew its baptismal vows, these scriptures record the essential moments in the salvation history of the People of God and proclaim the essential values of the new life of the children of God. This beautiful service is recognized by many to be the most beautiful Liturgy of the entire Church year.

He is risen and goes before you to Galilee.

Easter Sunday
Halleluiah! All glory, praise and honor to You, Most Glorious Lord Jesus! You have risen from the grave, You have conquered sin and death, You have opened the gates to Heaven ! Halleluiah! All praise and honor to You, Most Glorious Lord Jesus! My Lord, hope is restored, joy and excitement are instilled in many hearts as You quietly, gently and gloriously rise from the dead and bring forth new life for this fallen world. Sweet Jesus, give me the eyes of faith that I may see and believe in Your Resurrection. Help me to know the effects of Your triumph in my life. As I come to know You, my resurrected Lord, help me to entrust to You all that I am and all that I hope to be. Help me to trust in the abundant Mercy that flows from Your resurrected soul. Dear Lord, help me to enter deeply into the mystery of Easter during this eight day celebration of the Octave of Easter. I pray that every day of this Octave will be a day of deepening trust and union with You in the glory of Your Resurrection. Lord of Mercy, as our Church prepares for the glorious celebration of Mercy, poured out in a special way on the eighth day of this Octave on Divine Mercy Sunday, help me to open my heart more deeply than ever before to the abundance of Grace and Mercy You wish to bestow. Pour forth Your Mercy into my life and into the lives of all Your children. I offer You my family, friends, community and the entire world. Halleluiah!

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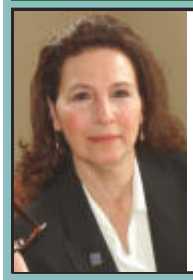
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