

Jesus was born, lived a sinless life, suffered, died and rose from the dead so that you and I can choose eternal life with God.

ST. COLUMBAN

PARISH

EASTER SUNDAY – Resurrection of the Lord (A)

APRIL 16, 2017

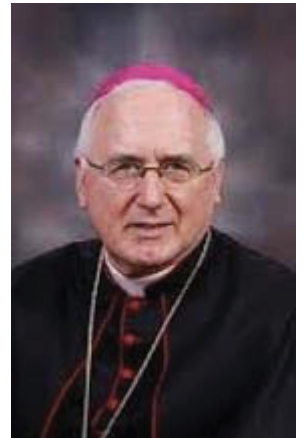
THE ARCHBISHOP'S EASTER MESSAGE 2017

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Our Easter celebration begins with a proclamation of joy: *"Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!"*

God's plan was to rescue people from sin, restoring them to divine friendship. This has taken place in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ! God has come to us in the Incarnate Son to give us hope of eternal life.

Our new life in Christ was proclaimed by the apostles to whom our Risen Lord appeared. Among the eyewitnesses was St. Peter, who said: *"God raised Jesus on the third day and allowed Him to appear... to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead"* (Acts 10.40-41).



The Church continues to repeat with amazement the apostles' message that Jesus, the Crucified One, is risen from the dead and remains with His people.

Risen and alive, Jesus comes to us in the Easter Sacrament of Holy Communion. Today in our churches, we recognize Him *"in the breaking of the bread"* (Luke 24.35).

"In the sacrament of the altar, the Lord meets us, men and women created in God's image and likeness (cf. Genesis 1.27) and becomes our companion along the way. In this sacrament, the Lord truly becomes food for us, to satisfy our hunger for truth and freedom" (Benedict XVI, *The Sacrament of Love*, #1-2)

This explains the importance of the Sunday Eucharist in feeding our spiritual life. Our faith is endangered when we lose the desire to share in the Eucharist and to experience at Mass the victory Christ has gained for us. This will be true no matter which form our life as Catholic Christians of Alexandria-Cornwall may take in the future.

Today, as we celebrate our victory with Christ, I invite you to renew your commitment to sharing in Sunday Mass—the little Easter—every Sunday without fail. This is the sure path to the holiness God wishes each of us to have.

May Our Blessed Mother Mary, whose joy in her Son's resurrection we salute in the Regina Caeli prayer, intercede for us and change us from timid souls to disciples of Jesus on fire with a desire to share the Good News with all around us.

God bless you and Happy Easter!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Terrence Prendergast, S.J." with a cross at the beginning.

✠ Terrence Prendergast, S.J.
Apostolic Administrator

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

IN OUR PARISH

Saturday, April 15 **Easter Vigil - Resurrection of the LORD**

Please Note: There will be no Confessions

8:00 p.m. Aldon, Kathleen & Leigh Landon by Janie, Joe & Family

Sunday, April 16th **Easter Sunday - Resurrection of the LORD**

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Parishioners

9:30 a.m. Ernie Filion by Wife Carolyn & Family

11:00 a.m. Luigi Lazzari by Keith & Mary Grant

Monday, April 17th **Easter Octave (S)**

7:30 a.m. No Mass

Tuesday, April 18th **Easter Octave (S)**

7:30 a.m. Louise Hoogsteen by Florence Gravelle

7:00 p.m. Confirmation

Wednesday, April 19th **Easter Octave (S)**

7:30 a.m. Maevis Ferency by Marion Tobin

7:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, April 20th **Easter Octave (S)**

7:00 p.m. Cheryl Tessier by Agnes McKissock

9:00 p.m. Bishop Macdonell School Mass

Friday, April 21st **Easter Octave (S)**

7:30 a.m. Barbara Parisien by Joe Parisien & Family

9:00 a.m. St. Columban School Mass

Saturday, April 22nd **Easter Octave (S)**

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Confessions

5:30 p.m. Marjorie Gravelle by Gail Wattie

Sunday, April 23rd **2nd Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy**

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Parishioners

9:30 a.m. Iola Parisien by Joe Parisien

11:00 a.m. Albert & Lillian Burnie by their Children

Monday, April 24th **2nd Week of Easter**

7:30 a.m. No Mass

TODAY'S READINGS – APRIL 16TH

1st Reading: Acts 10.34a, 37-43

2nd Reading: Colossians 3.1-4 or Corinthians 5.6b-8

Gospel: John 20.1-9 (short) or John 20.1-18

According to the Scripture: Jesus must rise from the dead.

