3rd Sunday of Easter

5/4/2025

© Diocesan

HOLY FAMILY ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH, 316 S. Logan St., Lincoln, IL
ST. MARY ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH, 808 NW Pearl St., Atlanta, IL
ST. PATRICK ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH, 213 S. Bogardus St., Elkhart, IL
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH, 321 S. Lafayette St., Mt. Pulaski, IL

Week of 5/4/2025

Having a Mass said for a loved one, consider taking the Gifts up at Mass

Saturday, May 3 - Vigil Mass of the 3rd Sunday of Easter
4:00pm Holy Family: In memory of Paul Harmon by his Family
[with Drive-Thru Communion from 4:45-5:00pm]

Sunday, May 4 - 3rd Sunday of Easter
8:00am St. Patrick: A Mass for the People
8:30am St. Mary: In memory of Barbara Hardiek's Birthday by Wayne & Melissa Cox
10:00am St. Thomas Aquinas: In memory of Vincent "Vinny" Trauner by the Olson Family
10:00am Holy Family: In memory of Gerald May by Mark & Marcia May
[with Drive-Thru Communion from 4:45-5:00pm]

Monday, May 5
8:00am Holy Family: In memory of Dora Krotz by the Dowdle Grandchildren

Tuesday, May 6
8:00am Holy Family: In memory of Ruth Young by Kaggie Aue
8:00am St. Patrick: In memory of the Anniversary of Bill & Mary Wright by Linda Wright

Wednesday, May 7
8:30am CCS/Holy Family: In memory of Carol Grunder by the Cahill Family

Thursday, May 8
8:00am Holy Family: In memory of Mary Wright by Paul & Sharon Koester

Friday, May 9
8:00am Holy Family: In Thanksgiving for our Anniversary & in memory of Diane Sisk's Birthday by Wayne & Melissa Cox
8:00am St. Mary: In memory of James "Pat" Dugan by Diane Farmer

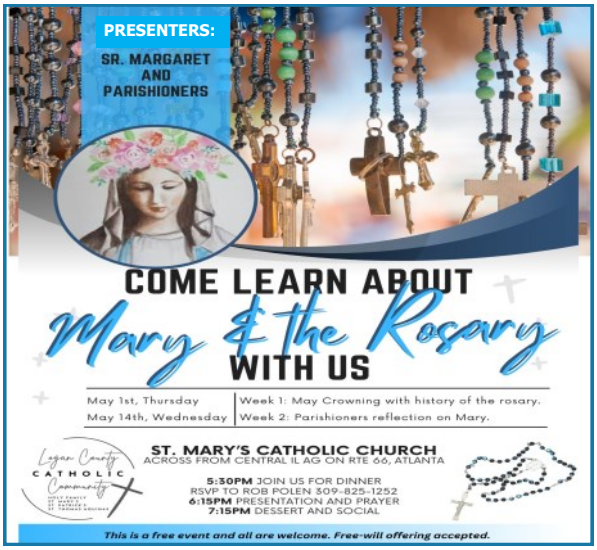
Saturday, May 10 - Vigil Mass of the 4th Sunday of Easter
4:00pm Holy Family: In memory of Kenneth E. Ebelherr by the Ebelherr Family
[with Drive-Thru Communion from 4:45-5:00pm]

Sunday, May 11 - 4th Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day
8:00am St. Patrick: In memory of Agnes Durchholz by the Durchholz Family
8:30am St. Mary: In memory of Agnes O'Donoghue by Tim & Shirley O'Donoghue
10:00am St. Thomas Aquinas: In memory of Doris Eckert by Jerry & Janet Langenbahn
10:00am Holy Family: For the Deceased members of the May Family by Mark & Marcia May
[with Drive-Thru Communion from 4:45-5:00pm]

Through the mercy of God may they rest in peace.

