

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

Easter is the feast of the new creation. Jesus is risen and dies no more. He has opened the door to a new life, one that no longer knows illness and death. He has taken mankind up into God Himself. “Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God”, as Saint Paul says in the First Letter to the Corinthians (15:50). On the subject of Christ’s resurrection and our resurrection, the Church writer Tertullian in the third century was bold enough to write: “Rest assured, flesh and blood, through Christ you have gained your place in heaven and in the Kingdom of God” (CCL II, 994). A new dimension has opened up for mankind. Creation has become greater and broader. Easter Day ushers in a new creation, but that is precisely why the Church starts the liturgy on this day with the old creation, so that we can learn to understand the new one aright. At the beginning of the Liturgy of the Word on Easter night, then, comes the account of the creation of the world. Two things are particularly important here in connection with this liturgy. On the one hand, creation is presented as a whole that includes the phenomenon of time. The seven days are an image of completeness, unfolding in time. They are ordered towards the seventh day, the day of the freedom of all creatures for God and for one another. Creation is therefore directed towards the coming together of God and his creatures; it exists so as to open up a space for the response to God’s great glory, an encounter between love and freedom. On the other hand, what the Church hears on Easter night is above all the first element of the creation account: “God said, ‘let there be light!’” (Gen 1:3). The creation account begins symbolically with the creation of light. The sun and the moon are created only on the fourth day. The creation account calls them lights, set by God in the firmament of heaven. In this way he deliberately takes away the divine character that the great religions had assigned to them. No, they are not gods. They are shining bodies created by the one God. But they are preceded by the light through which God’s glory is reflected in the essence of the created being.

What is the creation account saying here? Light makes life possible. It makes encounter possible. It makes communication possible. It makes knowledge, access to reality and to truth, possible. And insofar as it makes knowledge possible, it makes freedom and progress possible. Evil hides. Light, then, is also an expression of the good that both is and creates brightness. It is daylight, which makes it possible for us to act. To say that God created light means that God created the world as a space for knowledge and truth, as a space for encounter and freedom, as a space for good and for love. Matter is fundamentally good, being itself is good. And evil does not come from God-made being, rather, it comes into existence only through denial. It is a “no”.

At Easter, on the morning of the first day of the week, God said once again: “Let there be light”. The night on the Mount of Olives, the solar eclipse of Jesus’ passion and death, the night of the grave had all passed. Now it is the first day once again – creation is beginning anew. “Let there be light”, says God, “and there was light”: Jesus rises from the grave. Life is stronger than death. Good is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Truth is stronger than lies. The darkness of the previous days is driven away the moment Jesus rises from the grave and himself becomes God’s pure light. But this applies not only to him, not only to the darkness of those days. With the resurrection of Jesus, light itself is created anew. He draws all of us after Him into the new light of the resurrection and He conquers all darkness. He is God’s new day, new for all of us.

Happy Easter!
Father Newcomb

Divine Mercy Sunday Service will be next Sunday, April 8th at 3pm in the Church

Liturgical Ministers for April 7/8, 2018.

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
8:30PM	P. CAL	C. WITTINE, A. WITKOWSKI	E. AND A. WITKOWSKI
8:30AM	J. SMITH	W. CARMODY, S. RIORDAN, J. TAYLOR	T. LAMOREAUX, K. CASE, D. TRUJILLO
11:30AM	M. ESLING	B. DENNINGTON, T. MARION, N. SMITH	A. EPPS, M. FEDRIZZI, M. LAUTURE

Our 3rd Annual Luau Parish Dance is next Saturday, April 7th in the Most Sacred Heart Hall from 5:30pm-8:30pm. Cost \$15 per family. RSVP to daninyg89@frontiernet.net. Please include your name, number of people attending, and the main dish you are bringing. *Aloha!*



The Town of Deerpark will be holding a Citizens Emergency Preparedness presentation on Tuesday, April 10 at 7pm. Each family will receive a free emergency Preparedness bag for their home. Registration not required. Open to all Tri-State residents. Meeting to be held at the Town of Deerpark Senior Center 410 State Route 209. For more info: Jack Flynn 856-6108.

Tea Time is Spring Time

Step back in time & join **Court Madonna's Garden** for an afternoon of tea and conversation at the **Most Sacred Heart Church Hall**

Date: Saturday, April 21st

Time: 12pm to 2:30pm

Donation: \$10 Ladies
\$5 young ladies

Please RSVP to Barbara Drew
856-2624



CALLING ALL GOLFERS! The Knights of Columbus Co. #471 is partaking in a Charity Golf Outing on Wednesday, May 23rd at the Highpoint Country Club. Call Steve for more information 629-3642



We will soon begin Spring Clean-up at St. Mary's Cemetery. All Christmas decorations need to be removed, including solar lights, and any additional decorations. We will start to implement the spring rules and all obtuse decorations will be removed from the cemetery beginning May 1st.

As disciples of Christ, we are called to help one another and be merciful, as Jesus taught us. It is only with your help that the Cardinal's Appeal continues its good work in our communities. Through our ministries and charities the Cardinal's Appeal continues to be a beacon of hope for our brothers and sisters in faith.

The collection for March 17/18 was \$5,418.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, April 2**
9:00am Loretta and John Connelly, by Sheila Connelly Volker
- Tuesday, April 3**
9:00am Michael and Tony Costescu and Bogdan and Mariana Carmacu, by Nenita Costescu
- Wednesday, April 4**
9:00am Josephine Califano, by Jeanne and Bob Adams
- Thursday, April 5**
9:00am Joseph Cox, by Sophie and Paul Rosso
- Friday, April 6**
11:30am Joseph Livingston, by Bill and Catherine Simons
- Saturday, April 7**
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, April 8 (Divine Mercy Sunday)**
8:30am Jane Ewanciw, by the Ewanciw family
11:30am Mary Napolitano, by Amelia Quinn

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joann Wilcox, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Luis Medina, Debi Cotugno, Guy Gouchenour, Tyler Lynch, Nancy Crumley, Hunter Crumley, Schyler Pittaluga, Martin Vella, Jeanine Lincoln, William Lincoln, Barbara Straub, Robert Cinerar, Sherill Galanakis, Michael Barnes, Angela Portella, Joseph Portella, Francis Cruz, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Andrea Fedoruk, Elizabeth Brennan, Sandy Osbourne, John McKean, William Gaide, Dotty Lynch, Al Lynch, Danielle Devore, Chris Marion III, Jesse Smith, Linda Fontano, Jasmine Smith, Bill Smith, Lisa Smith, Lou Harford, Patricia Meinhold, Susan Upton, Devin Upton, Kathy Drane, Kenneth Lynch, Wayne DeMarco, Toni DeMarco Muller, Donald Wolff, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Anthony Deleva, Laurie Reese, Walter Szpakowicz, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Neil Stasilli, Cay Aponte, and Lillian Maldonado.

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2018 are invited to attend the Golden Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, June 3. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the parish office to register.

Deadline is May 14th.

Denton Presbyterian Church in Slate Hill is sponsoring a trip to Sight & Sound on Thursday, August 23rd. Adults \$110 Children 3-12 \$75. Price includes Bus, lunch, and tickets. Call Shanna 800-1391 for more information.