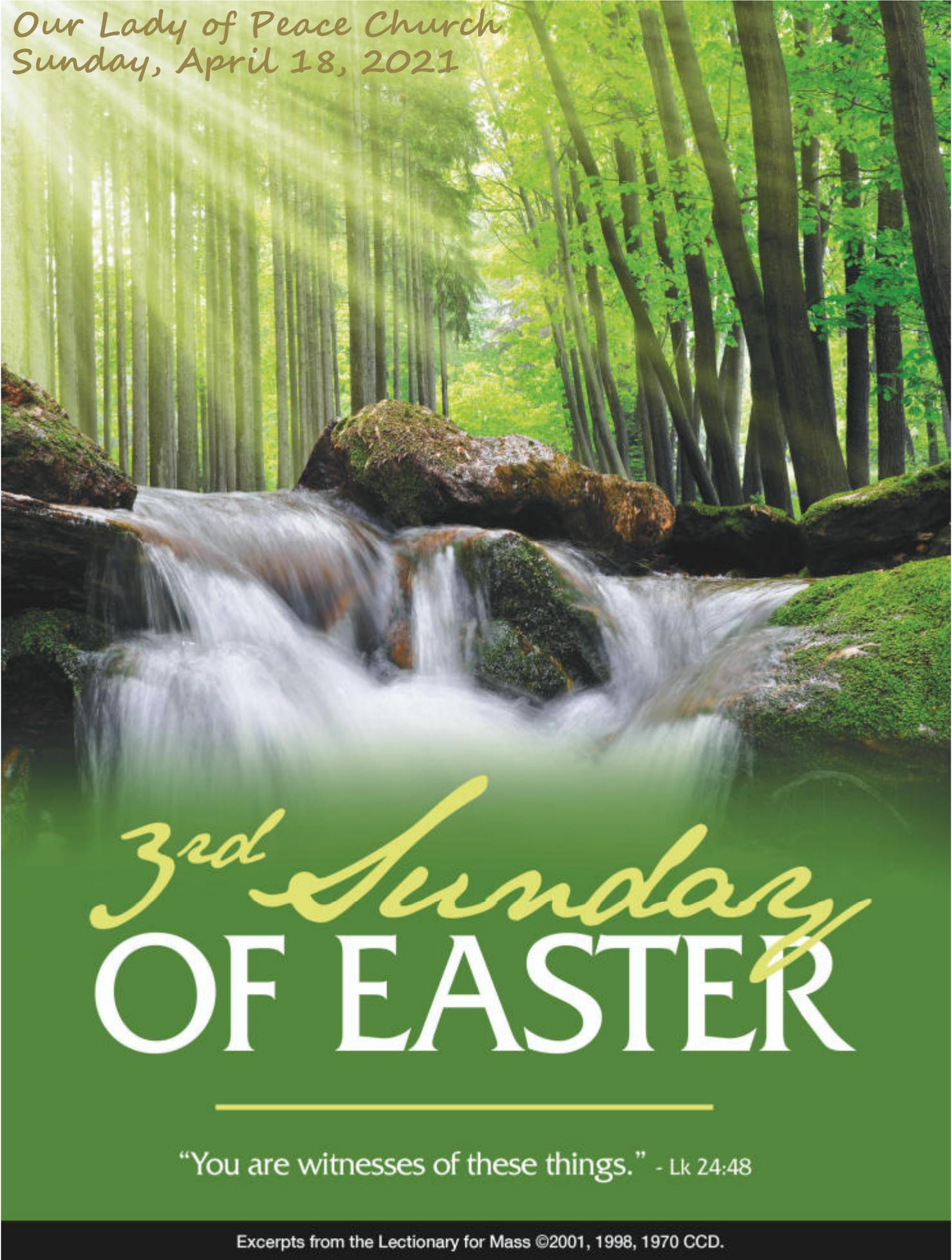


*Our Lady of Peace Church
Sunday, April 18, 2021*



3rd Sunday
OF EASTER

“You are witnesses of these things.” - Lk 24:48

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER STAN



My dear friends,

Jesus' Resurrection changes everything

Have you ever made New Year's resolutions, and actually kept them? Ordinary wisdom, what you hear in casual conversation, suggests that we don't stay with our resolve for very long. Our intentions may be good, but human nature tells us that wishes and feelings often fade with time. I think this is one of the reasons that the Easter Season, which we are now in, lasts for a period of fifty days. The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead is at the very heart of our faith; the insistence on celebrating it for such a period of time seeks to anchor our belief ever deeper in our hearts, to go beyond surface understandings, passing feelings and transitory resolutions.

So, here we are, already the Third Sunday of Easter. Some of the blossoms on the Easter lilies have begun to turn brown and some of the hydrangea blooms have started to fade. Yet, we are provided with a fresh set of readings to keep us engaged, reflecting, meditating and considering the essence of our faith from new angles. Our first reading, Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19, introduces the effects of Resurrection on Peter. Whereas at the time of Jesus arrest, Peter had been overcome by fear and denied knowing Jesus three times, now he stands bravely before the people, delivering an indictment of their actions! Peter said to the people, "The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence when he had decided to release him. You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses." Thus far, the indictment.

