

Christ Our Savior

Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh

April 11, 2021

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH

2208 East Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

SAINT CYRIL CHURCH

3854 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

SAINT PETER CHURCH

720 Arch Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Sunday Masses

4:00 p.m. (Vigil) Saint Cyril Church

9:00 a.m. Saint Boniface Church

10:30 a.m. Saint Peter Church

11:00 a.m. Saint Cyril Church

Daily Masses

9:00 a.m. Saint Cyril Church
Mon - Sat

12:05 p.m. Saint Peter Church
Mon - Fri



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9:30 a.m.
Saint Cyril Church



Christ Our Savior Parish Office

3854 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Phone: 412-761-1552

Fax: 412-415-0707

www.cospgh.org



2nd 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

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Fr. Nicholas Vaskov, Pastor
Fr. Dam Nguyen, Senior Parochial Vicar
Fr. Lawrence DiNardo, in residence
Fr. Louis DeNinno, in residence
Fr. Ferdinand Okafor, in residence
Deacon Gery Pielin

Reading I: Acts 4:32-35

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all.

There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.



Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting.

Reading II: 1 Jn 5:1-6

Beloved:
Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers

the world.
And the victory that conquers the world is our faith.
Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood.
The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

**On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, "Peace be with you."
When he had said this, he showed them
his hands and his side.
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the
Lord.
Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with
you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
And when he had said this, he breathed on
them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit.
Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain are retained."
Thomas, called Didymus, one of the
Twelve,
was not with them when Jesus came.
So the other disciples said to him, "We
have seen the Lord."
But he said to them,
"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his
hands
and put my finger into the nailmarks
and put my hand into his side, I will not
believe."
Now a week later his disciples were again**

**inside
and Thomas was with them.
Jesus came, although the doors were
locked,
and stood in their midst and said, "Peace
be with you."
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."
Thomas answered and said to him, "My
Lord and my God!"
Jesus said to him, "Have you come to
believe because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and
have believed."
Now Jesus did many other signs in the
presence of his disciples
that are not written in this book.
But these are written that you may come
to believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,
and that through this belief you may have
life in his name.**

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from Heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into Heaven and is seated at

the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel



Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



For Our Beloved Deceased:

William Kauffman

May those who were united with Christ in a death like His, also be one with Christ in His resurrection.



This week, the Sanctuary Candles in our church buildings are lit in honor of the following intentions:

Saint Cyril Church: For All Serving and Have Served in the Military.

From the Desk of Father Nick

DIVINE MERCY *Sunday*



We continue to rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus as we celebrate this octave (eighth) day of Easter. I pray that you were able to joyfully mark Easter Day with a meal or a visit with family. I remain abundantly grateful that we were able to gather in our churches for the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter and that so many of you, as well as many visitors, spent these days in prayer as we contemplated the mysteries of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. While the busy days of the Triduum and Easter can go by in a blur, as I was reflecting afterwards my biggest regret was that I couldn't be at every liturgy at every church, especially after hearing how beautiful they all were. While this goes with the territory of multiple priests serving multiple churches, it was also helpful to reflect that we were all one in prayer and that the light and joy of the resurrection shines on us all!

I also need to take this opportunity to thank the many folks who worked so hard to make the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter such beautiful celebrations:

- to the Frs. Nguyen, DiNardo, DeNinno, and Ferdinand and Dcn. Pielin who presided over prayerful Masses and other liturgies and led the faithful closer to Christ this Easter;
- to those who worked so hard to decorate the churches and prepare for each of the many celebrations so that they could be such beautiful events;
- to the organists, musicians, and singers whose music heightened our celebrations to the glory of heaven;
- to the lectors and servers who added such solemnity to our celebrations so that the Word of God was proclaimed and the ceremonies devoutly executed;
- to the ushers and greeters who provided hospitality and welcome, particular to those who visited us for Mass or church visits;
- and to our parish staff members whose work in the background ensured that everything we needed to celebrate these days well was prepared.

I hope that I have not forgotten anyone. If I had, please forgive me. I am grateful to all who were involved in any way.

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday this weekend we continue to be grateful for all that God provides for us and we anticipate the continued gift of his abundant mercy so that we many always walk faithfully the path that leads to him!

God bless!

Fr. Nick



Reflection

The “*community of believers*”

was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common.” They worked according to their ability and earned according to their needs.

