



Easter Sunday
April 4, 2021



Parish Staff

Father Joseph Upton, *Pastor*
Deacon John Pryor, *Deacon Assistant*
Christine Daneault, *Bookkeeper*
Philip Beaulieu, *Cemeteries Manager*
Carolyn Mello Pryor, *Faith Formation*
Victoria Costa, *Music Minister*
Rob Whitaker, *Facilities & Grounds*

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[@warrencatholic](https://www.facebook.com/warrencatholic)

Parish Office

645 Main Street
Warren, RI 02885
Mondays-Thursdays 9am-12nn

New Members

If you are new to our parish, please take a moment to register through our parish website or by phone. Welcome!

Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday at 8am
Saturday at 4pm
Sunday at 8am & 10:30am
Sabbath@Sundown Sunday evening
Mass at 6pm

Confessions

Confessions are heard in the Reconciliation Chapel at the rear of the church on Saturdays at 3pm or anytime by appointment. Please note that masks are required, and surfaces are sanitized after each use.

Baptisms

Baptisms are typically celebrated at one Sunday Mass per month. Please contact Deacon John Pryor at 401.245.7000, extension 14, for more information.

Weddings

Please call the parish office to discuss wedding preparations at least one year in advance of the intended date.

SMB Mountain Movers

Milly Grieve, *Coordinator of Children's Ministries*
Email: millygrieve@yahoo.com

SMB Food Pantry

The Food Pantry operates out of the lower church hall and is open on Tuesdays from 3pm to 5pm and on Wednesdays from 9am to 11am.
Wendy Baker, *Director*
Phone: 401.245.7000, ext. 19
Email: smbfoodpantry@gmail.com

Parish Outreach

Parishioners and members of the local community in need should contact the rectory for assistance.
Phone: 401.245.7000, ext. 13

St. Gabriel's Call

St. Gabriel's Call provides emotional and practical support to families in need, including diapers, baby clothing and much more.
Barbara Fisher, *Coordinator*
Phone: 401.245.7000, ext. 20

Welcome to Saint Mary of the Bay

No matter what your present status is in the Catholic Church, no matter your current family or marital status, no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, race, ethnicity or spirituality, no matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue, you are welcome here! You are invited, accepted and respected at Saint Mary of the Bay. We hope to share our Roman Catholic way of faith and life in Christ with you!



Mass Intentions

Easter Week

Easter Sunday, April 4

8am and 10:30am: Celebration of Mass
No 6pm Mass

Easter Wednesday, April 7

8am: Adriano Machado
Requested by family

Divine Mercy Sunday

Easter Saturday, April 10

4pm: Mary Souza, 16th ann. remembrance
Requested by family

Sunday in the Octave of Easter, April 11

6pm: For all parishioners



Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week
in loving memory of **P. Andrew McKenna Jr.**
as a birthday remembrance
at the request of Katherine Gere.

*If you would like to request that the sanctuary lamp burn in
honor of a deceased loved one or for a special intention,
please call the parish office.*

Tell your friends you're here.

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Check-in on your mobile device.



www.facebook.com/warrencatholic

Sabbath@Sundown

Sunday Mass at 6pm in Saint Mary of the Bay
645 Main Street, Warren

*A warm and welcoming atmosphere for believers and seekers,
and anyone looking for prayerful refuge before a new week*

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Padre's Ponderings

Dear Parishioners,

This holy and blessed day is the first of the week, the king and master of all days, the feast of feasts and the season of seasons. On this day we bless Christ forever and ever.

O faithful, come on this day of the glorious resurrection: let us drink the wine of the new vineyard, of the divine joy, of the kingdom of Christ! Let us praise him as our God forever and ever!"

These words from the Orthodox liturgy of Easter Sunday remind us of the singular importance of this day. This is truly the day Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad! Alleluia! For forty long days, we have abstained from the use of that exclamation of joyful praise: Alleluia! Now we let echo loudly in our church and in our hearts!

Easter reminds us every year of the power of light over darkness, the power of love over hate, the power of life over death! In the risen Jesus, we find the strength that helps us to keep believing and hoping and loving even in the valley of the shadow of death. We are reminded today that no matter how dark the night might seem, there is always a bright morning to look forward to. That is not mere wishful thinking. For Christians, it is certain hope! Because of the empty tomb, darkness and hate and death never get the last word! Alleluia indeed!

As we renew our baptismal promises this morning, we recommit ourselves to following Jesus. There is no life apart from him, and if he is truly risen, then everything is changed! As Saint Paul tells us, if Christ has not been raised, then our faith is in vain. But because he is risen, we live differently! Our entire lives are meant to become a sign of the dying and rising of Jesus, and are meant to point others toward our heavenly destiny. So let us renew our baptismal promises today with joyful determination to truly be an "Easter people"!

I pray that, despite the ongoing restrictions, you will be able to celebrate this sacred day safely with your household and with those you love. The pandemic, hopefully, has taught us to only appreciate more deeply the gifts of life and love that we so easily take for granted and that are the real focus of this sacred day.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! A blessed Easter to you and yours! I leave you with words taken from the Orthodox liturgy of Easter Sunday.

Now that we have seen the resurrection of Christ, let us adore the all-holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. We bow in worship before your cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify your resurrection, for you are our God, and we have no other, and we magnify your name. All you faithful, come: let us adore the holy resurrection of Christ, for, behold, through the cross joy has come to the world! Let us always bless the Lord, let us sing his resurrection, for by enduring for us the pain of the cross, he has crushed death by his death!

Until next week,

SMB Food Pantry

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

SMB Food Pantry Proudly Presents:

MEET MARY



WHAT'S YOUR ROLE AT THE PANTRY?

