

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Easter! One of the questions that most preoccupies men and women is this: what is there after death? To this mystery today's solemnity allows us to respond that death does not have the last word, because Life will be victorious at the end. This certainty of ours is based not on simple human reasoning, but on a historical fact of faith: Jesus Christ, crucified and buried, is risen with his glorified body. Jesus is risen so that we too, believing in him, may have eternal life. This proclamation is at the heart of the Gospel message. As Saint Paul vigorously declares: "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain." He goes on to say: "If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied" (*1 Cor 15:14,19*). Ever since the dawn of Easter a new Spring of hope has filled the world; from that day forward our resurrection has begun, because Easter does not simply signal a moment in history, but the beginning of a new condition: Jesus is risen not because his memory remains alive in the hearts of his disciples, but because he himself lives in us, and in him we can already savour the joy of eternal life.

The resurrection, then, is not a theory, but a historical reality revealed by the man Jesus Christ by means of his "Passover", his "passage", that has opened a "new way" between heaven and earth (cf. *Heb 10:20*). It is neither a myth nor a dream, it is not a vision or a utopia, it is not a fairy tale, but it is a singular and unrepeatable event: Jesus of Nazareth, son of Mary, who at dusk on Friday was taken down from the Cross and buried, has victoriously left the tomb. In fact, at dawn on the first day after the Sabbath, Peter and John found the tomb empty. Mary Magdalene and the other women encountered the risen Jesus. On the way to Emmaus the two disciples recognized him at the breaking of the bread. The Risen One appeared to the Apostles that evening in the Upper Room and then to many other disciples in Galilee.

The proclamation of the Lord's Resurrection lightens up the dark regions of the world in which we live. I am referring particularly to materialism and nihilism, to a vision of the world that is unable to move beyond what is scientifically verifiable, and retreats cheerlessly into a sense of emptiness which is thought to be the definitive destiny of human life. It is a fact that if Christ had not risen, the "emptiness" would be set to prevail. If we take away Christ and his resurrection, there is no escape for man, and every one of his hopes remains an illusion. Yet today is the day when the proclamation of the Lord's resurrection vigorously bursts forth, and it is the answer to the recurring question of the sceptics, that we also find in the book of Ecclesiastes: "Is there a thing of which it is said, 'See, this is new'?" (*Ec 1:10*). We answer, yes: on Easter morning, everything was renewed. "Death and life have come face to face in a tremendous duel: the Lord of life was dead, but now he lives triumphant" (*Easter Sequence*). This is what is new! A newness that changes the lives of those who accept it, as in the case of the saints.

I hope many of you come to our parish dance and wine tasting. These events help us build a culture of Catholicism. (A note, the proceeds from the wine tasting will go toward our new surveillance security system.) My prayer is that more and more of you will take advantage of our events, from the Catholic Daughters, Knights of Columbus, Little Lambs, GEMS, SMART, FAITH and general parish activities. We will be a much stronger and effective parish family together.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Father Newcomb

***The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed next Sunday, April 23rd at 3pm.***

***FUN RAISER Wine Tasting***

***Friday, April 28th*** from 6pm to 9pm in the church hall. Tickets \$20. Contact:

Cheryl 856-8793 or Barbara 856-4801.

*Tickets also available at the parish office.*

If anyone would like to contribute a dessert please call:

Sophie 649-6364 or Dawn 858-9210.



Fr. Newcomb will be having discussions on Symbolon Part II in the Parish Office Building in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room @ 6:30pm the following Mondays:

**24 April** Session 8: A Love that Lasts

**1 May** Session 9: Catholic Social Teaching

**8 May** Session 10: Catholic Social Teaching

***Liturgical Ministers for April 22/23, 2017***

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	P. CAL	W. PONDS, K. BOBISH, J. FLYNN	J. MARCONE, S. PHILLIPS
8:30AM	J. HENDRICK	T. CALVARIO, W. CARMODY, J. TAYLOR	D., A., E. TRUJILLO
11:30AM	M. ESLING	T. MARION, N. SMITH, J. SNELLINGER	J. ENNIS, S. BHIKARRY, K. EPPS

**Dance Through  
The  
Decades**

**Saturday, April 22nd  
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**  
Take a step back in time and dance to the music of the 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s as DJ G. plays your favorites from yesterday and today. Bring a covered dish to share. Beer, Wine and snacks provided. Shine Up those dancing shoes!

