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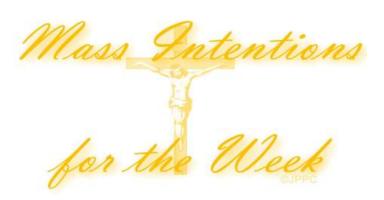
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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 14, 2024

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Mass of Anticipation for the 3rd Sunday of Easter 5:00PM Ann Gail Shahinian & Maria Dichario-Memorial SUNDAY, APRIL 14

The Third Sunday of Easter

7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
9:00AM Christian Cole Franzone—Memorial
10:30AM John & Michael McNulty—10th Anniversary
5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

MONDAY, APRIL 15

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Rose Doyle—Memorial

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Steven Lentino—Birthday Remembrance

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

Easter Weekday

7:30AM D'cd of Zaino & Mattiace Families—Memorial

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Arthur J. McDonald, Jr.—Memorial

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Mary Morgan—Memorial

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Easter Weekday

8:30AM Christopher Ryan—Birthday Remembrance

Mass of Anticipation for the 4th Sunday of Easter

5:00PM Kenneth F. Uttley—Month's Mind

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:30AM Ronald Verri—Memorial

9:00AM Monchi Martinez Quibus—Memorial 10:30AM Mariakutty Peter & All Souls—Memorial 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish



Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

English Catholic The convert and author G. Chesterton once commented: "Christendom has had a series of revolutions, and in each one of them, Christianity has died. Christianity has died many times and risen again, for it had a God who knew the way out of the grave."

His words came to mind as I reflected upon Easter, a season of baptism and new life. We had the joy of witnessing four baptisms at the Easter Vigil, and even more blessings followed as we baptized a baby on Easter Sunday, with five more babies to be baptized this Sunday!

Even in its simplest form, the sacrament of baptism is a celebration filled with Easter symbolism. Celebrating baptism at the Easter Vigil is a tradition, and this is no mere 'coincidence.' The Church intentionally connects baptism to the events of the Paschal mystery during the Easter season.

Much of the symbolism is in the Jerusalem *Catecheses*, a series of catechetical lectures attributed to St. Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop during the 4th century. Addressing those baptized at the Easter Vigil, Cyril writes:

"You were led down to the font of holy baptism just as Christ was taken down from the cross and placed in the tomb before your eyes. Each of you was asked, 'Do you believe in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?' You made the profession of faith that brings salvation; you were plunged into the water, and three times, you rose again. This symbolized the three days Christ spent in the tomb."

The white garment of baptism symbolizes that the person baptized has "put on Christ," risen with Christ. The candle, lit from the Easter candle, signifies that Christ has enlightened the neophyte. In him, the baptized are "the light of the world."

Yes, baptism is a truly beautiful sacrament. When celebrated during Easter, all of its symbolism comes to life. Thousands of adults across the United States were baptized into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil this year. So please pray for all our newly baptized.

Meanwhile, in secular France, over 12,000 people, both adults and adolescents, were baptized on Easter; this is a record number in the country has become "dethat Christianized." According to reports from France, 7,135 adults were to receive the sacrament of baptism during the Easter Vigil. In addition, over 5,000 teenagers aged 11 to 17 were baptized this Easter. While this is good news, it is insufficient to compensate for the dramatic decline of infant baptism in France.

Islam is growing and may become the primary religion in historically Catholic countries such as France, the so-called eldest daughter of the Church. Yet there was a dramatic increase in adults converting from Islam and being baptized at Easter in France. It, too, is a sign of faith and hope growing in Western Europe.

In Rome, Pope Francis baptized eight adults: four from Italy, two from South Korea, a man from Japan, and a woman from Albania. He also confirmed them and gave them their first Communion.

On Easter Sunday, globe Catholics across the renewed their baptismal promises. They were sprinkled with the newly blessed Easter Holy Water. As they joyfully and faithfully recalled their own baptisms. They denounced sin and Satan and declared their belief in Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, and his Church.

Eastertide is indeed a time of new life and growth in the Church. It is a time for us to live joyfully in faith, hope, and love. Christ is risen and alive. Sin and death have been defeated! The Church is alive and growing! This is good news that should bring us great joy!

I think Monsignor Ronald Knox, the English Catholic Priest, author, and theologian of the early twentieth century, said it best when he said:

"The Church was buried in the catacombs; She rose again with Constantine. She died in the Dark Ages; She rose again with Charlemagne. She died with the Renaissance; She rose again with the saints of the Counter-Reformation. You cannot kill the Catholic Church."

We congratulate all the newly baptized and promise our prayers. A Blessed Easter Season! Let us echo the words of St. John Paul II, "We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!" Be well. Do good. God Bless.

Father Healey



St. Bernadette - April 16 -Poule au Pot

St. Bernadette Soubirous was born on January 7, 1844, in Lourdes, France. She spent her life in this town in southern France, tending sheep. Throughout her life, Bernadette was plagued with poor health as she had asthma and other challenges to her health. Then, in 1858, Bernadette's life changed. Between February 11 and July 16 of that year, our Blessed Mother appeared to the fourteen-year-old eighteen times. Our Lady instructed Bernadette that a chapel should be built on the spot of the visions. There, people were to come wash in and drink the water that had welled up from where St. Bernadette had begun to dig to build the chapel. That spot in Lourdes has become one of the most popular Marian shrines in the world. The Church confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions at Lourdes in 1862. While France is known for high-end food, the simple "peasant" food has a soul. This month's recipe is Poule au Pot, literally "chicken in a pot," a classic dish from the Hautes-Pyrenees area of France, where Lourdes is located.