Doris Timpe
Carol Jacobsen

First Holy Communion Celebration at Holy Family - 10:00 am Mass, Sunday, May 4, 2025.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LADIES AUXILIARY

Meet: Every 3rd Wednesday March to November
Where: KOC Hall
When: 7:00 pm

ST. MARY ALTAR SOCIETY

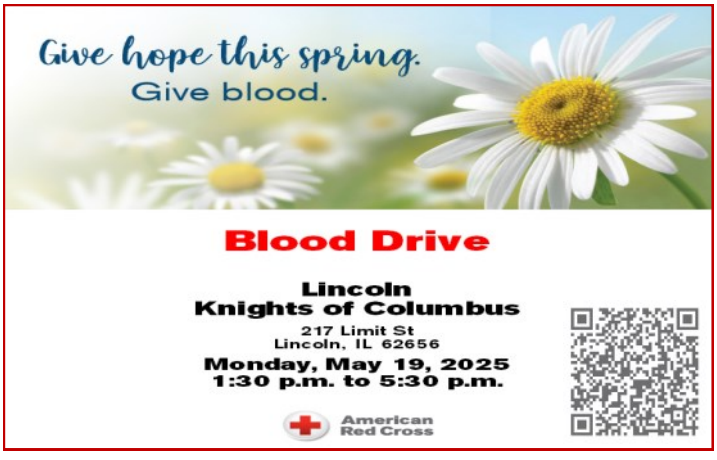
St. Mary's Altar Society invites all members of our parish to meetings held the FIRST Monday at 6pm in the church hall.

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY

- **We will not meet on May 4th - Holy Family 1st Communion**
- **Class will meet on Sunday - May 11th**

ST. MARY LECTOR SCHEDULE

5/04 - Matt McGhee
5/11 - Matt McGhee
5/18 - Laura O'Donnell
5/25 - Laura O'Donnell
6/01 - Ed Jodlowski
6/08 - Ed Jodlowski



SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, 6/3/2025

Our final formal session of the OCIA will be on June 3, 2025. Sr. Lori will give a presentation on the role of music in the liturgy. We invite the Logan County Catholic Community to join the OCIA for this presentation. Understanding how we pray with music is important to our full participation in the Liturgy. We look forward to you joining us for this session, which is also an opportunity to meet the newest members of our Catholic community.

The presentation will be in Holy Family Church, at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Reminder: We have a **Adult Faith Formation** Session on **Wednesday, May 14 at 5:30 pm at St. Mary Church, Atlanta**. Parishioners will share with us their pilgrimage experience of visiting sites where the Blessed Mother appeared. Please join us! If you have made a pilgrimage to a Marian site, please bring your memories/reflections on your visit and join the conversation.

The presentation will begin about 6:15 p.m. following supper. *For meals, contact Rob Polen (309-825-1252).*

COMMUNITY PRAYER TIME

Join us on **Thursday, 5/22 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm**. We will meet in the Bride's Room at Holy Family for prayer. We will come together to pray for your needs and thank God for your blessings. We will gather together to pray for each other, our community, and the world. All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you!

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

5/4/25: Holy Family First Communions
5/15/25: Dedication of the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception celebrated (Solemnity at the Cathedral/Feast in Diocese Church Masses)
5/18/25: CCS 8th Grade Graduation at 10am Mass
5/19/25: Red Cross Blood Drive at the KOC 1:30pm-5:30pm
5/22/25: Community Prayer Time 7:00pm Bride's Room
5/24/25: Priest Ordination 10:30 am at the Cathedral, 3 men will be ordained to the Priesthood for service to the Diocese (May need a ticket to get in, call Diocese 309-671-1550)
6/1/25: Ascension of the Lord
6/8/25: Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the Great Fifty Days of Easter
6/22/25: The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ will be celebrated
8/15/25: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated and is a Holy Day of Obligation
8/27/25: Solemnity of Saint Crescent at Corpus Christi Church, Galesburg as relics are enshrined there. Feast Day at all other churches
9/20/25: Mass at the Cathedral for Venerable Servant of God Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen
9/23/25: The Diocesan Novena for Vocations in honor of St. Therese of Lisieux begins.
10/1/25: The Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, patroness of our diocesan vocations program, will be celebrated.
11/1/25: The Solemnity of All Saints is celebrated, *not a holy day of obligation* this year.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, May 5
Acts 6:8-15 / Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 / Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday, May 6
Acts 7:51-8:1a / Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab / Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday, May 7
Acts 8:1b-8 / Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a / Jn 6:35-40

