

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

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ♦ APRIL 18, 2021

“YOU ARE WITNESSES OF THESE THINGS”

— Fr. Bosco Padamattummal —

IT IS NOT ENOUGH THAT THE TOMB IS EMPTY. IT'S NOT ENOUGH to proclaim, “Christ is risen!” It's not enough to believe in the Resurrection. Experiencing resurrected life begins with recognizing the risen Christ among us. That is the gift of Easter, and it is also the difficulty and challenge described in today's gospel (Lk 24:35-48).

Cleopas and his companion are telling the other disciples how Jesus appeared to them on the road to Emmaus when Jesus, again, shows up out of nowhere, interrupting their conversation. “Peace be with you,” he says. They see him, they hear his voice, but they don't recognize him. They “thought that they were seeing a ghost.” They know Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried. They know dead men don't come back to life. This can only be a ghost, a spirit without a body. The tomb is open, but their minds are closed.

They are unable to recognize the holiness that stands among them. They are continuing to live, think, and understand in the usual human categories. They have separated spirit and matter, divinity and humanity, heaven and earth. Whenever we make that separation, we close our minds, we deny ourselves the resurrected life for which Christ died, and we lose our sense of and ability to recognize holiness in the world, in one another, and in ourselves.

With Jesus' resurrection, however, God shatters human categories of who God is, where God's life and energy are to be found, and how God works in this world. Resurrected life can never be comprehended, contained, or controlled by human thought or understanding. Jesus' resurrection compels us to step outside our usual human understandings of reality and enter into the divine reality.

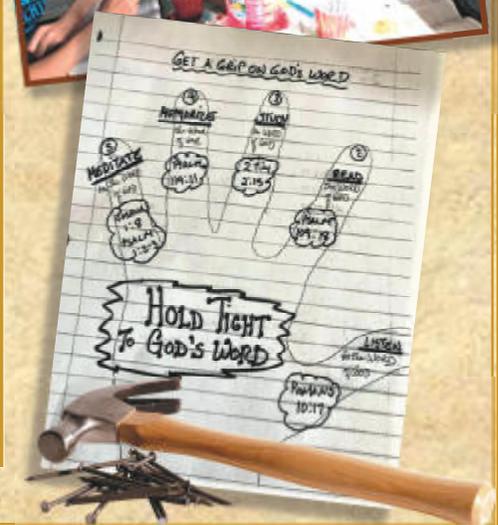
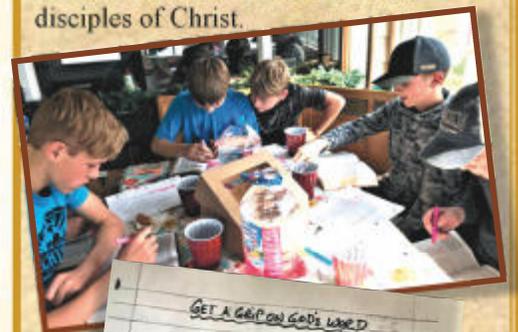
That new reality begins with touching and seeing, flesh and bones, hands and feet, and broiled fish. Jesus said to his disciples, “Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” Then “he showed them his hands and his feet.” After this he ate a piece of broiled fish in their presence.

— continued on p. 2



Getting a Grip on God's Word

The Confirmation class and some of their friends decided to “go extra” and begin a Bible Study! They met soon after Easter with their teacher Lynn Waldecker who provided each with a study Bible and markers for them to read, discover, and highlight just what God is saying to us. They are **BUILDING THE FOUNDATION** for their lives as disciples of Christ.



St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ❖ April 17-25, 2021
 Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:
"You are witnesses of these things"

SAT. APRIL 17 *Easter Weekday*

Acts 6:1-7 • Jn 6:16-21 3:30-4:30pm Confession
 ➤ **5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the Third Sunday of Easter: For the People**

SUN. APRIL 18 *The Third Sunday of Easter*

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
 1 Jn 2:1-5a ➤ **8:30am MASS: † Eddie Walz**
 Lk 24:35-48 [Norman & Laura Childs]
 ➤ **10:30am MASS: † Jerry Damian**
 [Claudia Damian]

MON. APRIL 19 *Easter Weekday*

Acts 6:8-15 3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed classes / PC
 Jn 6:22-29 ➤ **No MASS today in Manchester**

TUES. APRIL 20 *Easter Weekday*

Acts 7:51-8:1a ➤ **No MASS today in Manchester**
 Jn 6:30-35

WED. APRIL 21 *Easter Weekday*

(opt. mem. St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church)
 Acts 8:1b-8 ➤ **No MASS today in Manchester**
 Jn 6:35-40

