From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

The feast of Easter is celebrating Jesus' victory over death and mankind's hope for eternal life. This feast gives us the new hope of our own Resurrection at the end of times and at the same time keeps us one with the living Christ who will be always with us. The Resurrection is the greatest of the miracles; it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain (I Cor 15:14). If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then the Church is a fraud and faith is a sham. But if Jesus really did rise from the dead, his message is true! Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained forever a good person who had met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings, and a handful of people might try to live according to them. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. "Jesus is Lord; He is risen!" (Rom 10:9) was the central theme of the preaching of the apostles.

Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection. Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: "I am the Resurrection and the Life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he dies" (Jn 11:25-26). Christ will raise us up on the last day, but it is also true, in a sense, that we have already risen with Christ. By virtue of the Holy Spirit, our Christian life is already a participation in the death and Resurrection of Christ.

I wish you all a very happy Easter.

May the risen Lord bless you all with His spirit.

God bless you!

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION:

"Then he (Joseph of Arimathia) rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed. But Mary Magdalene and the other Mary remained sitting there, facing the tomb." That scene of the women sitting there is one of deep sadness and disbelief that their friend, Jesus, was dead. However, "On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. She went to tell the disciples and Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage." May we feel that joy of meeting Jesus this Easter. May our hearts be alive in belief that life conquers death. He has risen! Have faith in Him...and He will always be there for you.

Have a Blessed and Happy Easter!

+++ **Classes: Wednesday, April 19th**

Gilman: Grades K - 6: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m

Grades 7 - 10: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Sheldon: Grades K - 10: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

+**First Holy Communion** will be celebrated **Sunday, April 23rd** in Gilman and Sheldon. The First Communicants in Gilman are: Logan Halida, Lucas Halida, Conner Nichols, Kaydon Horecek, Beau Pockat, Henry Syryczuk, Rilla Syryczuk, Addison Vick, Brock Webster, and James Wojcik. In Sheldon: Brock Dachel, Gavin Evjen and Violet Kopacz.

Sister Marianna

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul

Adult Envelopes	$ 1,224.00
Loose	1 99.00
Total	1 ,423.00
Total from April 10, 2016	1 ,041.00
Building Fund	1 75.00
World Concerns	5 .00
Easter Flowers	2 0.00

St. Stanislaus

Adult Envelopes	$ 510.00
Loose	6 5.00
Total	5 75.00
Total from April 10, 2016	5 15.00
Building Fund	2 0.00
Energy	1 00.00

St. John

Adult Envelopes	$ 1,188.50
Loose	1 04.00
Total	1 ,292.50
Total from April 10, 2016	1 ,051.00
Building Fund	4 5.00

St. Michael

Adult Envelopes	$ 228.00
Loose	8 5.00
Total	3 13.00
Total from April 10, 2016	2 42.00
World Concerns	5 0.00
Building Fund	1 72.00

(***Totals include only the basic collection***)

2016/2017 Catholic Services Appeal

	Assessment	Amount Paid	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul -	**$ 11,078.00**	**8,090.00**	**$2,988.00**
St. John -	**$ 8,374.00**	**5,820.00**	**$2,554.00**
St. Stanislaus -	**$ 5,461.00**	**4,640.00**	**$ 821.00**
St. Michael -	**$ 2,323.00**	**2,323.00**	**Paid in Full**

****

The **American Red Cross Bloodmobile** will be at the Fire Hall in Thorp on Tuesday, April 18 from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
Help Save Lives - Give Blood!

****

Vacation/Retreat MARIAPOLIS 2017 : Come join us for the Focolare/Work of Mary Movement annual FAMILY RETREAT on the shores of beautiful Green Lake, WI from June 29 - July 2nd. Register by May 4th at http://www.midwestmariapolis.org
Visit www.focolare.org for more information.

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

GILMAN CORNER STORE
447-8376
GAS - POP - BEER - BULK FOODS
SNACKS - MOVIES - LOTTERY
OPEN 7:00 A.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
7 DAYS A WEEK