The Acts of the Apostles offers us an impressive description about the lives and the vision of the early Christian community. Its members lived with and for each other so unselfishly and harmoniously that there are no greedy, needy, or excessively poor or rich members among themselves. Their faith-filled community drew a lot of people to them.

What bonded them together? How were they able to sustain such an ideal? Is it utopian or imaginative and only found in textbooks?

The phrase “community of believers” itself seems to answer all such questions and underline the criteria and substance for their vision, conviction and practices.

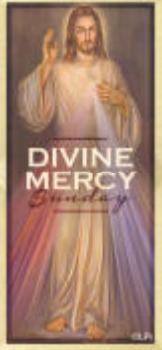
Community cannot be spelled out without unity. It is unity in faith that bonds the members’ hearts and minds together. Without their common belief in Christ who has suffered, died and risen, their community cannot exist or be sustained. Their generous self-giving activities are faith-filled expressions for each other. As “unity in faith” becomes the foundation for community, so their strong internal belief in the Risen Lord becomes the core value for their external activities among their members. Caring and sharing with each other became their hallmark.

Whether or not such an ideal community can be applicable or done today in our parish and our church, both should be shaped and molded according to the early “community of believers”. It is like a blueprint for a vital community. Without faith, our parish can easily become a social club. Yet, the same social activities can be easily translated to communal services if they are rendered and motivated by the common belief in Christ. This communal belief is much more than any bylaws, rules or regulations from fraternal or social organizations.

May The Risen Lord whose appearance to Thomas, not as an isolated individual but as a communal member of a group of disciples who have seen and witnessed Him together, continue to guide and strengthen the “community of believers” of our parish family!

Fr. Dam Nguyen

Mass Schedule for the Week of April 11, 2021

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Offered By
 <p>Sunday, April 11 2nd Sunday of Easter Acts 4:32-35/ 1 Jn 5:1-6/ Jn 20:19-31</p>	4:00 p.m. (Vigil)	St. Cyril	Carey/Connelly Family	Rita Carey
	9:00 a.m.	St. Boniface	Helbling Family	Mary Skalos
	10:30 a.m.	St. Peter	Divine Mercy	
	11:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Marge Peschka	Kraus Family
<p>Monday, April 12 Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8</p>	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Living & Deceased Parishioners	
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Rose & Rudolph Belczyk	Christine Bell
 <p>Tuesday, April 13 Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15</p>	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Teddy Kennelly	Daughters
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Angel Cruz, Jr.	Doris Cruz
<p>Wednesday, April 14 Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21</p>	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Ronald Bruni	Richard & Barbara Lewis
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Theresa Boehm	
<p>Thursday, April 15 Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36</p>	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Rose Gizzo	Mr. & Mrs. Eric Frazier
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Rose Marie Stehle	
<p>Friday, April 16 Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15</p>	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	David O'Neil	
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Bernard Neckerman	Family
<p>Saturday, April 17 Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21</p>	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Robin Kurtz	
<p>Sunday, April 18 Third Sunday of Easter Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/ 1 Jn 2:1-5a/ Lk 24:35-48</p> 	4:00 p.m. (vigil)	St. Cyril	Barney Kontrik	His Children
	9:00 a.m.	St. Boniface	Leo & Myrtle Haas	Denice Haas
	10:30 a.m.	St. Peter	Living & Deceased Parishioners	
	11:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Rose Gizzo	Dunn Family

The Image of the Divine Mercy



Jesus, I trust in You

Jesus appeared to St. Faustina in a vision, with his right hand raised in a blessing and his left touching his garment above his heart. Red and white rays emanate from his heart, symbolizing the blood and water that was poured out for our salvation and our sanctification. The Lord requested that “Jesus, I trust in You” be inscribed under his image. Jesus asked that his image be painted and venerated throughout the world: “I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish” (Diary, no. 48) and “By means of this image I will grant many graces to souls”

(Diary, no. 742).

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska’s Story

Saint Faustina’s name is forever linked to the annual feast of the Divine Mercy, the Divine Mercy chaplet, and the Divine Mercy prayer recited each day at 3 p.m. by many people.

Born in what is now west-central Poland, Helena Kowalska was the third of 10 children. She worked as a housekeeper in three cities before joining the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in 1925. She worked as a cook, gardener and porter in three of their houses.