Thursday, May 8
Acts 8:26-40 / Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 / Jn 6:44-51

Friday, May 9
Acts 9:1-20 / Ps 117:1bc, 2 / Jn 6:52-59

Saturday, May 10
Acts 9:31-42 / Ps 116:12-17 / Jn 6:60-69

Sunday, May 11 - Mother's Day
Acts 13:14, 43-52 / Ps 100:1-3, 5 / Rev 7:9, 14b-17 / Jn 10:27-30

THE HOLY FATHER'S MAY GLOBAL PRAYER INTENTIONS

The Holy Father has entrusted his 2025 monthly prayer intentions to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network - USA (For more information, go to Home - Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (popesprayerusa.net).

For working conditions:

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

Adapted from USCCB.org

MONTHLY DEDICATION - MAY

The month of **May is devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God**. This devotion began in Rome at the end of the 18th Century. Fr. Latomia of the Roman College of the Society of Jesus is credited with starting this when he vowed to devote the month of May to Mary to counter infidelity and immorality among the students. From there, it spread to the rest of the Church and now is publicly celebrated.

Adapted from covenantcatholic.org

GENERAL & SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Reconciliation:
Holy Family Church: Tuesday 7:30-8:00am prior to 8am Mass & Saturday 2:45-3:30pm before the 4:00pm Mass
St. Patrick Church, Elkhart: prior to Sunday Mass
St. Mary Church, Atlanta: before Sunday Mass
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Mt. Pulaski: prior to Sunday Mass

Adoration: Adoration is held on Thursdays at Holy Family from 3:00pm-5:00pm, beginning with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm.

Infant Baptism: Parents are asked to attend a baptism preparation session before the Baptism of their child. Phone the parish office to register.

Marriages: Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance for the desired wedding date. Phone the parish office to reserve your special date & get more information.

Rosary: Join us at Holy Family to pray the Rosary at 7:40am before Mass, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday. If the CCS Mass is said on Wednesday, we begin at 7:50am.

Please "Pray for the Sick" by remembering the following people in your prayers:

Mike Lowry, Paul Lowry, Terri Lowry, Laura Lowry, Sean Lowry, Elijah Cox, Guinevere Decker, Rodney Alberts, Jill Alberts, Linda Wright, Steve Schmidt, Ryan Butler, Donna Burr, Paula Rutherford, Gavin Fox, Rita Johnson, Adelyn Jones, McKayla Nye, Gavin Shuler, Phillip Brown, Christina Clementz, Mike Kavanaugh, Linda H., Mark L., Deb Jordan, Dwayne Knapp, Esme Avart, Rita Scanavino, Thomas Siegel, Asher Phillips, Kristin Wright, Melinda Spangler, Alexa Cunningham, Mary Masterson, Marcia Bidwell, Sandra Buttell, Debi Hardin, Ann LaMothe, Teresa Tripplett, Curt C., Eddie Pharis, Shirley Davis, Mike Young, Shirley O'Donoghue, Dan Dankosky, Bridget Dutcher, Tinley Rubenacker, John Barrick, Tom Berta, Eric Faith, Jerry Boyle, Dave Morrow, Caroline & Mike Spaniol, Steve "Hacker" Aue, Jennifer Roedz, Dan Riccolo, Diana Purdue, Anne Baunach, Joyce Lichtenwalter, Sally Velasco, Ilene Davis, Tim McCormick, Bonnie Frawley, Jeane Connolley, Cheryl Farney, Jack Sprague, Kathy Miller, Pat French, Jack Peifer, Johanna Grigsby, Charlie Dumire, Bryan Finchum, Phyllis' family, Steve Panissidi, Bob McCue, Carol & Bob Barger, Aria Tramontano-Grigsby Spitnale, Ron Nye, John Hebenstreit, Tina Huff, and Family, Nurse Lancaster, Cindy & Kenny Frericks, Ann Knuffman, Greg Harmon, Pam Baker, David Vale, Lois, Mirtha, Nicolas, & Michael Barrios, Kimm & Steven, Adalynn Williams, Angela Piglia, Raeleigh Bess, Eric Ewald, Faith Stagnolia, Donna Bolton, Nancy Stevens & sons, the Salas Family, Becky Maestas, Cheryl Davis, Mike Shay, Bandy Aye, Sherry Miles, Linda Barrick, Karen Lowery, Cheryl Moscardelli, Rachel Santana & family, Marty J Clementz, Jr., Bridget Chiodo, Carol Ann Connelly, the Newton family & their twin newborns, Candice Rose, Nathan Cravatt, Wil Buse, Jane Logan Perry, Fr. Thomas Taylor, Stephanie Adams, Nick Barrios, Cheryl Sampson, Todd Newberry, Shelly B., Jean B., Joel Grigsby, all children & families facing medical challenges, and all the members of the armed forces of our country.

