

SAINT MARY of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL
Administrator

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WEEKEND MASSES:
Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am
Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY: THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD ♦ APRIL 4, 2021

THE EASTER SUNDAY ASSURANCE

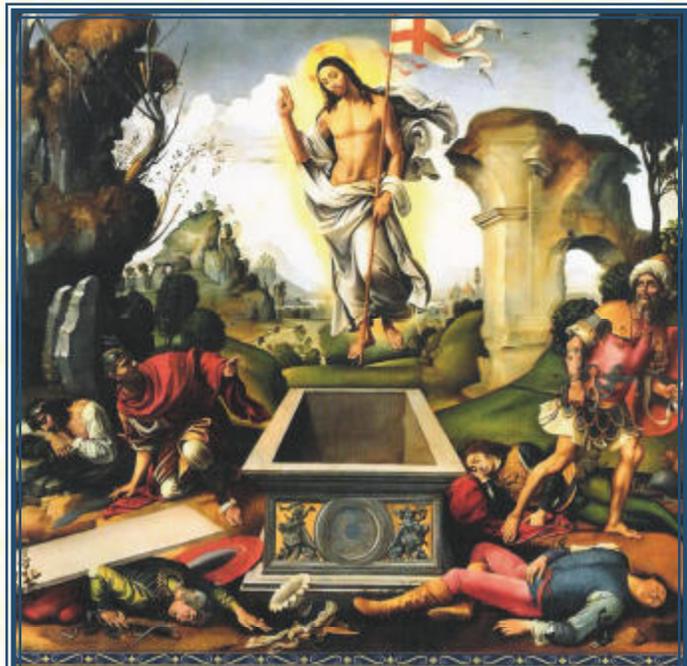
— Fr. Bosco Padamattummal —

The disciples of Jesus felt on that day that the one who had been central to their lives, who had given meaning to their lives, was gone, he was crucified. They went into hiding for the fear of their life. **The women followers, in contrast**, rendered Jesus a final service: they visited his tomb as soon as the Sabbath was over to anoint his body with their spices. They were paying their respects to the mortal remains of their master.

Yet, what the women discovered early on that first day of the week was not reassuring to them, at least not initially. All four gospels tell the story of the women's discovery of Jesus' empty tomb slightly differently.

According to John's account (Jn 20), when she found the tomb empty Mary Magdalene concluded that grave robbers had been at work. When reporting her discovery of Jesus' empty tomb to Peter and the beloved disciple she exclaimed, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him." On discovering Jesus' tomb to be empty, her first thought was not that Jesus had been raised from the dead but that his body had been stolen.

According to Matthew's account (Mt 28), the women, on finding Jesus' tomb empty, "stood there not knowing what to think." It was only after the risen Jesus appeared to them that the women and the male disciples understood why the tomb was empty. Jesus had passed beyond death into a new kind of life, a resurrected, glorious, life. The tomb was empty because Jesus was no longer held by the tomb; he had been raised from the dead. He had — *continued on p. 2*



**Resurrexit sicut dixit,
Alleluia!**

He has risen as he said, Alleluia!

St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ❖ **April 3-11, 2021**
Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

SAT. APRIL 3**Holy Saturday**

Rejoicing in the Resurrection of the Lord!

Gn 1:1-2:2 (or 1:1, 26-31a)
Gn 22:1-18 (or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18) • Ex 14:15-15:1 • Is 54:5-14 • Is 55:1-11 • Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4 • Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28 Rom 6:3-11 Mk 16:1-7

➤ **9:00pm EASTER VIGIL**
MASS: † Eddie Walz
[Joe & Gretchen Kirke]

**SUN. APRIL 4** **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Col 3:1-4 (or 1 Cor 5:6b-8)
Jn 20:1-9 (or Mk 16:1-7)

➤ **8:30am MASS: † Eddie Walz** [Alice Kidd]
➤ **10:30am MASS: For the people**

MON. APRIL 5 **Monday within the Octave of Easter**

Acts 2:14, 22-33
Mt 28:8-15

3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed classes / PC
➤ **No Mass today in Manchester**

TUES. APRIL 6 **Tuesday within the Octave of Easter**

Acts 2:36-41
Jn 20:11-18

➤ **No Mass today in Manchester**

WED. APRIL 7 **Wednesday within the Octave of Easter**

Acts 3:1-10
Lk 24:13-35

➤ **No Mass today in Manchester**
No Staff meeting
No Parish Council meeting

THUR. APRIL 8 **Thursday within the Octave of Easter**

Acts 3:11-26
Lk 24:35-48

➤ **8:30am MASS: † Tom Burch**
[Eric & Helena Zinc]

FRI. APRIL 9 **Friday within the Octave of Easter**

Acts 4:1-12
Jn 21:1-14

➤ **8:30am MASS: † Tom Burch**
[Frank & Cindy Remski and Family]

SAT. APRIL 10 **Saturday within the Octave of Easter**

Acts 4:13-21 • Mk 16:9-15

3:30-4:30pm Confession
➤ **5:00pm VIGIL MASS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER: For the people**

SUN. APRIL 11 **The Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

Acts 4:32-35
1 Jn 5:1-6
Jn 20:19-31

8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
➤ **8:30am MASS: † Eddie Walz** [Sue Tervo]
➤ **10:30am MASS: † Joseph & † Suzanne Gernek** [Kathy & Martin Brogley]
1:00pm Divine Mercy celebration

FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:***The Easter Sunday Assurance***

undergone an extraordinary transformation, and that transformation affected his whole person, including his body.