However, Peter does not intend to leave his hearers stuck in their past and in their sinful behavior. His proclamation of the good news looks to the future, seeks conversion, and invites the people to consider becoming Jesus' followers. "Now I know, brothers, that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did; but God has thus brought to fulfillment what he had announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer. Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away." Once Peter has been changed, once he fully grasps the fullness of what God has done in Jesus, he immediately becomes a missionary, not in a faraway land, but right where he is. The news is so good, it has to be shared. The Good News of Jesus' Resurrection is contagious!

Our second reading, first Letter of Saint John 2:1-5, continues John's reflections on the practical consequences of being Jesus' disciple. Consider: "My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments." Notice that, for John, faith has to be more than thoughts, words or good intentions. "Those who say, 'I know him,' but do not keep his commandments are liars, and the truth is not in them. But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him." Thus, the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection is life-changing!

Our gospel reading, Luke 24:35-48, begins with the return to Jerusalem of the two disciples Jesus had encountered on the road to Emmaus. You may recall that the two, after witnessing the crucifixion, had called it quits, and were returning to their home. The risen Jesus begins to walk with them, but in their grief they do not recognize him. Then, Jesus reveals himself by celebrating a Mass with them. He first explains the Scriptures and how they apply to him, and then he becomes known to the disciples in the "breaking of the bread"—the celebration of the Eucharist. In excitement, the two disciples immediately turn around. From this point, the story continues in today's gospel passage. "The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread."

Next, we find that the risen Jesus appears to those assembled. But the notion of the dead one being alive is still new, raw good news. And so when our Lord appears, "they were startled and frightened and thought they were seeing a ghost." Once again, the risen Jesus is not immediately recognized. Jesus thus goes on to reassure his followers and to bolster their faith. "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." The Good News of Jesus' Resurrection is for real!

**MISSED MASS AND DIDN'T GET THE BULLETIN
OR HEAR THE HOMILY?**

Go to our website www.ourladyofpeacetf.org



Saturday, April 17

7:30A *Mary Conway*
by her friends from the parish

Sunday, April 18

8:00A *Carolyn Prunier*
by Paul Prunier

10:00A *Barbara Sevene*
by her family

Saturday, April 24

4:00P *Frank Galvis* 4th anniversary
by Jackie & Mark

Sunday, April 25

8:00A *Albert Beaubien*
by Paul Prunier

10:00A *Angelo Manzi*
by Anthony & Shannon Manzi

DAILY MASS

Monday, April 19

8:00A *Easter blessings for Marcia Caloon*
by a friend

Tuesday, April 20

8:00A *Pat Caloon*
by John

Wednesday, April 21

8:00A *Genevieve Grader*
by Dennis & Cyndee

Thursday, April 22

8:00A *Easter blessings for Deacon Joe Bucci*
by the "Daily Mass 6"

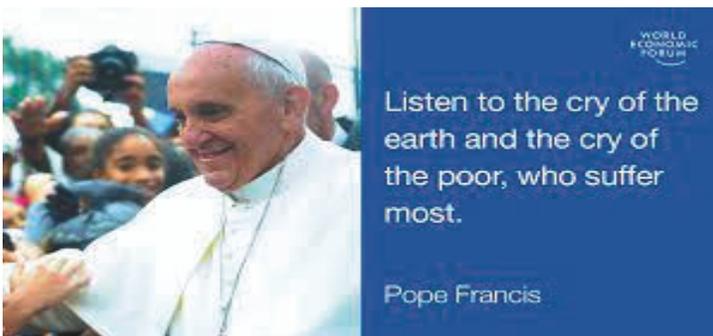
Friday, April 23

8:00A *Holy Communion Service*



Our Lady's Window

April 26 *Bob Lapinski* by Gladys



**Annual Mothers' Day
Baby Shower**

Once again we will be collecting items that would be typically part of a baby shower and we will distribute them to agencies who serve mothers in our area. These items may be brought to the church and left near the Our Lady of Peace statue. Deadline to contribute is Sunday, **May 9**.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Diapers | Bonnets/hats |
| Wipes | Shampoo |
| Lotion | A & D ointment |
| Powder | Desitin |
| Formula | Baby rattles |
| Bottled food | Toys |
| Boxed food | Onsies |
| Bibs | Pacifiers |
| Blankets | Baby bottles & liners |
| Socks | Feeding spoons |
| Infant Tylenol | Washcloths |
| Crib sheets | Gift cards |
| Nail clippers | Baby soap |

And anything you might enjoy buying!

APPLICATIONS are available for Our Lady of Peace Women's Group Scholarships. We will award (2) \$1,000.00 scholarships to college bound applicants from our parish. Please email Cathy Marcum for applications



cmarcum102@comcast.net.
Application_deadline is **May 7**.

COMMUNITY MEALS GROCERY NEEDS

Rice-a-Roni/ Knorr pasta/any pasta foods
Canned soups & stews

WEEKLY COLLECTION

April 11, 2021

Regular collection & mail \$3,510.00
On-line \$664.00

Your continued support is greatly appreciated!



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