Ingredients

1 whole - 2 1/2 to 3 pound chicken; 3 cups plain breadcrumbs; 2 cloves garlic; 2 tablespoons chopped parsley; 1 teaspoon nutmeg salt and pepper to taste; 2 eggs, beaten; 1/2 cup light cream; 2 quarts chicken stock 1 quart water; 2 teaspoons thyme; 20 pepper corns; 2 bay leaves; 2 sweet onions, chopped; 4 carrots, chopped; 4 celery stalks, chopped.

Directions

1. Pat chicken dry and set aside 2. Mix the breadcrumbs, garlic, parsley, nutmeg, salt, pepper, and eggs in a large bowl. Add enough light cream to bind the ingredients together. 3. Fill the chicken cavity tightly with the stuffing and tie the legs together with string over the cavity opening so it is closed off. 4. Add the chicken, water, chicken stock, thyme, peppercorns, and bay leaves to a soup pot and boil. 5. Reduce heat to low and simmer for one hour. 6. Add the chopped vegetables and simmer for another half hour. 7. Remove the chicken from the broth and set aside to cool. 8. Cut into serving portions and arrange on a warm platter. 9. Remove the stuffing and arrange it neatly on the platter. 10. Strain the vegetables from the broth and arrange them on the platter along with the chicken and stuffing. Cover loosely with foil and keep warm in a low oven. Serve the broth as a first course, then present the platter with whole grain mustard thinned with a little broth.



April 7, 2024

Weekly	\$12,500.00
EFT	\$4,358.00
	Total=\$16,858.00
Outreach	\$1,279.00
Building & Grounds	\$2,423.00

April 9, 2023

Weekly.....\$26,900.00

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2024 Catholic Charity Appeal

OLM Parish Goal=\$190,000 Pledged to date=\$227,370 Number of pledges to date=404 Average gift=\$563

2023 Catholic Charity Appeal

OLM Parish Goal=\$190.000 Total Raised=\$277,255 Total Number of Pledges=480 Average Gift=\$578

Over Parish Goal!!! Thank you for your Generous Support!!



First Communion Class Schedule

April 22 & 27: First Communion Interviews

Confirmation Class Schedule

Sunday, April 21: Class following 5pm Mass

For any questions and more information please contact Mr. Jeremy Long, Director of First Communion & Confirmation at 884-4968 or faithformation@olmparish.org or Miss Julia Anthon, Directress of Faith Formation, at 884-4968 or faithformationdir@olmparish.org



- •OLM Food Pantry is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated items in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. All food items should be unexpired and non-perishable. We also are in need of paper goods (paper towels, napkins). Thank you for your support.
- •OLM Bereavement Group: Our next meeting is on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 4:00pm in Mercy House. All those adults experiencing sorrow, grief or loneliness are most welcome to attend for prayer and discussion.
- ●For more information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org





Striving to Be Saints & Scholars

School Calendar

- April 15-19: April School Vacation
- <u>Tuesday, April 23</u>: Beloved Meeting 2:30-3:15 pm

Save the Dates!

- April 27-28: OLM School Spring Drama Production of the Little Mermaid @ The Prout School
- <u>Saturday, May 4</u>: Spring Fling at 6:00 pm @ Quidnessett Country Club
- <u>Thursday, May 9</u>: Annual Grandparents Day Mass & Celebration

www.olmschool.org

Discover the OLM Advantage!





OUR ENTIRE society sees something special about Sunday. Business hours change. Breakfast menus expand. Work hours shrink. Sporting events surface. The newspaper inflates. Movie schedules increase. We expect leisure on Sunday. Part of the weekend, it begins the week and ends the week. It is a sacred day, a time outside normal time when life takes a break. Sunday symbolizes paradise, a place, and pace of leisure and pleasure.

How did all this happen? We Christians owned Sunday first. It is our most important day. On a Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead (Matthew 28:1). On Sundays, his followers met to break bread (Acts 20:7). The Resurrection is our most central belief. We choose Sunday for our primary gathering because the day itself proclaims our faith. Mass on Wednesday or Monday just would not be the same. Sunday is Easter. You can change the day you shop for groceries or go to the bank without much loss. But church is different. It demands a particular day, like a holiday or an anniversary.

If we did not gather for Eucharist on Sunday, we have not proclaimed the Resurrection.

Our definition of "Sunday" includes Saturday night. This does not compromise to convenience. Jesus rose from the dead during the night. So our Eucharist still honors the Resurrection when it takes place at the beginning of that night—namely, on Saturday evening.

If a serious reason keeps you from attending church on Sunday, your pastor may dispense you. Your conversation with him honors your commitment to your community. On a Sunday when you cannot participate in the Eucharist, you may wish to pray the Scriptures of that day and share a prayer at meal with other believers.

Unity, leisure, and prayer characterize a Sunday. Our attendance at church unites us with the believers of our own community and with all Christians throughout the world. Our abstinence from work frees our mind for prayer. Football, food, and freedom are all supplementary to Sunday's main purpose, celebrating Eucharist.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain. The power of prayer is tremendous and many successful results have been reported back. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain as a caller, or simply as one who prays for others and their intentions, please call Mary Hart at 884-5629 or email directly to 2hart@cox.net.

If you know someone in need of prayers due to illness, infirmity, surgery, hospitalization or any serious reason please call us!

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