**Dance Through The Decades Reservation Form  
2017**

**Family Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Contact #:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**# of adults** \_\_\_\_\_ **# of children (12 & under)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**We will bring** \_\_\_\_\_ **to share**  
**as our covered dish.**

\$15 per family Please make checks payable to *St. Mary's Church*. Return to parish office or in offering basket no later than April 17th.

*There will be a 2nd collection the weekend of April 29/30 for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Please give it your prayerful consideration.*



The Knights of Columbus Council #471 will be selling carnations after all Masses on Mother's Day, May 14th \$1/each.



*St. Mary's Little Lambs Early Childhood Learning Center* holds a Summer Day Camp with the theme, "Sightseeing with Jesus." Daily activities include Bible stories, songs, games, crafts, and water play. We hope to aid the children of our school and parish and the surrounding community in continuing their spiritual growth during the summer months while providing a safe and fun recreational summer program. Our camp will be open to children ages three to eight.

Registration for Summer Camp will open Monday, May 1 and close Wednesday, May 31. **Early or late registrations will NOT be accepted.** For information, please contact director, Eileen Carmody at 845 858-4208



**You are invited to join Father Dennis M. Dinan as he celebrates a Mass of Thanksgiving On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary Of His ordination to the Priesthood Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3PM**

**St Joseph's Church  
New Windsor, NY**

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**

**Monday, April 17**  
9:00am Joseph Belloto, by Sally and family  
Noelle Rosetto, by John ad Marie Sanborn

**Tuesday, April 18**  
9:00am Tom Earley, by Gary and Kathy Coleman

**Wednesday, April 19**  
9:00am Deceased members of the Kanzinger family, by Irene Klostermeier

**Thursday, April 20**  
9:00am Ken and Julia Guinn, by Barbara Guinn and family  
Anna Acton, by Carol and Linda

**Saturday, April 22**  
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Marys  
William, Dorothy, and Dennis McCarthy, by Mike and MaryAnn McCarthy

**Sunday, April 23**  
8:30am Frank Semerano, by the Hartmann family  
11:30am Dennis Simmons, by Toni Carroll and family  
3:00pm *Divine Mercy Chaplet*



*The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the church, in memory of Jon A. Stierle, by the Stierle family.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Joann Wilcox, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Aedan Roach, Jim Roach, Robyn Radzikowski, Joseph Brennan, Elizabeth Brennan, Richard Samek, Sandy Osbourne, John McKeon, William Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Jeanine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Maureen Hildebrandt, Andrea Fedoruk, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Grace Maillet, Joseph Cox, William Gaide, Jacqueline Hamilton, Marianne Ripel, Pat Arnold, Debi Cotugno, Conner McHugh, David M. Phillips, Scott Smith, Jim Muller, Charles Hildebrandt, Joe Formisano, Theresa Kavanagh, Fontano family, Kevin Smith, Ron Evans, Barbara Straub, Flossie Brown, Mae Prill, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Steve Wilkinson, and Eric Santiago.

**Catholic Guidance for End-of-Life Decision Making-** Illness and aging, coupled with rapid advances in medical technology, can lead to heightened anxiety when health care decisions must be made as the end of life approaches. Efforts are being made in our state to offer the false solution of assisted suicide, which will only endanger disabled and vulnerable people. Go to [www.CatholicEndofLife.org](http://www.CatholicEndofLife.org) for assistance in navigating the end-of-life challenges that you and/or your loved ones face. Learn about the key principles of Catholic teaching in this area, and how to apply them to complex medical decisions.

The Palm Sunday collection was \$7,540.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.