

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
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NEWSLETTER

APRIL
2015



THIS MAN GOD RAISED ON THE THIRD DAY AND GRANTED THAT HE BE VISIBLE, NOT TO ALL THE PEOPLE, BUT TO US, THE WITNESSES CHOSEN BY GOD IN ADVANCE

We read the scripture above on Easter Sunday morning. It is part of a sermon proclaimed by Peter after the Holy Spirit descended upon him and the other apostles and believers on Pentecost. Peter speaks of Jesus, the risen one who was once killed. By His faith, and obedience to His Father, He was raised up.

Jesus accepted the Father's will to bring us acceptance. He accepted death to bring us life. He accepted humiliation to bring us glory. This is the glory and joy of Easter. If we walk with Jesus through Lent and stand at the foot of the cross and outside the tomb we can feel the abject loss. Hope seemed lost, life seemed lost, joy was gone. Then the Resurrection!

As Peter notes, not all people 'see' this gift. Jesus doesn't become truly visible to all. Perhaps they make Holy Week and Easter a pious exercise but not much else. The magnificence and glory of all that has been obtained for us never fully hits home in all its meaning. For others Easter is about a school

break, shopping, eating, maybe visiting family. Marketers are just making it another excuse for self-indulgence, stripping out all its meaning as the soldiers stripped Jesus. What does Easter mean for them? Why call it Easter?

By mercy we have been chosen to see, to understand, to partake. This doesn't mean that everyone else is excluded, far from it. In several weeks we will hear Jesus giving us the great commission, to go out and teach all nations and to baptize them. God is open to them and offers them all that He has given us: acceptance, life, joy, and glory.

The New living translation of the Bible recounts Paul's words to the Corinthians in this way: *Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.* We have been given the great gift of being chosen as His witnesses and will rise too. Let us recognize His acceptance of us, be thankful, and set to work so many may see Him.

Father Jim's Easter Wishes

My dearest family in Christ,

On behalf of my family, I extend to you every blessing for this Easter and throughout the Easter season. May the resurrected Christ continue to reign in your heart and in your life as you follow Him and adhere to a faith both ancient and new; as you recognize His wonderful gifts, especially that of being His witnesses.

We have a wonderful Lord and Master, a Savior who understands our needs. He is filled with love for us. In turn we, His people, His family, reflect His love in all we do.

It is a great blessing to have been called into the Lord's service. and this year is particularly special as I celebrate the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter as your priest and pastor for the first time. Jesus called me into His field, to do His work. I have been so greatly blessed because the portion of His field, here in Schenectady, is filled with abundant life, abundant good, abundant joy, and the opportunity to witness abundantly.

You have blessed me abundantly and I love you with all the joy of the resurrected Christ.

Życzenia radosnych Świąt Wielkanocnych pełnych wiary, nadziei i miłości, Wypełnionych nadzieją budzącej się wiosny. Pogody w sercu i radości płynącej z faktu Zmartwychwstania Pańskiego,

oraz smacznego świeconego w gronie najbliższych szczerze przesyła.

Join us for everything Easter

We so look forward to seeing you for the liturgies of the Pascal Triduum starting on Maundy Thursday at 7pm with Holy Mass. The times of services during Holy Week and for Easter are included in this newsletter. We reach the highpoint of the year's joy on Easter Sunday, April 5th with our Resurrection Procession and Holy Mass at 8am - a glorious time in the life of faith, our faith community, and the Holy Church. A second Holy Mass will be held at 10am.

Walk with Jesus in the days leading up to Easter so as to rejoice with Him in His resurrection.

Then... join us for the 50 days of Easter

We so look forward to seeing you as we continue to celebrate the Easter season from April 5th through May 24th (for 50 days!). Continue to rejoice in His resurrection with the apostles, your Holy Church, and your family in faith.

Movies, movies, movies

Remember that the Series "A.D. The Bible Continues" picks up

where the smash hit miniseries "The Bible" left off, continuing the greatest story ever told and exploring the exciting and inspiring events that followed the Crucifixion of Christ.

Watch along with us starting Easter Sunday at 9pm on WNYT and for the next 11 episodes on Sundays and take inspiration - we too can be faithful and strong disciples in the face of a world that tells us we are wrong.

Free Lunch on Sunday

Our next Free Lunch on Sunday event is Sunday, April 19th.

We offer free soup and more for anyone in need - whether its warmth, food, friendship, or just some company. Please continue to help spread the word. Grab a flyer and post it in local markets and shops. Tell your friends.