To add a loved one, call Isabel Vidal at 217-732-4019 or email ividal@logancountycatholic.com.

Week of 5/4/2025 - 5/10/2025

The **red Altar Sanctuary Candle at**

Holy Family is lit this week for the deceased & present members of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.

St. Mary is lit this week for the intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.

St. Patrick is lit this week for the intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.

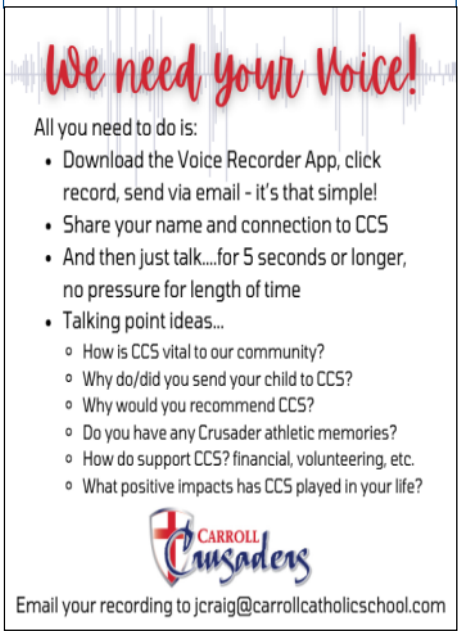
St. Thomas Aquinas is lit this week for the intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.

The **blue candle** at the **Mary Queen of Peace Statue** is lit this week in honor of our CCS & CCD 1st Communion candidates.

The **blue candle** at the **Immaculate Heart of Mary Statue** at **Holy Family** is lit this week for the intentions of the Logan County Catholic Community.

To sponsor a candle, call/email Alicia Baker at 217-732-4019 or a*baker@logancountycatholic.com.*

We are excited to capitalize on a *free* commercial opportunity through WLCN 96.3 FM given to us by an alumna parent. All we need is your VOICE! Please use this link to the app: https://apps.apple.com/.../voice-recorder.../id685310398



ST. PATRICK'S +CATHOLIC CHURCH+

Attention St. Patrick Parishioners:

We'd like to form a flower committee. If interested, please attend a short meeting immediately after Mass on Sunday, May 18th. We will gather in the basement.

ST. PATRICK'S +CATHOLIC CHURCH+

Throughout the month of May, dedicated to her, we will recite the Rosary before Sunday Mass begins in honor of our Holy Mother Mary

Please join us at 7:30am, during our May Masses to pray the Rosary and deepen our relationship with both Jesus and Mary.

Contact Your State Senator to Vote NO on SB 9 - Assisted Suicide

Please contact your state senator now to express your opposition to Senate Bill 9, a proposed piece of legislation that seeks to legalize assisted suicide in Illinois. This bill passed the Senate Executive Committee on April 9th and could be debated and voted on the Senate floor **at any time** between now and May 31st.

Legalizing assisted suicide goes against the Church's teachings on the sanctity and dignity of human life. It undermines the value of each human person, particularly those who are vulnerable.

