

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Easter Sunday

April 16, 2017



Dear parishioners,

Will we ever comprehend the significance of this day!? Jesus came to live with us. That's beyond expectation. But at the end of his life he took on humiliation, suffering, and death and then showed that he has power over all of them by rising from the dead. Jesus had raised Lazarus by his power as God. Now he rises himself to show that he has the power of God—he IS God!

If that were not enough, Jesus has shared his divine life with us and has promised to us the same power over evil and death that he has--perhaps not in every instance in this life but in the big picture of eternity. God doesn't save us from suffering or illness or death. He promises that there is something greater waiting for us.

I thought of this often last week as we prepared for Sue's funeral. The reason John and his family did not despair was because of faith and hope. They knew and trusted that all is well, terribly painful, but well for Sue. She is now in glory with God. And that's the promise for all of us.

St. Bonaventure tells us that God is a never-ending fountain of love. That's what we celebrate today: All the amazing love that God has for us and the hope-filled plan that he has for us.

Today is a day of joy and hope that touches our heart, our soul and our life! Let's celebrate it for the next fifty days!

Blessed, happy, and hope-filled Easter season! That's what we are called to bring to our world!

Sister Carol

Weekend Masses

Sat Apr 15	8:30 p.m.	The parish
Sun Apr 16	8:00 a.m.	The Murphy & Immele families
Sun Apr 16	10:00 a.m.	Jack & Lillian Weyer
Sat. Apr 22	4:00 p.m.	Jim Alt
Sun Apr 23	10:00 a.m.	Janet Maenle

Communion Services

Fri Apr 21 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,207.00	Loose	\$721.00
Children	\$38.91	Total	\$3,966.91

90 envelopes returned = 43%

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for April 22 & 23, 2017

Money Counters: Barb Galvan and Janet Begg

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Basil Meyer

Cantor: Dave Roby

Ushers: Hank and Carol Schroeder

Lector: Jenny Roby

E.M.: Bob Minto and Edna Conkling

Servers: Abigail Kettels and Kendal Giesige

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Basil Meyer

Greeter-West Door: Deb Buck

Cantor: Steve McCullough

Ushers: Jeanne and Jerry Wehri

Lectors: Lisa Welch and Jan Schulte

E.M.: Michelle Risner, Betty Gerten,

Tom Schulte and Linda Kinn

Servers: Alyson Kettels, Julia Mehaffie, and

Makayla Schweingruber

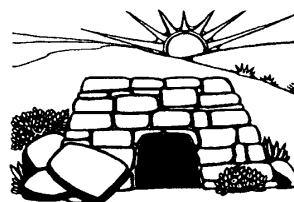
Readings for April 23, 2017

Divine Mercy Sunday

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31



He is Risen.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Happy Easter!

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Thank you to Courtney Gerten and Carol Schroeder for coordinating the Bake a Better World bake sale. **Thank you** to all who baked and bought! We made \$1475!!! **Thank you** to Edna Conkling and Jan Schulte for planning and coordinating the funeral luncheon for Sue. **Thank you** to Roger Brodman for again doing all the set-up. **Thank you** to the support crew and to all who prepared food. **Thank you** to all who helped with the liturgies of Holy Week. **Thank you** to the Liturgy Committee for decorating and un-decorating several times this week! Together this parish is amazing!

Pastoral Council nominations



We will soon be nominating some of our parishioners to be on our Pastoral Council. The Church considers the Pastoral Council so important that it mandates each parish to have one. The person(s) you nominate

must be faithful, practicing, in good standing with the Church—these requirements are for understanding and for example. They will serve for a term of three years. Please give this prayerful thought and please talk to the people you intend to nominate so that they are aware of your affirmation. The nominations will take place at the Masses on April 22 and 23. If you feel called to serve, you may nominate yourself.

Pray for the First Communicants as they prepare for the sacrament by making a retreat together on Saturday, April 22.



First Communion Candidates Sharing of Bread – The PREP second graders are getting ready for their First Holy Communion on April 30th. To help the children experience Christ's Love in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the 13 children will be presenting one loaf of bread to a congregant of their choosing sometime during the Masses on the weekends of April 1st, 8th and 15th.

There are some new books in the church library that may interest you:

Take Back Your Kids: Confident Parenting in Turbulent Times by William J. Doherty

Keep Your Kids Catholic: Sharing Your Faith and Making It Stick by Marc Cardaronella

Be DADitudes: 8 Ways to Be An Awesome Dad by Greg Popcak



3rd Annual

Join us for an evening of Fun and Fellowship.

Adult Turn-up Euchre Tournament

Saturday, April 29th

6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Bluffton, Social Hall

\$5/person entry fee. Sandwiches provided. Please bring a snack to share. BYOB! Singles & Couples welcome. Round-Robin play – rotating partners. Prizes to be awarded to top 3. Please sign up on counter in main entrance.

The Toledo Diocese Catholic Council of Women is sponsoring a Spiritual Day of Renewal at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey on Wednesday, May 10, from 9 am to 3 pm for all women. Elizabeth Ficocelli, author, speaker, and radio host will be presenting The Age of Mary: A Talk on Spiritual Warfare and Bleeding Hands, Weeping Stone. The day includes Liturgy, Marian Devotions, light breakfast and lunch. Pre-registration is required by April 28. Cost \$15. Contact Judy Warntz at 419 867-1227 or Susie Pinkham, Pastoral Center, 419 244-6711, Ext. 4929 to register.

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Class is Wednesday, April 19th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Also, there is First Communion rehearsal with parents.

Jr. High classes are finished and will resume in the fall.

God Squad: Travis will communicate with the youth group.

Lenten Rice bowls were due Wednesday, April 12, 2017. If you have not turned them in, please do so immediately.