God bless all who work so hard to serve those in need - without cost or requirement. We especially thank Bob & Stephanie Dominy for their leadership!!!

Basket Social

Our ever popular Basket Social with so many baskets is ready to go. Thank you for your generosity and creativity!!! Thank you to Donna Panfil and all who assisted her in getting everything ready - Larry, Liz, Marilyn, Shirley, and Marianne. God bless you.

As always, you know the

baskets are great when everyone visiting the church hall has dibs on several baskets - 'I'm going to win that one...'

The Basket Social will be held Sunday, April 12th, starting at noon, at the VFW Hall, 1309 Fifth Ave., Schenectady. Be sure to invite friends and family to attend.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 Kendell and Shirley Maliszewski
- 3 Patricia Gustuvson, Mark Caulfield
- 4 Timothy J. Olsen
- 5 Kathleen Caulfield
- 7 Albert Rios
- 9 Lisette Rios
- 10 Timothy DeCocco
- 11 Julia White
- 14 Trevor Wheelock
- 16 Debbie Martucci
- 19 Philip Jorczak
- 22 Kathy Smith, Nancy Heins
- 23 Michael Wienclawski
- 30 San D'Amico, Stefan Węglinski

Anniversaries

- 13 Paul & Michelle Zawistowski

Wishing you many years! Sto Lat!

God bless you!

To all who continue to pray, sacrifice, and who abstained and joined in Lenten devotions, engaged in acts of charity, and practiced acts of Christian love and concern throughout Lent.

To all who attended our

annual budget meeting. You honor the sacrifice of our ancestors who built this democratic model of Church and keep their hope alive by your participation.

To all who invited friends and family to church on Friendship Sunday. We had a great turnout and several people reconnected with friends they haven't seen in years.

A special thank you to Bob and Stephanie for preparing a wonderful breakfast for our budget meeting and on Friendship Sunday as well as for preparing and selling Polish foods for Easter.

To our wonderful altar servers, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia, and to Ed Bertasso and all who have contributed to coffee hours and the ministry of hospitality.

To every parishioner, visitor, and member -- you are a blessing and a treasure. Thank you!!!

How to say Happy Easter

The Paschal greeting is an Easter custom among Christians. Instead of saying "hello," "good morning," or some other greeting we are to greet each other with "Christ is Risen!" The proper response is "Truly, He is Risen." In some cultures, such as in Russia it is also customary to exchange a triple kiss on the alternating cheeks after the greeting (what a great custom!). Here is the Pascal greeting in several languages:

- English: Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!
- Spanish: ¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡En verdad ha resucitado!
- Italian: Cristo è risorto! È veramente risorto!
- Polish: Chrystus zmartwychwstał! Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!
- Swahili – Kristo Amefufukka! Kweli Amefufukka!
- German: Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!
- Norwegian: Kristus er oppstanden! Han er sannelig oppstanden!
- Rastafarian – Krestos a uprisin! Seen, him a uprisin fe tru!
- French: Christ est ressuscité! Il est vraiment ressuscité!
- Greek: Χριστός ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη!
- Russian: Христос воскрес! Воистину воскрес!
- Gaelic: Tá Críost éirithe! Go deimhin, tá sé éirithe!
- Scottish: Tha Crìosd air èiridh! Gu dearbh, tha e air èiridh!

Join us for Good Friday Crosswalk

Our Parish will participate in the 2nd Annual Mont Pleasant Ecumenical Crosswalk on Good Friday, April 3rd starting at 10am in our parish. There will be a brief (approx. 15 Min.) message or prayer at each



Church along the way, with a theatrical performance and refreshments

at the conclusion of the crosswalk.

1. 10am Begin at Holy Name of Jesus with a message from Pastor Sara Boron from First United Methodist Church, Schenectady.
2. 10:35am New Creation in Christ Worship and Healing Ministries, 1073 Howard St., Rev. Eloy Binnon;
3. 11am St. Adalbert Roman Catholic Church, 550 Lansing St., Deacon Joe Cechnicki;
4. 11:45am The Bridge Christian Church, 735 Crane St. with the Living Gospel Ministry presenting *Peter's Journey, The Path of the Disciples with Christ to the Restoration* by Matt Zawisa and Rev. James H. Bookhout. Light repast to follow.

