

## EASTER SUNDAY

### **The Pastor's message - Why Easter Matters**

**"Jesus said, "It is finished."**

**Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." — John 19:30**

Now, if this is where our story stopped, we would not be living as people of the resurrection. We would be stunted at the crossroads, having no clue where to go and what to do. We would not know who we are or where we were going. But, thanks be to God, that is not where our story ends, that is just the beginning. God does something miraculous through Jesus Christ, so we are able to shout with joy-filled hearts on Easter Sunday, "CHRIST IS RISEN!"

**"He is not here; for he has been raised." — Matthew 28:6**

This is what we proclaim on Easter Sunday and every day following. Because of God's greatest promise, that he is not dead, but Christ lives! And through Christ's life, death and resurrection we are granted grace upon grace.

Today, we must be grateful because we are able to gather as a family to celebrate our Lord's resurrection, and that is the reason for our joy; a joy that has to become contagious, because it has to make us lose fear. It is a "contagion, which is transmitted from heart to heart, because every human heart awaits this Good News.

As a parish, in the midst of this Easter joy, I want to invite you so that this Easter celebration is reflected in our faith commitment, and in the increase of our love for the parish. Majority of our parishioners are returned to in-person masses and I am very happy about it, it is time to return to our spiritual home. It is time to begin to enjoy the sacramental life and to begin to invigorate pastoral activities. I think it is important to reflect on our baptismal commitment, that commitment must be reflected in active participation in parish ministries. We need more volunteers in all our ministries especially youngsters. We have to rise with the Lord and begin to strengthen our parish more and make our ministries flourish again. I invite everyone to congratulate our brothers and sisters in faith who received the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. It is a reason for joy because our spiritual family now has more members.

Personally, it was a difficult time for me due to my ill health. But it was also a time for me to understand how blessed I am and how beautiful our parish family is. I have no words to express my gratitude to all of you for your continuous prayers and kind support in many ways. I take this opportunity to thank all who have offered prayers and masses for me, visited me, called me or sent emails, texts, cards and notes to me during this journey. Your support and prayers (and your offer of food!) mean more to me than you will ever know.

May you and our faith family of St. Martin of Tours, along with all of our loved ones, have a most blessed and Happy Easter.



**Divine Mercy Feast Day – Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Holy Mass celebrated at 2:00pm followed by Benediction and Adoration

### **First Holy Communion Dates and Times**

#### **St. John XXIII Catholic Elementary Schools**

Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am

#### **St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School and Private & Public School Children**

Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 10:30 am

#### **St. Gerard and St. David of Wales Elementary Schools**

Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 2:00 pm

### **Confirmations, Rehearsals and Reconciliation**

#### **St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School & Private & Public School Students**

Rehearsals & Reconciliation – Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am  
Confirmation – Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm

#### **St. Jerome and St. John XXIII Catholic Elementary School**

Rehearsals & Reconciliation – Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am  
Confirmation – Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:00 pm

#### **St. Gerard & St. David of Wales Catholic Elementary School**

Rehearsals & Reconciliation – Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am  
Confirmation – Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm

## **Mighty Big Thanks!**

Thank you to all the ministries who made our Holy Week so meaningful and memorable. Especially to Mary & Altar Guild, Stephen, Micheline & Eucharistic Ministers, Mary Kim, Zita & Lectors, Ferdinand & Ushers, Esteban & Musicians, Jackie Dy and the altar servers, the Prayer Group, and RCIA. Special thanks to all who contributed to the altar flowers; to Luie D'Guerra for the beautiful and meaningful bulletins and thanks to Luis Gomes for looking after our website.

I want you all to know how much I appreciate your offers to help – it keeps us energized, feeling connected and grateful to our parish community!

Thank you so much!

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

 **Please Pray For All The Sick** 

Mary Fox, Victor Machado, Augusta D'Souza, Gregory Kelly, Kenneth Hill, Fred Weber, Miyanna Figueroa, Brian Cabral, Mariana Weglinski, and Aissa Aro.

And we pray for those whose death anniversaries occur about this time that they may live in glory forever with God and all the Saints.

 **Masses For The Week**

**9:00 am** Monday, April 10

*For the repose of the souls of Barbara Kwasek, Josef Piecarczyk & Wiesia Wisniewska;*

Requested by the Family

*For the repose of the soul of Leila Poranganel;*

Requested by the Family

*For the repose of the soul of Rosalie Ferrao;*

Requested by Lorensa and Ferrao Family

**8:30 am** Tuesday, April 11

*For the repose of the soul of Basil Thomas;*

Requested by the Thomas Family

*Special Intention for Jan;*

Requested by the Family

*Special Intentions and Anniversary Blessings for Suzette & Arnold Sauco;*

Requested by Bartolome Family

**8:30 am** Wednesday, April 12

*Special Intentions for Philip Ferrao;*

Requested by Lorensa & Family

*For the repose of the soul of Peofita Fernandez;*

Requested by the Fernandez Family

*Thanksgiving and Special Intentions for Rene Lacsina;*

Requested by Linda

**8:30 am** Thursday, April 13

*For the repose of the soul of Maureen Hurley;*

Requested by the Catholic Women's League

*Special Intentions and Healing for Jaxson Daly;*

Requested by the Daly Family

**8:30 am** Friday, April 14

*For the repose of the souls of Charlie & Carmen Portelli;*

Requested by Polly & George Grasso

*Special Intentions and Blessings for Van Lai & Family;*

Requested by the Lai Family

*For the repose of the souls of Leonard, Casimir & Bebiana Sequeira;*

Requested by the Sequeira Family

**9:00 am** Saturday, April 15

*For the repose of the soul of Robert Lopez;*

Requested by the Family

*For the repose of the soul of Peofita Fernandez;*

Requested by the Catholic Women's League

*For the repose of the soul of Sara Spizzirri;*

Requested by the Family

**5:00 pm**

*Special Intentions and Birthday Blessings for Anthony Alfonso;*

Requested by the Family

*For the repose of the souls of Peggy Singh & Grace Craen;*

Requested by Roland Singh and Family

*For the repose of the soul of Lucia Furtado Rodrigues;*

Requested by Norvinda Sousa

**8:00 am** Sunday, April 16

*For the repose of the souls of Diana Pereira & Kaz Kokosza;*

Requested by the Family

*For the repose of the souls of Julia & Victor Lipowicz;*

Requested by the Family

**10:00 am**

*For the Intentions of the Parishioners.*

**12:00 noon – Multiple Intentions**

+ *Manuel DeMenezes*

+ *Florentino Bartolome*

**The Catholic Women's League News**

Next weekend (April 15 & 16) the CWL will be selling religious items and gift items for **First Communion and Confirmation** at each mass.



**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults 2023**

It is with many prayers and obvious joy that the community of St. Martin of Tours welcomes those members fully initiated into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

Special thanks to Deacon Miguel Da Silva and the RCIA team for the great work they do for God.



*Thank you to everyone who generously donated to Last week's offering.*

**Offertory Total: \$8,828.55**