In addition to carrying out her work faithfully, generously serving the needs of the sisters and the local people, Sister Faustina also had a deep interior life. This included receiving revelations from the Lord Jesus, messages that she recorded in her diary at the request of Christ and of her confessors.

At a time when some Catholics had an image of God as such a strict judge that they might be tempted to despair about the possibility of being forgiven, Jesus chose to emphasize his mercy and forgiveness for sins acknowledged and confessed. “I do not want to punish aching mankind,” he once told Saint Faustina, “but I desire to heal it, pressing it to my merciful heart.” The two rays emanating from Christ’s heart, she said, represent the blood and water poured out after Jesus’ death.

Because Sister Maria Faustina knew that the revelations she had already received did not constitute holiness itself, she wrote in her diary: “Neither graces, nor revelations, nor raptures, nor gifts granted to a soul make it perfect, but rather the intimate union of the soul with God. These gifts are merely ornaments of the soul, but constitute neither its essence nor its perfection. My sanctity and perfection consist in the close union of my will with the will of God.”

Sister Maria Faustina died of tuberculosis in Krakow, Poland, on October 5, 1938. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1993, and canonized her seven years later.



Easter Scripture Study with Father DiNardo

The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast, indeed as one “Great Sunday.” These are the days above all others in which we sing the great “*Alleluia*.” During this Easter season, Father DiNardo will offer the study of the Sunday readings, with a special focus on the *Acts of the Apostles*. The scripture study class will take place on **Monday evenings from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM beginning April 12, 2021 through May 24, 2021.** You are invited to Saint Boniface Church for the scripture class or by **Zoom**. The Zoom links can be found on the Parish Website at www.cospgh.org. All are welcome to attend.

Northside Catholic Assumption Academy



ENTER TO LEARN

LEARN TO SERVE

Principal: Rosanne Kwiatkowski

kwiatkowski@ncaacademynow.org

Administrative Assistant: Helene Kocay

hkocay@ncaacademynow.org



During the month of March at Northside Catholic Assumption Academy, both Kindergarten classes participated in the March Madness Reading Challenge. Each week Miss Goodwin and Miss Grande read books to the students by different authors including Dr. Seuss, Eric Carle, and Mo Willems. Each week the student's voted on their favorite books from each author. Some of the winning books were Green Eggs and Ham, Brown Bear Brown Bear What Do You See, and Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus. For participating, each student will receive a free book at the end of the month.

Are you looking for a Christ centered, academically challenging, safe environment, and welcoming school for your child? Come and see Northside Catholic Assumption Academy! We offer full day 3 and 4 year old preschool programs, as well as the traditional half day two or three days a week. Our preschool through 8th grade boasts small class sizes – our largest class is 24 and the smallest is 13. Your child will receive individualized attention so that he or she can thrive! Our teachers are more than just certified by the state and accredited by the Diocese. They are dedicated teachers with an average of 20 years of experience in the Diocese. Our school is supported by the Extra Mile Education Foundation and has low tuition - \$3,600 for one child and \$4,200 for two or more children and generous financial aid. For more information on our school, give us a call at 412-761-5043 or email rkwiatkowski@ncaacademynow.org.

Christ Our Savior Parish

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Sacraments

Baptism: Please contact Jean DiDonato for information of the requirements, conditions and options for baptisms. Classes for first time parents can be taken before or after their child's birth.

Matrimony: Arrangements are to be made at least six months in advance of the wedding date. Please contact the parish office.

Sick and Shut-ins: The Sacraments are available to those who are unable to celebrate Mass due to sickness or age. To make arrangements for visitation to your home, call the parish office.

Sacramental Sponsor: To be a Sacramental sponsor, one must be a practicing Catholic and a registered member of a parish.

Stewardship Update for March 28, 2021

Offertory: \$8,778.50

Parish Share: \$6,300.00

Building Fund: \$617.00

Votives: \$206.00

School Support: \$80.00

Social Services: \$20.00

Human Dev: \$20.00

Good Friday: \$147.00

Easter: \$245.00

Flowers: \$137.00

Thank you for your generosity!

2020 Tax Statements are available by request.

Please call the parish office.

Pregnant? Talk to someone 24/7

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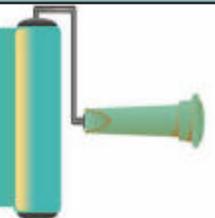


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