M&E, Summer Activities, Music, More

Hard to believe, but the national Bowling Tournament and Kurs are around the corner. Also other summer events including the Acolyte Retreat and National United Choirs Convention. See Fr. Jim and sign-up to go.

Need Rental Space?

Family gathering, a party, meetings? Check out our Parish Hall. Discounted rental rates are available to parishioners.

Blessing of Easter Baskets/Foods

All are welcome — as always! Bring your baskets, eggs, cooked foods, uncooked foods to be blessed on Saturday, April 19th at 4 pm.

This service is a token of gratitude to God for all his gifts of both nature and grace. A reminder that the Lord

is part of our daily life and is always

among us! Please bring a family member or a friend; help make this old but significant tradition new again!



Things for your basket:

Bread: A traditional round loaf signed with a cross symbolizes Jesus, the Bread of Life come down from heaven (John 6:35).

Paschal Lamb: Made of cake, butter or sugar with a red and white banner, the Lamb proclaims Christ as final victor over death and evil (Revelations 12:11).

Smoked Meats: Kielbasa and ham

symbolize the sacrifice of the new covenant. Jesus frees us from sin and eternal death bringing Exodus liberation to its final completion. Rings of sausage suggest family unity.

Easter Eggs: The colored eggshell represents Christ's tomb. It is often dyed in onion skin for a rich earth tone. The yolk is reminiscent of the radiant sun. Written eggs or pisanki proclaim the glory of the Resurrection.

Horseradish and Vinegar: The bitter herbs of Passover were fulfilled as Jesus drank sour wine while hanging on the cross. Traditionally, sweets are eaten only after tasting some horseradish as a reminder that Christ's bitter suffering opened the door to never-ending jubilation.

Wine: Psalm 104:16 extols the proposed use of wine, which gladdens the heart. For the baptized, wine points to the fullness of joy at the Eucharistic Table.

Salt: You are the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13). The faith, hope and love of Jesus' followers give zest and meaning to daily life, preserving all that is good.

Babka, Placki and Sweets: Children make Lenten promises often by giving up candy. All Easter candy denotes the sweetness of the heavenly kingdom. Yeast cakes iced with sugar allow all to taste the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34:9). Cakes rising in the oven illustrate the warm spring sunrise and most especially, Jesus' rising from the

tomb.

Planning For:

- March 29: Palm Sunday Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am
- March 30 - April 4: Holy Week
- March 31: Holy Tuesday - clergy conference and Holy Mass of Chrism in Scranton, PA
- April 1: Holy Wednesday, Anniversary of the Birth of Bishop Francis Hodur
- April 2: Maundy Thursday - Holy Mass at 7pm
- April 3: Good Friday - Cross Walk starts at 10am. Church opens for private devotion at 2pm. bitter Lamentation at 3pm. Liturgy of the Presanctified and Opening of the Tomb at 7pm
- April 4: Holy Saturday Liturgy of fire, light, blessing of Holy Water, renewal of baptismal promises, blessing of Easter baskets at 4pm.
- April 5: **Solemnity of the Resurrection** - Resurrection Procession and Holy Mass at 8am. Holy Mass at 10am. Easter repast follows each Holy Mass
- April 12: Low Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. **Basket Social Starts at Noon.**
- April 19: 3rd Sunday of Easter, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- April 24-26: National ANS Convention, Sterling Heights, MI
- April 25: Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist

- April 26: Good Shepherd Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- April 30: Solemnity, St. Joseph the Workman
- May 1: Feast, Ss. Philip & James, Apostles
- May 3: 5th Sunday of Easter, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am/Polish Constitution Day.
- May 4: Solemnity – Finding of the Holy Cross
- May 10: 6th Sunday of Easter and Mother’s Day, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. 64th Anniversary, Martyrdom of Bishop Joseph Padewski



ecclesiastical (or church) equinox. Then, they look for the next full moon, then a Sunday. So-- again, in the Western churches--the

date of Easter occurs between March 22 (although it last occurred on that date in 1818 and will not happen again until 2285) and April 25 (last in 1943 and will not happen again until 2038). The year-to-year sequence is so complicated that it takes 5.7 million years to repeat.

Because Easter moves, all the dates that depend on Easter move as well such as the weeks of Septuagesima, Ash Wednesday, the weeks of Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, which includes Maundy Thursday and Good Friday and Holy Saturday, Ascension Sunday, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and Corpus Christi.

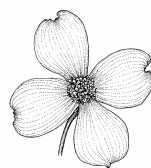
Why does the Date of Easter Change?

