

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Roman Catholic Church



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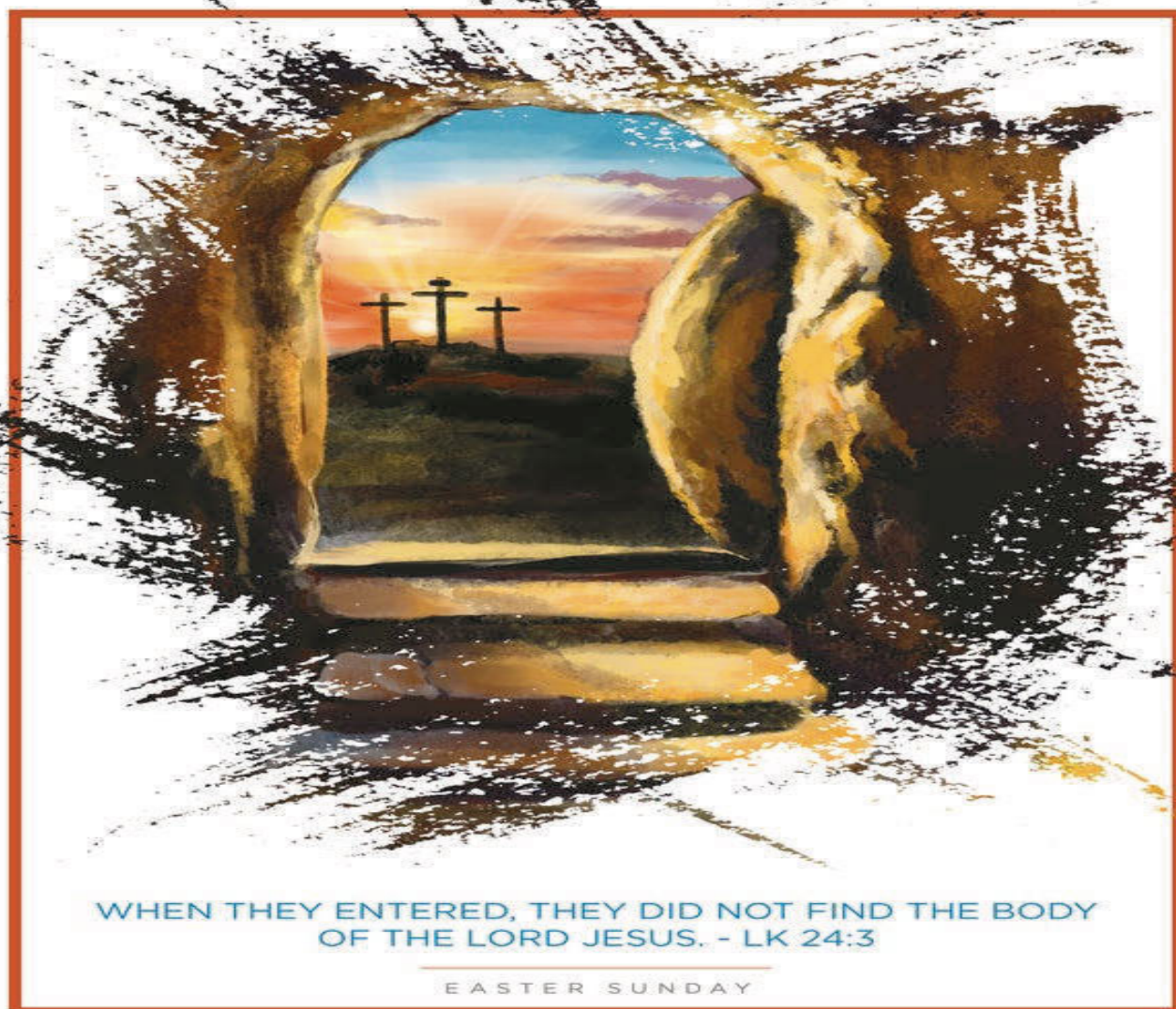
Pastor: Rev. Eric Peters **Associate Pastor:** Rev. George P. Varkey

