



# The Cathedral Chronicle

Saint Joseph Cathedral 50 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202

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*APRIL 11, 2021—Second Sunday of Easter  
(Divine Mercy Sunday)*



## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.” - Jn 20:27

**CATHEDRAL MASSES**

Saturday (Vigil Mass) 4:30 p.m. Sunday (Choir) 10:30 a.m.

**Monday — Friday...12:10 p.m.** (in the Cathedral)

Holy Days and Holidays as announced

The Sunday 10:30 am Mass is available every week via  
<http://www.youtube.com/SaintJosephCathedral>

*The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in place.*

*All who are especially vulnerable or simply uncomfortable attending a public liturgy are encouraged to remain at home and view Mass via livestream or television.*

Unfortunately, the above schedule may change due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Please check our Facebook page, website, or call the rectory office to stay up to date.

Thank you for your understanding and patience!

**CONFESSIONS**

Wednesday & Friday at 11:45 a.m.

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

(or call for appointment)

**OFFICE HOURS**

9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

**LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK**

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	April 10: (Vigil Mass for Sunday) Happy Repose of the Souls of Diane Oczeck Gentile & Aloisius J. Oczeck (Family)	✝
Sunday 10:30 a.m.	April 11: 2nd Sunday of Easter Christopher Panek (Mary Ann Schmigel)	✝
Monday 12:10 p.m.	April 12: Easter Weekday Dominic & Maria DeMeo (Family)	✝
Tuesday 12:10 p.m.	April 13: Easter Weekday Raechel Suttelle Conroy (Estate)	✝
Wednesday 12:10 p.m.	April 14: Easter Weekday Parishioners of St. Joseph Cathedral	✝
Thursday 12:10 p.m.	April 15: Easter Weekday Mary Acquisto (Louis Mustillo)	✝
Friday 12:10 p.m.	April 16: Easter Weekday Jacqueline Wopperer (George Wopperer)	✝

Thank you to all who donated money for our Easter flowers and those who made donations in memory of their loved ones. The names are posted on the easel.



**CATHEDRAL STAFF**

- Bishop: Most Rev. Michael W. Fisher
- Cathedral Rector: Rev. Seán Paul Fleming
- Music Director: Timothy Socha
- Secretary: Elaine Kishbaugh
- In Residence: Rev. James C. O'Connor

**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. **Amen.**

The Erie County Surrogate has required this notice to be published/posted in all parish bulletins (paper & electronic) as well as parish websites within the Diocese of Buffalo. It is to appear until Friday April 9, 2021.

Beginning in 2015, The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y., Inc. ("Foundation") began soliciting donations to its "Upon this Rock" ("UTR") capital and endowment campaign. The UTR campaign raised funds for many purposes, including soliciting funds for making essential upgrades to classroom facilities and technology of Christ the King Seminary ("CKS"), expanding CKS's role as a center of retreat and religious celebration, and establishing an endowment fund for CKS. Unfortunately, in early 2020, CKS's Board of Trustees determined that CKS would close at the end of the 2020-2021 academic year. CKS's closure will make it impossible for the Foundation to use the UTR funds raised for CKS for their original intended purposes. However, under New York law, when the original purposes for which funds are donated become impossible to achieve, those purposes can be modified in a manner consistent with original intent by the New York State courts. For many years, CKS provided education and formation for ordained and lay ecclesial ministers in the Diocese of Buffalo and beyond. Accordingly, the Foundation has asked the New York State Supreme Court for the County of Erie to approve a modification of the purposes of UTR funds raised for CKS so that those funds can be used to support the education and formation for ordained and lay ecclesial ministry in the Diocese of Buffalo, as determined in the discretion of the Foundation's Board.

If you have donated to UTR and would like to be heard regarding this requested modification, you may send a letter to: The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y., Inc., attention Executive Director, 795 Main Street, Buffalo, N.Y. 14203 or an email to [donor.info@frcdb.org](mailto:donor.info@frcdb.org). Copies of letters or email received by the Foundation will be provided to the Court. You may also make a formal filing in the legal proceeding entitled *Matter of the Modification of Endowment Funds of The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo N.Y., Inc.*, Erie County Index No. 814747/2020. In order for your submission to be available for the Court's consideration, please be sure to send any letter or email, or make any filing, no later than Friday, April 9, 2021.

**Daily Novena Prayer to St. Joseph:** O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

O Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, so that having experienced here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers.

O Saint Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Hold Him close in my name and kiss His fine head from me, and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. **Amen.**



Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. — Psalm 118

Happy Easter! As we conclude the “first day” or the “octave” of Easter, we give thanks to God for the gift of resurrection and new life in abundance. We know that this is a gift that we must ponder, tend, and keep alive, or it will fade. In many ways, it is a challenge and a responsibility.

Part of that challenge is being unsettled—going beyond ourselves, our shelter, our expectations—to proclaim and share the resurrection. While Jesus imparts a greeting of peace upon the disciples in today’s Gospel more than once, there is still a measure of fear among the community.

Jesus comes to the friends huddled together away from the world, except for Thomas who, for some reason, is not with them. A week later, the situation is somewhat different, as he has rejoined them. However, what has changed for the rest of the group? Did they retreat from their hiding place to look for Thomas in the intervening week? Did they ever leave the safety of that place? What changed for the disciples apart from Thomas?

We find ourselves a week into Easter... has anything changed for us? Have we left the safety of our “upper rooms?” Thomas may be known for his doubt, but perhaps he was the only one with enough courage to seek the resurrected Lord in unexpected places. Perhaps that is the source of true peace that quells all fear, taking the risk to seek and find the Lord, and to point him out when he comes in glory.



Peace & Prayers,

Fr. Seán Paul

Fr. Seán Paul.

I would like to thank Tim Socha and our Cathedral Schola who have helped to add such beauty and solemnity to our Holy Week and Easter celebrations. In addition, I appreciate our lectors, servers, and the “behind the scenes” crew who have helped to adorn our sanctuary, keep the Cathedral clean and safe, as well as those who have served as ushers and ministers of hospitality welcoming all of our parishioners, friends, and guests at this beautiful time of year.

It’s so nice to see so many returning to the Cathedral and breaking out of their “pandemic tombs.” Even though not all of us are ready, and those of us who are remain at a distance and behind masks, a smile, a kind word, and a prayer can go a long way toward showing people we are a Christ-centered community. Thanks for all you do and for all you are! May Saint Joseph continue to guide and shape our lives and our community of faith.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. “Mercy is the heart of God,” Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God’s mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God’s mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God’s mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

“Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope,” Pope Francis continues. God’s all forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ’s resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life’s imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn’t matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God’s mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us. Breathe in God’s mercy, allow the wind of God’s presence to kiss all of your sins and caress all of your fears. Exhale peace. ©LPI

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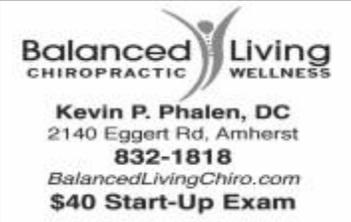
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