

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

The feast of Easter is the celebration Jesus' victory over death and mankind's hope for eternal life. This feast gives us the hope of our own Resurrection and at the same time keeps us united with the living Christ who has promised to be with us. St. Paul tells us that if Jesus is not risen from the dead, our faith be in vain. In the Gospel of the day, Mary Magdalene is asked to go and proclaim the Resurrection to all. To the Disciples, the Resurrection of Jesus was something new and unexpected. It was a total transformation and it gave them a new vision of life. They had been witnesses of his suffering and death and during that time they had remained hidden out of fear. Their hope in Jesus was shattered. The resurrection brought about a complete turn around and they began boldly to proclaim that Jesus, who died on the Cross, was alive. Later, when they were arrested, persecuted and imprisoned, they rejoiced as they were now even more closely related to the life experience of their Lord through his resurrection. The Acts of the Apostles tell us that they were courageous and were ready to suffer for his sake. The Easter Sunday was a total reversal of the image of Good Friday. His death which seemed to be a defeat before the world is now shown as a triumph, a victory over death. His dying on the cross in reality was a passage to new life. For Jesus, his death was a fulfillment of his Father's will as he accepted it in total obedience that led to his victory.

Today on Easter Sunday, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus reminds us that we have the same mission as Peter and Mary Magdalene and the other disciples of Jesus. This requires as the first reading of today tells us that we need a radical conversion, a radical change on our part. Peter emphasizes the importance of Jesus' disciples not only experiencing and enjoying the joy of their Risen Master and Lord but also of sharing that experience and joy with as many people as possible. "He has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed Jesus to judge everyone, alive or dead, that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name." On this Easter Sunday Jesus calls us to be his messengers of peace. We pray that this peace will remain in our hearts always to make us his messengers in the world of today. The celebration of Easter is a call for us to change – and perhaps change radically – as Jesus' own disciples changed. I wish you all a very happy and joyful Easter!

God Bless You!

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CCD - Catholic Christian Disciples

There are many beautiful prayers at this Lenten and Easter season. We pray "God of compassion, we mourn the death of your Son who learned obedience by submitting to suffering. As we celebrate the victory of the cross, enable us to embrace the pain in our own lives that we might be transformed into sources of life for this fragile, aching world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen." From Pope Francis, we reflect on his message on Good Friday: How beautiful it will be when we all, at the end of our lives, with our errors and our faults, as well as our good deeds and our love of neighbor, can say to the Father as Jesus did: "It is finished."

+Classes: Wednesday - April 4th (1st Communion practice at 4:30 p.m.)

Gilman: Grades K - 5: 3:40 - 5:00 p.m.

Grades 6 -11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Sheldon: Grades K-11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

+We remind parents whose last name is between O-Z to bring refreshments to celebrate after Mass.

+Next Sunday, April 8th our seven candidates for Confirmation along with their sponsors and four visiting candidates and sponsors will make a day long retreat from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at St. John's. Conducted by Sr. Julia Walsh, FSPA, she comes to us from the Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center near Minocqua. May we keep these young people in your prayers.

+ Happy and Blessed Easter ! ~ Sr. Marianna

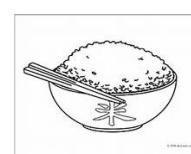
OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul		
Adult Envelopes	\$	1,033.00
Loose		1 14.00
Total		1,147.00
Total from March 26, 2017		1,056.00
Building Fund		6 0.00
Easter Flowers		4 0.00
Good Friday		2 0.00
St. Stanislaus		
Adult Envelopes	\$	561.00
Loose		7 5.00
Total		6 36.00
Total from March 26, 2017		6 07.00
Easter Flowers		1 5.00
World Concern		1 0.00
St. John		
Adult Envelopes	\$	607.00
Loose		1 32.00
Total		7 39.00
Total from March 26, 2017		783.22
Votives		3 2.50
St. Michael		
Adult Envelopes	\$	275.00
Loose		4 0.00
Total		3 15.00
Total from March 26, 2017		220.00
Easter		50.00

(Totals include only the basic collection)

2017/2018 Catholic Services Appeal

Contributor Status Report as of 3/26/18			
	Assessment	Received	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 11,179.00	\$ 8,225.00	\$ 2,954.00
St. John	\$ 8,721.00	\$ 4,840.00	\$ 3,881.00
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,249.00	\$ 2,790.00	\$ 2,459.00
St. Michael	\$ 2,509.00	\$ 2,302.00	\$ 207.00



Please return your Rice Bowls to church.
Thank you!

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Fire Hall in Thorp on Tuesday, April 10th from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Help Save Lives - Give Blood!

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