THUR. APRIL 22 *Easter Weekday*

Acts 8:26-40 ➤ **8:30am MASS: † Eddie Walz**
 Jn 6:44-51 [Ruth Burch & Family]

FRI. APRIL 23 *Easter Weekday (opt. mem. St. George, Martyr)*

(opt. mem/ St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr)
 Acts 9:1-20 ➤ **8:30am MASS: † Dick Krzyzaniak**
 Jn 6:52-59 [His loving wife Shirley Krzyzaniak]

SAT. APRIL 24 *Easter Weekday*

(opt. mem. St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr)
 Acts 9:31-42 • Jn 6:60-69 3:30-4:30pm Confession
 ➤ **5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the Fourth Sunday of Easter: For the People**

SUN. APRIL 25 *The Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 4:8-12 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
 1 Jn 3:1-2 ➤ **8:30am MASS: † Mabel Millenbach**
 Jn 10:11-18 [The Achtenberg Family]
 ➤ **10:30am MASS: † Martin Brogley, Sr.**
 (Martin Brogley's Dad)
 [Bill & Astrida Panches] ■

Flesh and bones, hands and feet, and broiled fish are the things of creation, the natural order. Mary, a woman created by God, gave Jesus his flesh and bones and his hands and feet. She also gave him the stomach that would eat the fish God created. The very same flesh and bones, the very same hands and feet, appeared to Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus and then "vanished from their sight" (Luke 24:31), and now show up unannounced and unexpected in the midst of their conversation with others. In last week's gospel, Jesus' hands and feet, his flesh and bones, passed through walls and locked doors.

The resurrected life of Christ, it seems, is revealed in and through the created order. It is not, however, bound by the created order. Rather, the resurrected body and life of Christ unite the visible and invisible, matter and spirit, humanity and divinity. On the one hand Jesus has a real body. On the other hand, it is not subject to the natural laws of time and space. It's not one or the other. It's both. It is a new and different reality.

The resurrected life of Christ reveals that all creation and every one of us are filled with God, holiness, divinity. Nothing can bind or supersede the grace that is given us through resurrection: unconditional love, unconditional forgiveness, unconditional life. That is, I think, one of the most difficult things for us to see, believe, and live into. It is, however, the divine reality into which we are invited, not at some future time and place but here and now.

Christ our God longs and desires to open our minds to understand the scriptures, to understand all that has been written, spoken, and revealed about him in whatever form that happens and has happened. That's what Jesus did for the disciples, and it's what he does for us. This is not an academic or intellectual understanding. That the disciples are witnesses does not mean they now have all the answers. It means they now have the life Jesus wants to give them. They are witnesses based not on what they know, but on who they are, how they live, and their relationship with the risen Christ.

Dear brothers and sisters, let's not put this text behind us. It is much too easy to come here each Sunday, listen to the gospel, hear – for better or worse – whatever I have to say, and then return to life as usual. But let us carry this text of today's gospel with you, let it open your eyes, your heart, and your mind to the life Christ is offering you. Let it be the voice of Christ opening your mind to understand. "You are witnesses of these things," he says to us. Tell it. Live it. Become it. The resurrected life is yours. †

Birthday Blessings!

April 18..... Tina Doyle

April 19..... Leon Ball

April 20..... Kate Pohn

April 22..... Jayne Long
 ...Maxwell Miller

April 23..... Marjorie Scully

April 24 Lorri McConnell
 ...Bill Shurtliff

Altar Flowers
 APRIL 18, 2021

+ Edward & +Jennie Zielinski

[Gina Jennings]

Please Pray for...

- Don Christian
- Fr. Mathias Thelen
- Mark
- Susie (from the Flower Garden)
- Brent Schrieber
- Scott Sangster
- Dawn & David Gaylord
- Joe Kirk
- Dianne Schwab
- Jerry Kripas
- Christy Woody
- Michelle Lazar
- Michelle (niece of Laurie & Greg Sanders)
- Annie (sister of Lynn Waldecker)
- Don Christian and his wife
- Patrick Muldoon
- Loretta Widmayer
- Ed Z. (father of Therese Bossory)
- Bibian Sangster
- Melody Binkerd
- Joe Novak

...and for the repose of the soul of
 † Veronica Martin

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.