You can access a drafted message to your legislators and ask them to oppose Senate Bill 9 by going to the Catholic Conference of Illinois Action Center. Go to *www.ilcatholic.org*, click on Take Action, then click on Action center for access to the form. Click the link below to log in and send your message:

https://www.votervoice.net/BroadcastLinks/LiyyWHIT_0B2IffgsBId9A

2024 ADA numbers received at the Diocese as of 3/31/25

Holy Family
Goal = $48,731.00
Pledged = $60,608.00
Received = $54,658.00
Total donors = 81

St Mary's
Goal = $11,136.00
Pledged = $11,405.00
Received = $10,930.00
Total donors = 11

St Patrick's
Goal = $15,310.00
Pledged _= $16,959.64
Received = $15,884.64
Total donors = 8

St Thomas Aquinas
Goal = $11,220.00
Pledged =$12,988.63
Received = $12,938.63
Total donors = 14

Reminder that anything submitted to the office physically or on line will not be sent in until after the first of each month which might not be reflected on the Diocese current report which is done at the end of the month.

real life CATHOLIC

ONE MONTH!

St. Vincent de Paul Parish 6001 N University Street Peoria, IL 61614

Tuesday, May 6, 2025
7:00 - 9:00 PM

REBOOT

A LIFE-CHANGING EVENT

This high-energy, 2-hour event with internationally acclaimed speaker **Chris Stefanick** will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY!

It will help you rediscover the JOY you were created for, and is perfect for everyone... even friends, family, and children (12+) who may not be actively practicing their faith.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE FOLLOWING LINK TO SECURE YOUR SPOT: HTTPS://REALLIFECATHOLIC.COM/REBOOT/

The Annual Letter Carrier Stamp Out Food Hunger Food Drive is May 10th!

On Saturday, May 10th, we urge members of our churches and communities to place food items out for your letter carrier to pick up as they deliver mail. A list of items to consider donating includes:

- Canned soups (cream of mushroom/ broccoli/cheddar, veggie, beef, chicken, etc.)
- Canned meats (Chili with beef, tuna, pork n' beans, chicken, *SPAM*)
- Canned veggies (green beans, any beans, corn, peas, carrots, sweet potato, etc.)
- Canned fruit
- Dry pasta (penne, spaghetti)
- Broth (cubes, liquid, paste, - chicken, beef, any flavor)
- Pasta sauce (Alfredo, tomato paste)
- Ready to eat microwavable meals (shelf stable)
- Cereals, oatmeal, cream of wheat
- Rice Roni
- Rice
- Mashed potatoes
- Hamburger helper
- Mac & cheese
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Cooking oil
- Pancake mix, corn bread mix

SUTTON HOUSE PROJECT

Sutton House Project Fundraiser!
Mark Your Calendar - 5/7/25!

Please support the Sutton House Project, *a ministry of Evangelization through Hospitality,* by enjoying a delicious meal at the Country-Aire Restaurant in Atlanta on Wednesday, May 7th, after 4 pm.

You can enjoy their "All You Can Eat Fried Chicken Dinner Special" or anything else on the menu while benefitting this cause. The Country-Aire Restaurant graciously will donate a portion of their sales from 4:00pm to closing on 5/7/25 to the organization.

Save the date

NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

DIOCESE OF PEORIA

May 19
SENECA • UTICA • LA SALLE

May 20
EL PASO • BLOOMINGTON • MORTON • PEORIA

May 21
PEORIA • GALESBURG • MONMOUTH • GULFPORT

150th Diocese of Peoria

www.cdop150.org/eucharist

Local Pilgrimage Events

Tuesday, May 20

- 10:00 AM **Mass of Thanksgiving**
  St. Patrick Church of Merna, 1001 N. Towanda Barnes Rd., Bloomington, IL 61705
- 12:00 PM **Eucharistic Procession**
  McGraw Park, 3203 Cornelius Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704

Register at eucharisticpilgrimage.org

NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

View the pilgrimage map for the Diocese of Peoria at cdop150.org/eucharist

Do you love me?