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Melvin Dunphy

STA Early Childhood Center: 376-2330; Bishop Larkin Catholic School (K-8): 862-6981

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School: 857-2600

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - April 17, 2022



WHEN THEY ENTERED, THEY DID NOT FIND THE BODY
OF THE LORD JESUS. - LK 24:3

EASTER SUNDAY

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Learning, Living and Sharing the Good News



AN EASTER MESSAGE from FATHER ERIC

I think one of the more interesting things in the Easter Vigil is the “Exultet.” It’s probably one of the most beautiful hymns ever written, and tradition has it that it comes from St. Augustine. But whoever wrote it, they began the hymn very theologically, but about halfway through, it just collapses into an ecstasy and begins to say things only a mystic could say like, “o happy sin.”

Now, if you’re a theologian, you would never write something like that because you’d probably be censured! But that is something that a mystic might write. So, if you’re a mystic, you could get away with that because you’re looking at what comes out of it. For example, it says, “o happy sin, o necessary sin of Adam” that gave us such a great and Blessed Redeemer!

And this is the kind of thing that a mystic says, where you’d look at the resurrection of Jesus and think, “would this have happened if we hadn’t sinned? And would Jesus still have died for us and risen from the dead?”

And what the Exultet is saying is that if God’s great work of Redemption would *not* have happened if we hadn’t sinned, then thank God we sinned! (and that’s basically what the hymn says!) Now, we all know that there is nothing good about sin in itself, but the fact that we sinned, *and* the fact that God still chose to redeem us, we discovered that God loved us enough to go into sin after us, just like the good shepherd in pursuit of the lost sheep. But if we never sinned, we would never have known just how much He loves us.

But the fact that we sinned, and the fact that God did not give up on us and sent His Son to redeem us from our sins by the Passion, Death and Resurrection shows beyond a shadow of a doubt the depth of God’s love for us, that while we were yet sinners, Jesus Christ died and rose to life for us!

So, the Exultet in a special way touches on the heart of the Easter Vigil ceremony, which is the mystery of the Cross and God’s great love for us and the fact that God sent his Son into this world to bring good out of evil and to bring life out of sin and death.

On behalf of Father George, Deacon Mel and the entire parish staff, I’d like to assure you of our prayers for you and your loved ones as you celebrate God’s great love for us in this beautiful Easter Season! In His love, Fr. Eric

Parish Calendar

Mon. 04/18	Parish Office Closed
Tues. 04/19	9AM Rosary Makers; 6:30PM Catholic Daughters Mtg; 6:45PM Boy Scouts
Wed. 04/20	9:15AM Legion of Mary; 10AM SVDP Meeting, 5:15PM FF K-5; 5:15PM Edge 6-8
Thurs. 04/21	10AM Prayer Shawl Ministry; 3PM Benediction/Adoration; 6PM Girl Scouts; 6PM Life Teen Core Team Mtg; 7PM Bible Study; 7PM KoC Social;
Fri. 04/22	9AM Spiritual Motherhood of Priests Apostolate
Sat. 04/23	
Sun. 04/24	9AM FF Sessions; 6:15PM Life Night

Readings for the Week of April 17, 2022

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or 41/Lk 24:1-12
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-11/Mt
28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20 and 22/Jn 20:11-
18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-4, 6-9/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5-9/Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-27a/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15b, 16-21/
Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/
Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31

Weekend Readings are at (727) 372-8600

Mass Intentions (for the week ahead)

Monday	8:00 a.m.	Walter Betz and Dorothy & Charles Sutton
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Beatrice Zamborsky
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Vocations
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Tracy Lee Hines
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Louis Annunziata
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Eugene Heiter
	6:00 p.m.	Bob Apone
Sunday	7:00 a.m.	Leith & Nanette Novio
	8:30 a.m.	Blanche Patterson
	10:30 a.m.	Parish Family
	5:00 p.m.	Larry Schubert

Parish Information

Office hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.
Call for information.
Phone: (727) 372-8600
Website: www.stanpr.org
Prayer Line: (727) 372-8600
Emergency Number for Anointing of the Sick:
Nights and Weekends (727) 836-3211

