



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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APRIL 1, 2018, EASTER SUNDAY

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday-Thursday - 5:40 pm - Holy Rosary
6:00 pm - Holy Mass

Friday - 3:00 pm - Quyana Care Center

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday - 4:30 pm - Confessions
5:00 pm - Holy Rosary
5:30 pm - Holy Mass

Sunday - 10:30 am - Holy Mass

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1). There's Religious Education on 8th next Sunday after 10:30am Mass.
- 2). We are always in need of Snow shovelers at church if you can help please do so.
- 3). We also have elders that need assistance to shovel the snow if you can help, please see Deacon Bob for details.
- 4). Please bring your Rice Bowls next week.
- 5). Thanks to all who participated in the Holy Week Services.
- 6). The Funeral for Jano Kralik is on 6th Friday at 2:00pm.

READERS AND EM'S

Lector

Eucharistic Minister

Sat 4/7 Gretchen Froehle

Sun 4/8 Kyle & Bernadette Pohl

EASTER MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CHAD

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Peace Be with You. And with Your Spirit! During my years as an Air Force chaplain, I was honored to serve with a chaplain who is an orthodox Jew. Some people no doubt found it odd to see a priest and rabbi carry on so well, but despite our theological differences, we had a deep mutual respect for each other. One day, the rabbi and I were chatting about Hebrew expressions in Sacred Scripture and the word "shalom" came up. Historically and even today, a Jewish person will greet another Jew with "Shalom!" and the recipient will respond, "And peace unto you!" (Notice the echo of this ancient greeting in the Mass.) The rabbi explained that when he says, "Shalom," he more fully means, "May the peace that is within me leap out of me and be present in you." The other person then accepts that gift of peace and confirms that he, too, desires that they live in peace together. I pondered this and realized how profound such a greeting is. I considered the many times in my daily routine when I quickly greet someone with, "Hi!," "How are you?," "How goes it?," "Have a great day!," or "Have a good one!" The polite words roll off my tongue sincerely, but they remain superficial as I usually say them en route to accomplishing the next three things on my to-do list. The next time I celebrated Mass, however, something had changed. As I prepared to greet the people with, "Peace be with you," I paused. I realized I sincerely wanted the peace within me at that moment to "jump out" and settle into the hearts of the men, women, and children before me in the pews. Recognizing that deep-rooted desire to share God's peace with others truly stirred my mind,

FAMILY CONNECTION TO THE GOSPEL

In today's Gospel, Mark reports the names of three women who go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. They are Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James. According to Mark, these are the same women who were among those watching Jesus' Crucifixion from a distance. Mark reports that these women were followers of Jesus in Galilee and that they ministered to him. Mark also reports that Mary Magdalene and Mary observed where Jesus' body was laid. After his death, these women come again to minister to Jesus.

Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of James, go to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. It is clear from Mark's report of their conversation that they had not worked out all the necessary details. They know that a very large stone was used to seal Jesus' tomb, but they do not know how they are going to remove it. When they arrive at the tomb, they find that the stone has already been rolled back. Upon entering the tomb, they meet an angel who tells them that Jesus has been raised from the dead. The angel then recalls Jesus' promise to his disciples that he would go before them to Galilee.

Amazement would seem to be a natural reaction to the experience that the women had that morning. Yet the angel chides them for being amazed. Perhaps the reason is found in the words that follow, as the angel reminds them that Jesus himself had told his disciples that he would see them again in Galilee. If the women had listened and heeded Jesus' words, they would not have been surprised to find the tomb empty. This highlights a theme of Mark's Gospel: the disciples of Jesus are often clueless about the true identity of Jesus and confounded by his message to them.

Nonetheless, we can find some hope for the disciples, just as there is hope for us when we find ourselves unsure about Jesus. The disciples in today's Gospel were faithful followers of Jesus and remained present through Jesus' death on the cross. In fact, they came to the tomb that morning expecting to minister to Jesus once again. Instead, they were sent to minister in a different way, as apostles to Peter and the other disciples. Because we hear this Gospel proclaimed today, we know that they honored Jesus by accepting this mission.

heart, and soul that day. It also helped me recognize that sometimes, I celebrate Mass without being at peace. And since you can't give what you don't have, I needed to find a way to more consistently place myself in the presence God's peace to be able to extend it to the people of God. A few months later, as the Easter season approached, I found myself fixated on the words of the Risen Christ. After the crucifixion, the fearful disciples were behind locked doors when our resurrected Lord appeared among them and said, "Peace be with you." I was so struck by his words. Jesus could have chastised his followers by asking why the doors were locked or why they abandoned him. Instead, he wished them "Shalom," breathed the Holy Spirit upon them, and gave them the power to forgive sins. Suddenly, I saw the connection: With "Shalom," Christ sent the peace that resides in the real and living Holy Spirit into the soul of each disciple. Jesus actually extended this greeting of peace to his disciples three times after the Resurrection, each time sending the Holy Spirit from the soul of the Bridegroom into the soul of the Bride, which is the Church. "Peace be with you," Jesus said. Such a simple message, yet it conveys the entirety of the good news—that Christ suffered and died for our sins, yet is truly risen! At Mass, when we offer this same greeting to those around us, we also are proclaiming this truth and sharing the Holy Spirit, as Christ did. Brothers and sisters, when I look at the violence, hatred, and division that surrounds us, I see a world desperately begging for the peace of Christ. This is why **Pope Francis** launched his pontificate with a profound care and concern for the family. He fully realizes our families are made up of flawed, imperfect people. "Families have difficulties. Families quarrel, sometimes plates can fly, and children bring headaches," he acknowledged to the faithful when visiting Philadelphia in 2015. He knows we face day-to-day struggles that can make family life anything but peaceful. Yes, our world needs healing. We can throw up our hands in despair or, through the Church and her sacraments, build up our family, which Pope Francis calls "the vital cell for transforming the world." We can let sacramental grace transform us into missionary disciples that bring peace to those closest to us. A loving and holy family truly is possible! But like Jesus, we must be able to say—and mean—"Peace be with you" to the loved ones who have hurt and disappointed us in the past. May you have a blessed Easter, friends. Peace be with you in the Risen Christ! Sincerely in Christ,

†**Most Reverend Chad W. Zielinski Catholic Bishop of Northern Alaska Diocese of Fairbanks**

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