In the midst of our Lord's passion, Peter denied knowing Jesus three times. In today's Gospel, we hear Peter affirm his love for Jesus three times. Three denials, three affirmations of love. St. Augustine commented that Jesus asks Peter three times so that he who had thrice denied through *fear* might thrice confess through *love.*

How many times have I, like Peter, denied Jesus through fear? I lead a well-blessed life and I have never feared for my life, but I have denied Jesus through fear. There was the time I was working in an area dominated by another faith and was warned to tuck my crucifix into my sweater so they wouldn't know I was Catholic. I am sad to say, I complied. I have watched something happen that I knew was wrong, but I didn't speak up out of fear of being ridiculed or laughed at. I have seen someone in need, but I told myself it wasn't safe in this day and age to stop and help.

Knowing that I have acted out of fear, I can choose now to act out of love. How do I make this change? How can love overcome fear? In order to be prepared to choose love at the moment of decision, we need to prepare our will to choose the good. This is not something we can consistently do from our own strength or desire. We need to be open to God's grace. We are given all the grace we need to follow Jesus at our baptism, but that grace is like a wrapped gift. We must take the time to unwrap and open the gift in order to enjoy the benefits.

We unwrap the gift of grace when . . .

- we encounter Him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We can take all of those times we acted out of fear to Him and He will wipe the slate clean. This opens us up to the grace to behave differently in the future.
- we humble ourselves to pray on our knees. This gives God's grace the room to work within us. So rather than just mumbling my evening prayers as I drop off to sleep, I can actually kneel by my bed, evoking with my body the humility I desire in my soul.
- we practice putting others first. Let someone go ahead of you in line at the grocery store, let that car in on the highway on ramp, open the door for someone. These tiny, seemingly insignificant acts predispose our will to act in love when the choices are tougher.

Dear Lord, help me today, right now, to turn away from acting in fear and like Peter, choose instead to affirm my love for you over and over.

By Sheryl O'Connor for Diocesan

Notice: The Schedule for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Family has changed. Please join us on Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Spend some time with our Lord Jesus Christ especially during the Easter Season weeks leading up to Pentecost Sunday.

Third Sunday of Easter - "Smoting" or Non-"smoting"?

Some times I get angry at things that frustrate me. I'm driving home and traffic slows to a crawl. The electricity goes out while I'm watching a favorite show. So I have to struggle with the line in our first reading, where the disciples were "rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name" (Acts 5:41).
They weren't just frustrated; they were flogged for believing in Jesus. And still they rejoiced.

Imagine rejoicing over pain and suffering. These disciples had seen Jesus on the cross. When he rose from the dead, they began to see that his suffering was not a tragic loss, but a sign of his glory. They loved him so much that they took to heart his command to take up the cross. And when they suffered because they believed in him, as is recounted in today's reading, they saw that as a way to imitate Jesus on the cross. Those who had followed him in life could also follow him to the cross - and many did that literally, by dying for their faith.

Most of us today rarely have the chance to die for our faith. We may wonder if we even have the courage it would take. Instead, we usually find ourselves suffering because we have done wrong. God does not use special interventions to smite sinners. Think of the times we were punished as a child. Think of the times we lost a friend because of a cruel remark. Think of the times we got a ticket for speeding. These are the result of our actions. These are sufferings that we would rather avoid.

Jesus, however, suffered for our sins when he was totally innocent. If he could do that, could we not accept suffering for our own sins when it comes? We may not be ready to rejoice in that suffering, but we can at least try to learn from it. If we behave differently because of it, if we can grow to be better persons, then that suffering can be our way of accepting the cross.

Of course, not all suffering is caused by the sins of the person suffering. The suffering of the innocent is a great mystery, a cause for sorrow and a challenge to help where we can. But like growing pains, all suffering is a step to new life in Christ. And that is what Easter is about.

By Tom Schmidt for Diocesan

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
READ BY CARDINAL ANGELO COMASTRI

Saint Peter's Square
on Easter Sunday, 20 April 2025

Mary Magdalene, seeing that the stone of the tomb had been rolled away, ran to tell Peter and John. After receiving the shocking news, the two disciples also went out and — as the Gospel says — "the two were running together" (*Jn* 20:4). The main figures of the Easter narratives all ran! On the one hand, "running" could express the concern that the Lord's body had been taken away; but, on the other hand, the haste of Mary Magdalene, Peter and John expresses the desire, the yearning of the heart, the inner attitude of those who set out to search for Jesus. He, in fact, has risen from the dead and therefore is no longer in the tomb. We must look for him elsewhere.