MASS INTENTIONS

The Church offers us a wonderful way of bringing our intentions before the community so that we are not alone in our prayer. We can entrust a Mass intention for an individual, a group of individuals (for example, deceased family members) or a special prayer intention (for example, peace in the world). We welcome all those who would like to have a Mass or a number of Masses said for their intentions.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Our parish office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 17th.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY

Mr. Shawn Fisk

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP EASTER SUNDAY

Celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with your fellow parishioners today at the 4th St. Entrance. "Alleluia he is Risen"

VOCATIONS SUNDAY

Each diocese is responsible for promoting the call and formation of young men to serve as priests in the diocese. Being a priest is not a job, it is a calling. It is God who chooses and calls each person to their vocation. Having free will the person can accept the calling or reject it. A supportive family and parish can enable those who feel a calling the freedom to give it a chance. The call of God is also discerned by those around the candidates; including the Diocese and the Seminary. Please pray for those discerning a call to serve the Church in the priesthood or religious life. Also, pray for those involved in discernment that they be guided by the Holy Spirit. We thank you for supporting this year's Vocation's collection which will be the weekend of May 6 and 7.

READER & SACRISTAN NEEDED

We are looking for a new reader as well as a sacristan for the Saturday 5:30 p.m. Mass. If you are able, please seriously consider helping in one of these ministries. Your help is needed and will be appreciated. Many thanks. Potential readers may contact Sue at 613.938.0368 or sue.h@sympatico.ca and sacristans may call Liz at 613.938.5056.

St. Columban Collection Report for April 02, 2017

Sunday Envelopes	3769.65
Loose Collection	310.10
Initial Offering	5.00
Vocation Sunday	5.00
Development and Peace	2,200.00
Papal Charities	5.00
Votive Candles	304.90
Bookstore	189.05
Total	\$ 6,788.70

EASTER MESSAGE TO THE BELOVED PEOPLE OF GOD 2017

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Easter is an important celebration for Christians all over the world, when Jesus Christ resurrected from the dead. Easter Sunday is one of the most important events of Christian faith. It promises new hope, joy and aspirations. Easter Sunday also marks the end of the Lenten season (which starts from Ash Wednesday). During the Lenten season, fasting, spiritual discipline, alms giving, prayer and repentance are observed. At the end of Lenten season, there is always a celebration that marks that Jesus is risen from the dead. Easter is the completion of the mystery of God's love in Christ for us.

God so much loved the world that he sent his only begotten son, inviting us to believe and have eternal life. Rising again from the dead is a great mystery given alone to us by God. However, to enter into this mystery means the ability to wonder and to listen to the silence and to hear the tiny whisper amid great silence by which God speaks to us. Easter invites us to open up ourselves and to listen to God and see him speaking and accompanying every man, woman, and child with the offer of his love, redemption and eternal life.

We have been so conscious of a lot of things facing the world today, such as wars, hatred, terrorism, the suffering of the refugees and the burdens of many people through drug abuse and alcohol in the world. Yet God offers us another reality; that our hearts are made for God and they will only be happy when they rest in him as Saint Augustine said.

Today the great feast of Jesus rising from the dead is a new hope for all of us to live by the fact that God is near to us and also to adore and worship the God who comes to each and every one of us, to respond with hope and joyfully to the invitation, by which he gives us to live a new life, mindful always that here on earth we are on a pilgrimage and on a journey to where Jesus is calling us to be with him and with those we love in the destiny of heaven. Jesus is risen, He is the light of the world, Alleluia!

May your heart be filled with joy, as we receive another gift of life from Jesus Christ. Happy Easter!

Remain blessed,

Rev. Fr. Ernest Emeka Emeodi

Rev. Fr. Claude Halle, Guest Priest

Rev. Deacon Chris Chisholm & Members of the Parish Leadership Team

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (APRIL 23)

It is already 16 years ago that St. Pope John Paul established the Feast of Divine Mercy and canonized the little Polish nun, Faustina Kowalska who spent most of her short life drawing peoples' attention to the words told to her by Jesus Himself.

Jesus says: "I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls and especially for poor sinners....On that day I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment..... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Divine Mercy."

Professor Rozycki who prepared the formal analysis of St. Faustina's writings for her beatification states that "the exceptional grace of Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday is greater than the graces of the other sacraments, except Baptism."

On Sunday afternoon, April 23rd, we will celebrate the "Hour of Mercy" with special guests this year – Keith and Peggy Doucette from the JP II Centre of Divine Mercy - beginning at 3:00 p.m. until approximately 4:30 p.m. (See other details on posters at all of the Church doors.)

MISSION TRIP YARD SALE

The Cornwall Catholic Secondary Schools will be holding a Mission Trip Yard Sale Fundraiser on Saturday, April 29th in the school parking lot of St. Joseph's CSS from 8 am until 1 pm (will be held in the gym in case of rain). We are looking for any type of donations that you would have to help benefit our sale. Any items you would like to donate can be dropped off at the school during regular business hours (9 am to 3:30 pm). You can contact Gordie Van Putten, Chaplaincy Leader at 613-932-0349 x209 for more info. Thank you for your continued support.

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