Mary was a pleasure to talk with about her time at St. Mary of the Bay Food Pantry. Her excitement about working with our pantry guests and the volunteers here was contagious! She shared how much she loved speaking with pantry guests each week and being a part of their lives as she hands out grocery orders on each Tuesday evening.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WITH THE PANTRY?

About halfway through the pandemic Mary joined our team. She moved to the area about four years ago and has been a parishioner at SMB since then.

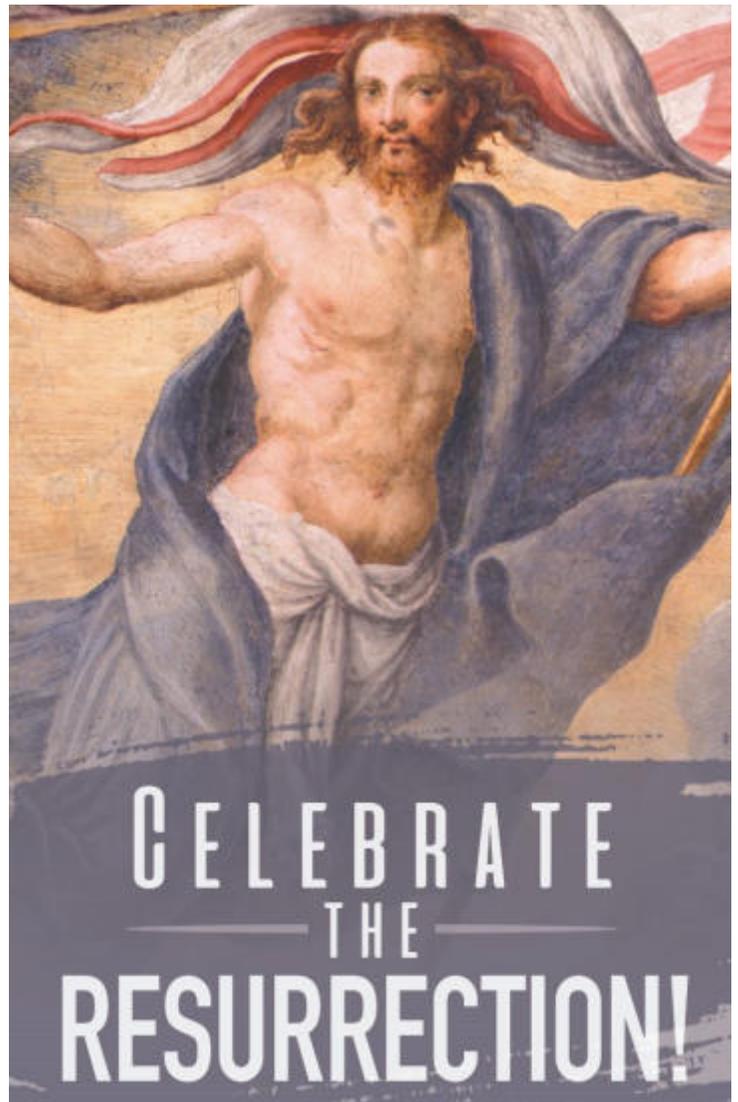
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PART OF BEING ON THIS TEAM?

"I have been volunteering my whole life, but I am so excited about being at SMB Food Pantry, because of the people. The volunteers here are amazing! I also love getting to know the guests better each week".

Above, check out the **March volunteer spotlight!** Mary is one of our many dedicated volunteers who help to keep our clients fed and our operations running smoothly! Thank you, Mary!

There are lots of exciting updates in the Food Pantry! Thanks to grants, we have been able to purchase a **new freezer** for food storage (which required some light electrical work and reorganizing in one of our storage areas, the former stage) and **new shelving!** We are in the process of **building a wall** around the ramp into the church hall to provide for a more secure and spacious storage area for dry goods. Many thanks to those who have helped us complete these projects. Thanks to the generosity of so many during these uncertain times, including the **RI Community Food Bank**, we have been able to invest funds into critical infrastructure so that when we emerge from the COVID-crisis, we will be stronger than ever! Expect a more complete report on these developments in the near future.

Below, **Cheryl Caggiano of Navigant Credit Union**, presents Fr. Joe and Wendy with a \$2,500 check in support of our Food Pantry! **Many thanks to Cheryl, to Navigant, and to Gary Furtado for their generosity!** This donation will go a long way in helping us keep our clients well fed and our programs operating smoothly! To all of our volunteers and donors, a hearty thank you and blessed Easter!



Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will resume after Easter and will finish Chapter 3 of the Bible Study text on April 8. The following week, Father Joe invited us to a "**Stump the Pastor**" night. This will be held in the church on **Wednesday, April 14, at 7pm.** Members of the Women's Bible Study and any women of the parish are invited bring their questions about anything related to our faith or anything you always wondered about but never knew the answer to. Let's see if we can stump Father Joe! This format has been very popular with our Faith Formation students and will hopefully be as enjoyable with us adults!

Please Take Note

The church will continue to remain open from 7:30am to 3pm from Monday through Friday for private prayer and devotion. The church will also be open all day each Sunday until after the 6pm Mass. Please stop in to make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament!

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING:

"To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."
(Acts 10:43)



PSALM:

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice
and be glad. (Ps 118)
Or Alleluia.



SECOND READING:

Think of what is above, not what is on earth.
For you have died, and your life is hidden with
Christ in God. (Col 3:2-3)



GOSPEL:

Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed. (Jn 20:8)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm
Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981,
1997, International Commission on English in the
Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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.

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