What happened on that first Easter Sunday had enormous implications not only for those first disciples but for all of us who are trying to be the Lord's disciples today. On the cross Jesus absorbed all human sin. In his resurrection from the dead, he defeated sin with life-giving love; he showed that God's love cannot be buried, and God's faithfulness cannot be shut up in a tomb.

Because of Jesus' resurrection, we can be sure that God's love – present in Jesus – is stronger than sin and death. Jesus' resurrection assures us that beyond death there is new life, beyond darkness there is light, and beyond sin there is forgiveness. His resurrection shows us that our own death, like his death, can be a gateway to a new form of life.

The earliest reference to the appearance of the risen Lord to his disciples is to be found in the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians, written about twenty-five years after Jesus' death and resurrection. In that letter Paul passes on to the church in Corinth what he himself had received from others (1 Cor 15:3-8), namely, that Christ "as raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures" and that "he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than 500 of the brothers and sisters... then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles." Paul concludes by stating, "Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me." Earlier in that letter Paul asked, "Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?" Paul was very clear that he had seen the risen Jesus and that the risen Lord had appeared to him.

We have not seen the risen Lord in the way that Paul and other eyewitnesses saw him, but we share their conviction that Jesus is risen. And that is what we are celebrating on this feast of Easter. The eyewitnesses saw and believed, and because they saw and believed, we are able to believe without having seen in the way that they saw.

At the end of the chapter of John's gospel (Jn 20:29) we read Jesus declaring, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." If Jesus had not been raised from the dead, there would have been no community of disciples after Jesus' death; there would have been no church and, therefore, no gospels, no letters of Paul, no New Testament, no sacraments. Without the resurrection, we would not be here this at this Mass. In raising Jesus from the dead, God ensured that the seed that Jesus sowed by his life and his death would bear fruit. Because of his resurrection, Jesus is not only the seed that falls into the earth and dies, but the seed that in dying bears much fruit.

The resurrection of Jesus speaks powerfully to us of God's faithfulness to all of humanity. God sent his Son into the world as his most precious gift. Even when God's most precious gift was rejected, even when God's Son was put to death in the most inhuman way possible, God did not take back the gift of this Son. Rather, God raised his Son from the dead and gave his Son to humanity again. Jesus who was transformed through being raised to new life holds out the possibility of our transformation.

St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians speaks of the final transformation that awaits us beyond death. He declares that the risen Lord will transform our humble bodies into copies of his own glorious body. What God has done for Jesus in bringing him through death into a transformed life, God will do for all those who believe in Jesus.

It is because of that first Easter Sunday that we can face death, our own death and the death of our loved ones, with great hope. Easter Sunday assures us that Good Friday is never the final act in our life's drama. Death does not have the last word. The God of the living will bring us through death to a new and transformed life. †

Birthday Blessings!

April 4... ..Abigail Burch

April 5Justin Walz
...Patrick Walz

April 6... ..Julie DeLucia

April 7Timothy Cencer
...Caroline Lange

April 10Edward Sterling

*The Altar Flowers:
The Easter Lilies
were donated by
Parishioners*

**ABOUT CEMETERY DECORATIONS**

With spring arriving, the St. Mary Cemetery Board asks parishioners to kindly remove all winter decorations on graves **by April 15** for Spring Cleanup. Items remaining after that date will be discarded. Spring grave decorations may be placed on graves after May 2. Thank you. ❖

An Octave of Easter Reminder

Easter is not just a day but is celebrated for 50 days! Each day until Pentecost!! And the first week is called the Octave of Easter. Although there will be no weekday Masses celebrated **Mon. thru Wed., April 5-7**, we are encouraged to keep in our hearts and our prayers the Easter joy each day. The regular Mass schedule will resume with the morning Mass on **Thurs., April 8** at 8:30am.

Next week is Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11

“For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world”! Although a relatively new gift to the faithful through our Holy Catholic Church, St. Faustina’s diary and the understanding of Divine Mercy that she received from Jesus and shares with us is precious indeed. The second Sunday of Easter (this year **Sun., April 11**) is declared by the Church to be Divine Mercy Sunday. And like many other parishes, we here at St. Mary’s will have a special observance: **Sunday afternoon at 1pm**, led by Dcn. Dennis. Perhaps you began praying the Divine Mercy novena on Good Friday... Perhaps you pray the Chaplet daily at 3pm... Or perhaps you know little to nothing at all about Divine Mercy. Come learn and experience this great feast day! “I shall sing forever the Lord’s mercy” (Ps 89).