This is the message of Easter: we must look for him elsewhere. Christ is risen, he is alive! He is no longer a prisoner of death, he is no longer wrapped in the shroud, and therefore we cannot confine him to a fairy tale, we cannot make him a hero of the ancient world, or think of him as a statue in a museum! On the contrary, we must look for him and this is why we cannot remain stationary. We must take action, set out to look for him: look for him in life, look for him in the faces of our brothers and sisters, look for him in everyday business, look for him everywhere except in the tomb.

We must look for him without ceasing. Because if he has risen from the dead, then he is present everywhere, he dwells among us, he hides himself and reveals himself even today in the sisters and brothers we meet along the way, in the most ordinary and unpredictable situations of our lives. He is alive and is with us always, shedding the tears of those who suffer and adding to the beauty of life through the small acts of love carried out by each of us.

For this reason, our Easter faith, which opens us to the encounter with the risen Lord and prepares us to welcome him into our lives, is anything but a complacent settling into some sort of "religious reassurance." On the contrary, Easter spurs us to action, to run like Mary Magdalene and the disciples; it invites us to have eyes that can "see beyond," to perceive Jesus, the one who lives, as the God who reveals himself and makes himself present even today, who speaks to us, goes before us, surprises us. Like Mary Magdalene, every day we can experience losing the Lord, but every day we can also run to look for him again, with the certainty that he will allow himself to be found and will fill us with the light of his resurrection.

Brothers and sisters, this is the greatest hope of our life: we can live this poor, fragile and wounded existence clinging to Christ, because he has conquered death, he conquers our darkness and he will conquer the shadows of the world, to make us live with him in joy, forever. This is the goal towards which we press on, as the Apostle Paul says, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead (cf. *Phil* 3:12-14). Like Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, we hasten to meet Christ.

The Jubilee invites us to renew the gift of hope within us, to surrender our sufferings and our concerns to hope, to share it with those whom we meet along our journey and to entrust to hope the future of our lives and the destiny of the human family. And so we cannot settle for the fleeting things of this world or give in to sadness; we must run, filled with joy. Let us run towards Jesus, let us rediscover the inestimable grace of being his friends. Let us allow his Word of life and truth to shine in our life. As the great theologian Henri de Lubac said, "It should be enough to understand this: Christianity is Christ. No, truly, there is nothing else but this. In Christ we have everything" (*Les responsabilités doctrinales des catholiques dans le monde d'aujourd'hui*, Paris 2010, 276).

And this "everything" that is the risen Christ opens our life to hope. He is alive, he still wants to renew our life today. To him, conqueror of sin and death, we want to say:

"Lord, on this feast day we ask you for this gift: that we too may be made new, so as to experience this eternal newness. Cleanse us, O God, from the sad dust of habit, tiredness and indifference; give us the joy of waking every morning with wonder, with eyes ready to see the new colours of this morning, unique and unlike any other. […] Everything is new, Lord, and nothing is the same, nothing is old" (A. Zarri, *Quasi una preghiera*).

Sisters, brothers, in the wonder of the Easter faith, carrying in our hearts every expectation of peace and liberation, we can say: with You, O Lord, everything is new. With you, everything begins again. From www.vatican/va

Let us keep Pope Francis in our thoughts and prayers. Let us give thanks for the gift of Pope Francis.

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Francis, whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church, may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion, which he faithfully ministered on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Excerpt from the English translation of The Roman Missal & Diocesan

After the nine days of mourning (Novendiales - nine days of Masses offered for the repose of Pope Francis' soul)**, we must pray for the Cardinals and the upcoming Conclave beginning May 7, 2025.**

O God, Eternal Shepard, who governs Your flock with unfailing care, Grant in Your boundless fatherly love a pastor for Your Church who will please You by His holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. St. Peter, pray for us. Amen.

Excerpt from the English translation of The Roman Missal & Catholic Imprint