Administration

Business Office Fax: (727) 376-7204
Asst. to Pastor/Staff Coordinator:
Cheralyn Quevedo - Ext. 111
Parish Bookkeeper: Cherise Amundson - Ext. 115
Bulletin Editor: Kate - Ext. 113

Parish Ministry

Faith Formation K-5: Jessica McIlveen - Ext. 132
Middle School (Edge) and High School (Life Teen):
Beth DeBella and Cliff Stodden – Ext. 131
Adult Formation: Michaela Meyers - Ext. 133
Admin. Asst: Meghan Snyder - Ext. 112
Music: Dan O'Hara - Ext. 128
Parish Nurse, Ministry to the Sick & Homebound:
Betty West - Ext. 116
Sacristan: Elizabeth Sheridan - Ext. 129
St. Vincent de Paul Society: Ext. 142
Ambassador: Mary Ellen Taylor
Coordinator of Ushers: Ada DeFina

STA Early Childhood Center

Alicia Mumma, Director – (727) 376-2330
www.staecc.org

Food Pantry: Monday *and* Thursday
9:30am until 11:00am *and* 1:30pm until 3:00pm

Gift Store: *Open before and after Sat. 4pm
and Sun. 10:30am Masses*

Parish Library: Open during office hours.

Eucharist Ministers Needed

*for Nursing Homes, the Homebound,
and Hospital
We can schedule according to your
availability.*

*If interested, contact
Betty West, Parish Nurse,
at 727-372-8600, ext. 116*

EASTER SEASON DINNER-DANCE PARTY!

I'm happy to announce that we will have an Easter Season dinner-dance on Friday, May 6th in our parish center. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, catered by Arlisa's Events and with music provided by my band, it promises to be a lovely evening, and I do hope you will make plans now to join us!

It's interesting to notice how often in scripture that God tells His people to celebrate and "make merry before the Lord!" (e.g. Deuteronomy 12:12), and in Ecclesiastes, we're told, "there's a time to weep, and a time to *laugh*, a time to mourn and a time to *dance*," and the Easter season is as good a time as any to laugh and to dance as we continue to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with this dinner-dance party! Please see next page for more details.

In His love, Fr. Eric

**Mass and Devotions Schedule**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm and 6 pm

Sunday: 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:30 am (*Contemporary*), and 5:00 pm (*LifeTeen™*)

Daily Mass: 8:00 am Monday-Friday

Prayer Group: The 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month starting Sept. 13th and ending May 23rd.

Holy Rosary after 8:00 am Mass, Mon-Fri, in Church

Marian Novena after 8:00 am Mass on Tuesdays

Benediction & Adoration: Thursdays at 3:00 pm until 6:45 pm

Reconciliation: Saturday 2:30-3:30 pm or by appt.

Knight's Korner**Knights of Columbus Council #11497****Our Mission Statement**

As Knights, associated with Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in New Port Richey, Florida, we strive to humbly serve our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ; guided by His Word and teachings, inspired by our patron, Saint Thomas Aquinas, to Learn, Live, and Share the "Good News" through valiant acts of Charity, delivered in Unity, backed by a Fraternal commitment to each other as an order, to our Parish family and her neighboring communities, and to the nation we Patriotically stand to respect and protect. Vivat Jesus!

Did you know that you can become a Knight's of Columbus eMember right now by going to KofC.org and pressing Join Us? Be sure to select Council 11497 and we do the rest!

- **Membership Meetings are every First Thursday of the month and Social Meetings are every Third Thursday of the month (unless announced otherwise)**

Further questions contact our Grand Knight Larry C. Alaimo at 813-297-9968 or email to: lcalaimo@yahoo.com

You are cordially invited to join us for our

Easter Season DINNER- DANCE

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center
8320 Old County Road 54 | New Port Richey FL

Friday, May 6th, 2022
6:00pm - 9:30pm
(doors open at 5:30pm)

Featuring Live Entertainment by the

Father Eric Band

this hot combo lays down a good mix of songs from r-and-b to latin to funk to beautiful ballads for your listening and dancing pleasure!