Mid-life Singles

Are you looking for a renewed sense of connection and purpose since the covid shut-downs? Register today for a *REFLECT Day of Reflection* at the St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, MI (10 miles north of Lansing), on **April 10**. Take a chance and get involved... you won’t regret it! Cost is \$45 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, or email reflect.michigan@gmail.com, or call (586) 770-1772 for details.

Good Friday & Holy Thursday & Rice Bowl Collections

If you missed the opportunity to donate to the annual *Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land* or the *Holy Thursday Collection to replenish the parish Poor Box Funds*, it is not too late. Simply put your donation in a plain envelope and put it in the collection basket or get it to the parish office. Please note on the memo line either “Good Friday” or “Holy Thursday.” Thank you for your generosity. Also, *Rice Bowl Boxes* that most brought to the church on Palm Sunday, can still be returned. However, because of the nature of little boxes heavy with coins, we ask that you bring them to the parish office in the rectory, next door to the church. The funds are sent to the Diocese where the money from all the parishes are combined and sent to help the needy throughout the world.

Shout for Joy: Calling ALL Catholic Nurses and Catholic Healthcare Professionals!

Membership is now open, and you are invited to join the newly formed Diocese of Lansing, *Council of Catholic Nurses*. Open to ALL Catholic nurses – from student nurses through retired nurses and Catholic healthcare professionals. Council is an affiliate of the National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA. Council is under the spiritual direction of Fr. Tim Nelson and is an opportunity to come together the first Wednesday of every month in Jackson with a focus on nursing ethics, professional formation, and fellowship. An Inaugural Mass is planned for **Wed. May 5** (nurses’ week) at 6pm at St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish in Jackson, Michigan. For more information, please contact nurse Cynthia Thelen at CatholicNurses.MI@gmail.com

The SANCTUARY LAMPS are burning this week for the following intentions:

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- 1) For the repose of the soul of +Tom Kladzyk (*Marge Scully & family*)
- 2) For the repose of the soul of +Tom Burch (*K of C #4354*)

ST. MARY’S SUPPORT OF THE 2021 DSA

Our parish goal: **\$28,871**

As of March 23, **45** families have supported DSA with **\$15,165** (or **52.5%** of our goal!) **LET’S ALL DO OUR PART !**

Please Pray for...

- Dawn & David Gaylord
- Peter Patrick
- Joe Kirk
- Dianne Schwab
- Lynn Waldecker
- Jerry Kripas
- Michelle (niece of Laurie & Greg Sanders)
- Michelle Lazar
- Clara Peterson
- Christy Woody
- Annie (sister of Lynn Waldecker)
- Don Christian and his wife
- Patrick Muldoon
- Loretta Widmayer
- Eunice Scully
- Ed Z. (father of Therese Bossory)
- Bibian Sangster
- Melody Binker
- Joe Novak
- Luise Kienzle
- James Strong
- Paula Saft
- Leon Ball
- Bruce Sommers
- Duane Beuerle
- Joyce Stein
- Mary Ann Coval



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful men to minister as priests. Lord, we pray for Your grace to encourage and support our seminarians as they endeavor to become priests. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Diocese of Lansing Seminarian
Christian Stiles, St. Mary, Charlotte**



Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful women to become Brides of Christ and serve Your people. Lord, we pray that Your grace and love be enough for this woman in discernment of consecrated life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist
Sr. Faith Marie Woolsey**

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION: Sunday, March 21, 2021

<i>Sundg Env (64)</i>	\$ 4,764.00
<i>Welcome & Loose</i>	191.40
<i>Easter decorations (1)</i>	15.00
<i>E-Giving</i>	736.88
<i>Combined toward budget:</i>	\$ 5,707.28
<i>Budget goal:</i>	5,300.00
<i>Amt ABOVE goal:</i>	-\$ 407.28

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

<i>Bldg & Maint (6)</i>	\$ 255.00
<i>E-Giving Bldg & Maint</i>	221.00
<i>Cath Relief Serv (3)</i>	125.00
<i>Poor Box</i>	375.43
<i>Votive candles</i>	18.00

NEED HELP? ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION:
Call (800) 57WOMAN (800-579-6626) – OR – Text for Help: “HELPLINE” to 313131

Need Help? PROJECT RACHEL (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291, or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

NEED HELP? “COURAGE” is a Catholic spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. “ENCOURAGE” is a separate support group for families & friends. For info in the Diocese of Lansing, call 517-342-2596 or email caverart@comcast.net

NEED HELP? An “AA” group meets Fridays at 7:00pm at Emanuel Church, 324 W Main St. (next door to St Mary’s)



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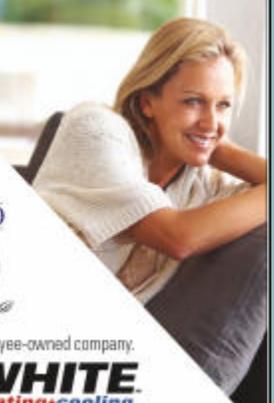
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