The Council is an affiliate of the National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA. Our 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 ■

A follow-up about our Parish Easter Food Gifts

On behalf of the families in our community who received the Easter Food bags with donations from our parishioners, and on behalf of Manchester Family Services who distributed the food bags, our parish coordinator Marja Warner shares the following: "A big THANK YOU to all of you who so generously donated food for the Easter Food Bags. All of the families who received them are very grateful."

A meaningful suggestion related to DSA

Our parish continues toward its goal of reaching the target amount (\$28,871) which the Diocese has set for us for this year's DSA. But we still have a distance to go. Please consider this suggestion offered by one of the priests in our Diocese, a suggestion for everyone in every parish:

"Many families have received a stimulus payment from the federal government to combat the economic fallout of the pandemic. For those who have not experienced financial stress, it presents an opportunity to steward their resources, sharing a greater portion for the good of others.

"If you are able to do so, please consider support of the Church's vital work across our diocese. In doing so, *'you will be storing up a goodly treasure for yourself against the day of adversity'* (Tobit 4:9). As Jesus Christ himself taught: *"Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure packed together and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you"* (Luke 6:38)."

If you have not already done so, please make your 2021 DSA gift commitment today. There are envelopes in the vestibule. Thank you!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

Ever thought about making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, but can't seem to find the time? The "3 RE" (Restore Rekindle, Renew) is all the content of a weekend presented in weekly sessions over a 7-week period. This spring, grow your marriage and your faith by attending the Virtual 3RE! Apply today at wwme.org and put Michigan in the search bar. For questions, contact Terry & Cathy Hirsch at 888-322-9963.

Talk on Saint Joseph at Pious Union

During this "Year of St. Joseph," the Pious Union of St. Joseph in Grass Lake has scheduled a series of talks on St. Joseph, each month. This month's talk is this **Sunday, April 18** at 6pm. Come in-person or watch live on Facebook (PiousUnion/ShrineofStJoseph) or the Shrine website (www.PiousUnionOfStJoseph.org). For more info, call 517-522-8017. *O most blessed Patriarch, glorious St. Joseph, who was chosen to be the foster father of the Word made flesh and the chaste spouse of Mary, pray for us.*

Looking to spark the faith of your children or grandchildren?

Check out Camp Sancta Maria in Gaylord, Michigan – a Catholic camp that provides fun experiences in a technology-free zone (they won't even miss their cell phones!) while immersed in a faith-filled environment. Separate camping experiences for boys and girls that include daily Mass, horseback riding, swimming, archery, various sports, high and low ropes, campfires, crafts and more. For more info or to learn about our Covid-19 safety protocols, call or visit www.CampSanctaMaria.org or (248) 822-8199.

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

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- 1) For the repose of the soul of +Lillian Kelly
(Jim & Marja Warner)
- 2) In memory of +Tom Burch
(Inge & Pete Roncoli)

If you would like to lead the Holy Rosary on a Sunday before Mass in May, please contact Marja Warner at 734-428-9506.

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT OF THE 2021 DSA

Our parish goal: \$28,871

As of April 6, **54** families have supported DSA with **\$16,490** (or 74.6% of our goal!) **LET'S ALL DO OUR PART!**

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, March 28, 2021

Sunday Env (55)	\$ 4,159.00
Welcome & Loose	150.00
Easter (2)	50.00
Easter decorations (2)	50.00
Utility & Energy (1)	20.00
E-Giving	565.98
Combined toward budget: \$ 4,994.98	
Budget goal:	5,300.00
Amt BELOW goal:	- \$ 305.02

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Bldg & Maint (6)	\$ 170.00
Black & Indian (1)	10.00
Cath Relief Serv (2)	110.00
E-Giving Cath Relief Serv (1)	25.00
Worldwide Evang (1)	10.00
Poor Box	244.75
Votive candles	117.00

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, April 4, 2021

Sunday Env (50)	\$ 6,702.02
Welcome & Loose	293.41
Easter (36)	2,380.00
E-Giving	606.93
Combined toward budget: \$ 9,982.36	
Budget goal:	5,300.00
Amt ABOVE goal:	+ \$ 4,682.36

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Bldg & Maint (10)	\$ 395.00
E-Giving Bldg & Maint (1)	100.00
Cath Relief Serv (1)	6.00
Holy Thursday/Poor box (21)	1,844.00
Good Friday/Holy Land (11)	395.00
Poor Box	395.00
Votive candles	4.00

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
Brandon Amburn, Church of the Resurrection, Lansing



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.

Daughters of St. Paul
Sr. Danielle Victoria Lussier

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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