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Arlisa's Events

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and can be purchased at the parish office on weekdays starting April 19th and in the narthex of the church on the weekends starting April 23rd with half of the proceeds going to our parish youth groups and the other half going to the special charities of the Knights.

Sponsored by our wonderful
Knights of Columbus

Altar Server Training Session for Aspiring Youth Servers!

Sunday, May 15 at noon
in the church

If you are a young person who has
received First Holy Communion,
you are eligible!
Come and join us!

For details, contact Liz Sheridan at x129 or
elizabeth@stanpr.org

Catholic Daughters Meeting

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Ct. St. Vincent de Paul are meeting at the Parish Center of St. Thomas Aquinas at 6:30 PM on April 19th for their monthly meeting. Please be there by 6:15 PM.

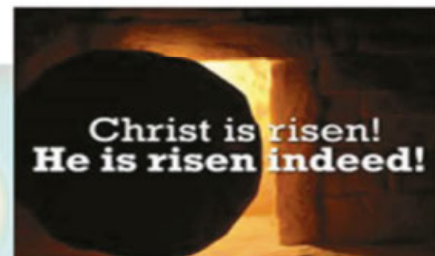
If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Linda Bergeron at 727-203-3498.

Looking forward to seeing you!

PASCHAL GREETING

He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

We're not sure where the custom comes from, but since the earliest times Christians have practiced the Paschal Greeting. One person calls out, "He is risen!" The other responds, "He is risen, indeed!"



- ✦ Started Eastern Church, but now common throughout Christianity.
- ✦ What the two disciples told the Apostles when they ran back from Emmaus (Lk 24:34)
- ✦ Mary Magdalene is thought to have exclaimed it when she met Emperor Tiberius in Rome. (compellingtruth.org)

From ewtn.com: In 1930, Russian Communist leader and Bolshevik Revolution participant Nikolai Ivanovich Bukharin gave a speech in Kiev on atheism over religion, criticizing Christianity. When he was finished, he turned the podium over to a priest. The priest complimented Bukharin on his speech, then simply said, "He is risen!" The crowd shouted back, "HE IS RISEN INDEED!"



STA Adult Faith Formation Coordinator
Michaela Meyers, michaela@stanpr.org, x133

HAPPY EASTER!

OUR CRS RICE BOWL JOURNEY HAS ENDED, BUT OUR PRAYERS, FASTING, AND ALMSGIVING CONTINUE AS WE SEEK A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OUR GLOBAL FAMILY. LET US HOLD IN OUR HEARTS OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN GUATEMALA, BANGLADESH, AND RWANDA AND COMMIT TO SHARE OUR EASTER JOY WITH THOSE IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND AROUND THE WORLD. DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR CRS RICE BOWL IN THE NARTHEX ON APRIL 23/24 OR DONATE ONLINE AT CRSRICEBOWL.ORG/GIVE

The Spiritual Motherhood of Priests Apostolate invite you to pray for the Priests and Seminarians of our Diocese. Please remember to pray for all of our Priests. Below are the names for the week.

O Jesus, eternal Priest, keep your priests within the shelter of Your Sacred Heart, where none may touch them. Keep unstained their anointed hands, which daily touch Your Sacred Body.

Keep unsullied their lips, daily purpled with your Precious Blood.

Keep pure and unearthly their hearts, sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood.

Let Your holy love surround them and shield them from the world's contagion.

Bless their labors with abundant fruit and may the souls to whom they minister be their joy and consolation here and in heaven their beautiful and everlasting crown. Amen.

4/17 Easter

4/18 Rev. Garry A. Welsh

4/19 Rev. Msgr. Robert F. Morris

4/20 For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life

4/21 Shawn Young, Seminarian

4/22 Rev. Jonathan Stephanz

4/23 Rev. Agustinus Seran, SVD



"You are a Priest forever,
in the line of Melchizedek."

-Psalm 110:4

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