

April 30, 2017

Third Sunday of Easter



Jesus Raised According to Scripture, Recognized in the Breaking of the Bread

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus had listened to a stranger explain the Scriptures that dealt with Jesus, whose death had been a blow to them. At table they saw him take bread, say a blessing, break it and give it to them. *Their eyes were opened and they recognized him.* Why did these familiar actions act as a trigger for them? Their situation is similar to ours. Their faith as ours rests on the testimony of Scripture, those who had seen the Risen Lord and the presence of the Lord in the breaking of the bread. This is the path of faith that leads to the recognition of the resurrected Christ.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, May 6
4:30 p.m. Louis G. Stryk
Sunday, May 7
8:00 a.m. Frances Anderle

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Easter*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41
Responsorial Psalm: 23
Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25
Gospel: John 10:1-10

St. Anne's K.J.Z.T. #4 Quarterly Meeting Today in the School Chapel after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. All members are invited to attend.

Congratulations and God's blessing to **Ashley Marie & Joel David Novosad** who were recently united in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony here at St. Mary's.



St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Cathy & Albert Bures, Yoakum, TX - \$50
Marit & Timohty Doucet, Conroe, TX - \$250
Merrylynn & Val Gerstenschlager, Weatherford, TX - \$100

In Thanksgiving to God for Our Family
Gloria & Mark Ramirez, Uvalde, TX - \$25

In Memory of Louis Barta
Sally & Stephen Hotchkiss - \$50
Geralyn & Charles Klmitchek - \$20
Spatika Digital Solutions (Friends & Associates of M/M Stan Barta) - \$150

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of Dorothy Dieringer
Leroy Fajkus

THANK YOU NOTE FROM STAZY HAJEK

Thank you Father Gabriel, family, Church members and friends for making my Birthday special, all the wishes and prayers.

Philippians 1:3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you always in every prayer of mine for you.

Stazy Hajek

Stazy is a life-long member of the Parish and turned 104 years old on April 15, 2017.

SPECIAL MOTHERS DAY MASS MAY 14

To have your mother specially remembered in the Mass intention of the day, drop your Mother's Day envelope in the collection or mail by May 8.

Extra envelopes available at the main entrance of Church.

PICNIC RAFFLE PRIZES BEING SOLICITED



It's time to start thinking about making donations to the Raffle. Thomas Petru will start contacting local business this week. Anyone interested in making a donation may call Thomas Petru (512-751-6191) or Liz Janak (361-596-8206). The Raffle Prize donation deadline is May 31.

Thank you.

REFLECTION

Recognizing Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread

On the journey to Emmaus with the two disciples, Jesus interpreted the Scriptures to them. He also took, gave thanks, broke and gave the bread to the two disciples just as he had done with the disciples at the Last Supper. Only then were their eyes opened. *Opened eyes* signifies a clearer understanding of what and who is being revealed. Although Jesus vanished at the very moment their eyes were opened, this did not deter or lessen the faith of the disciples. Rather, Jesus' disciples continue to encounter him in the breaking open of the Bread of the Word, and in the sharing of his very self as Bread. In a way, the story of the two disciples is our story too. Our faith rests on the testimony of Scriptures and on those who have seen the Risen Lord. As a faithful companion, the Lord remains with us. The journey of faith leads to recognizing him in our midst. The Risen Lord keeps our hearts burning and our eyes open on every step of our journey through life.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



April 30 – Bridgette Cerny
– Cynthia Koncaba
May 3 – Kristen Olsovsky

VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.



Remember to pray for the following intentions:

For Health
For Safe Passage
For Katie Richard
For The Sainz Family
For Reynaldo & Gina Vela
For Family, Children, Peace
To Bless My Family With Health
For My Family's Needs & Myself
For Weight Loss For Richard & Mandy
For Health & Happiness of All Family
For Spiritual & Mental Healing of Son-In-Law
That Roy Vela Gets Well, Strength for the Gomez Family
For Juan C. to Continue Seeing The Lord Through The Catholic Faith

– Votive Candle Intentions to be continued

Additional Easter Flower Fund Donation
In memory of the Stryk & Lev Families

Special Collection This Weekend

Mission Sunday - Please be generous.

EASTER ACTIVITIES AT ST. MARY'S

Dear friends,

The Spirit of the Risen Lord is evident among us! Our celebration of the Sacred Paschal Triduum was very spirit-filled and well attended. It was wonderful to see so many people actively participating, making it all come together.

Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday): The Mass was very touching. Parishioners washing one another's feet. What a great sign of our willingness to serve one another as Church.

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday): The Liturgy was marked by noble simplicity. It was a way of identifying with the sufferings of Christ, as our savior goes to his death.

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (Holy Saturday): The service was absolutely beautiful. What an example of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. The number of people who joined us in prayer was amazing. It was great to see so many participants in the service.

Sunday of the Resurrection (Easter Sunday): The Spirit of the Risen Lord was palpable in our midst. The balloons and Easter Egg Hunt with the kids were a big hit. Who thought so many kids would show up in little Praha for Easter. It is all possible. I enjoyed every bit of it all.

While I thank God for the joyful celebration of the three days, I realize that all would not have been possible without the help of many cooperative parishioners.

The Liturgy - I thank our Lectors, our Organists, our Choir, our Cantor, our Altar Servers, our Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and our Ushers who performed their ministry so diligently.

Other helpers and donors - Thanks to the many who worked behind the scenes to pull it all together: Preparing for the Triduum – Pat Masek and Georgie Cerny & the Altar Society members; Martin Svatek for cleaning the cemetery; all those who donated canned goods for the needy and monetary donations for the poor and for the seminarians; Good Friday special effects – Jason Bartos; Holy Saturday bonfire – Charlie Bartos; Easter Flowers – all those who donated towards the flower fund; Balloons – Donna & Hannah Perez; Easter Egg Hunt – thanks to Staci & Mary Bartos, Robin & Douglas Branecky, Gertie & Charlie Hajek, Leona Herzik, Lori & David Janecka, Pat Masek, Barbara & Larry Prause and Deloris Smolik for donating the eggs, and to Staci Bartos & Delia Moeller for organizing the hunt and photographing the hunt. Lastly, I am very grateful to all of you for your participation and words of encouragement. It is my prayer that the Spirit of the Risen Lord will continue to transform us into witnesses of his presence in our lives.

Peace be with you,