Easter always falls on a Sunday. Easter cannot occur earlier than March 22nd or later than April 25th, and that is just in the Western churches (Catholic and Protestant churches). The Orthodox churches follow the Julian Calendar which differs by thirteen days, so their date of Easter occurs between April 4th and May 8th on our calendar.

It took centuries for the Churches to agree on the date of Easter, finally settling on the definition that the date of Easter is the date of the first Sunday after the full moon after the vernal equinox, which is assumed to occur on March 21.

In both the East and the West, the churches begin with March 21, the

The Legend of the Dogwood Tree and Lily



Two thousand years ago, few trees in the Middle East were big enough to construct anything. However, one tree was valued above the others for its thick trunk and fine, strong wood. The

Romans came to rule over

Jerusalem, and their government used this timber to build crosses for execution. A group of workers were assigned to gather wood for the crosses from among those trees.

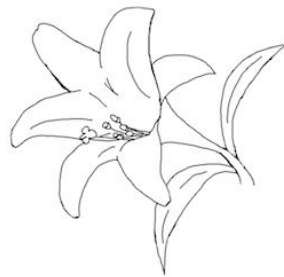
One day, the wood gatherers received a special request. An officer of the Roman court came and said, "The King of Jews is to be put to death. Deliver an extra-large cross made from your finest wood." So, a fresh tree was cut and the cross was assembled and delivered.

Three days after the death of Jesus the chief wood gatherer got alarming news: "All of our finest trees are withering!" The wood gatherer hurried to the forest and saw that it was true.

Several years later, the chief wood gatherer heard that, every spring, many people visited the old forest that had once made his job so easy. Despite his advancing years, he set out to discover why. He saw the remains of forest, now destroyed with only a few trees still standing tall but bare, lifeless, and rotting. As he drew closer, he could make out people walking among thousands of beautiful, flowering bushes. Seeing one of his own workers there, the old man said, "No one could ever make a cross out of this twisted wood. Our finest tree has gone to the dogs!" He noticed the beautiful white flowers, each blossom looking as if it had been burned from the touch of a miniature cross.

At the time of Crucifixion the dogwood had been the size of the

oak. So firm and strong it was the tree that was chosen as the timber for the cross. To be used thus for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree, and Jesus nailed upon it, sensed this. In His gentle pity for all this sorrow and suffering Jesus said to the tree: "Because of your regret and pity for My suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a cross. Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted. Its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross — two long and two short petals. And in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red, and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, so all who see it remember."







The lily is a symbol of purity because of its whiteness and delicacy of form. It also symbolizes innocence and the radiance of the Lord's risen life. It

is called the Easter lily because the flowers bloom in early spring, around Easter time.

The Bermuda, or white trumpet, lily was brought to the United States from Bermuda in the 1880s by Mrs. Thomas P. Sargent of Philadelphia, Pa., and it has become the mainstay of Easter floral arrangements and church decorations.

April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			 1 Holy Wednesday Birth of Bishop Francis Hodur (1866)	 2 Maundy Thursday Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper, Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 7pm	 3 Good Friday Ecumenical Crosswalk 10am-1pm in Mont Pleasant Church opens at 2pm Bitter lamentations at 3pm Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified and opening of the Tomb at 7pm	 4 Holy Saturday Holy Saturday Liturgies, Blessing of new fire, holy water, renewal of baptismal promises, blessing of food, 4pm
5 Solemnity of the Resurrection/Easter - Procession and Solemn High Holy Mass, 8am, Holy Mass at 10am. Easter Repast after each Holy Mass. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala/Claudia Bertasso	6 Monday of Bright Week Śmigus-Dyngus	7 Tuesday of Bright Week	8 Wednesday of Bright Week	9 Thursday of Bright Week	10 Friday of Bright Week	11 Saturday of Bright Week
12 Low Sunday – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil/Claudia Bertasso Basket Social at Noon	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 3rd Sunday of Easter - Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala/Claudia Bertasso	20	21	22	23	24 National ANS Convention, Sterling Heights, MI	25 Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist National ANS Convention, Sterling Heights, MI
26 Good Shepherd Sunday – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil/Claudia Bertasso National ANS Convention, Sterling Heights, MI	27	28	29	30 Solemnity – St. Joseph the Workman		

EVENTS

Basket Social, April 12th

Invite family, friends, and neighbors.

Holy Week

You will find great comfort beside Jesus in these days.

May

Mother's Day, Ascension, Pentecost