
3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 14, 2024



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

Second: 1 John 2:1-5a

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

FOCUS: *[We] look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.*

Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promises of salvation, and he has come to save us – body and soul. Our physical and spiritual realities are infused with one another, integrated within our creation as *Imago Dei* – made in the image of God. Christ was raised, body and soul, by the Father, and his glorified body was seen by the Apostles and others. Through him we will be reunited to God, our Creator, on the last day. As we profess in our creed, we look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

In the first reading, Peter witnesses that Jesus, who was handed over out of ignorance, was raised from the dead and is the fulfillment of the prophets. In the second reading, John exhorts his community not to commit sin and to keep God's commandments. In the Gospel, Jesus appears to the disciples, shows them his hands and feet, and eats in front of them.



MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Ursulina "Nena" Tamarez
Joseph Mongelluzzo
and Msgr. Joseph Reynolds

10 a.m.: Julia Torrents, Frank Skorka
and Gene Bové

GIFT OF JESUS' PEACE

"Peace be with you" – so important are these words of Jesus' that we hear them three times in the Gospel. Last week, we heard St John's account of one of Jesus' appearances to the disciples in the days after his death and resurrection.

"Peace be with you," Jesus said as he breathed the strength of the Holy Spirit on his fearful and doubting followers. In doing this, Jesus echoed what he had said at the Last Supper after he had washed the disciples' feet: "The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.' " (John 14:26-7)

But Thomas still doubted and needed to place his hands on Jesus' wounds before he could believe.

St Luke's account of the appearance of Jesus starts on the third day after the crucifixion, the day when his tomb was found empty. On the road to Emmaus, a stranger walks with two of the disciples and finally they recognize Jesus

"in the breaking of the bread." (Luke 24:35)



This week's Gospel tells what followed. Jesus appears amongst

all the disciples, again greeting them with: "Peace be with you." He reassures them he is not a ghost, is still with them in the flesh. And as they stand dumb-founded, Jesus asks the very human question: "Have you anything here to eat?" Once again, he shares a meal with his followers.

And as they share the food, he opens their hearts and minds to understand what they have seen and heard. As we share the food of our Eucharistic meal each time we gather at Mass, we recall that whenever Jesus shared a meal with his followers, he opened their hearts and minds. Jesus said: "Touch me and see for yourselves."

We may not be in Jerusalem in that room with the disciples reaching out to touch Jesus, but we can touch and see Jesus in all the good things around us: In the food that nourishes us, the water that revives us and washes us clean, in the love of God, and the family and friends who sustain us. All these are part of the peace that we have been given and, in these words, we feel our call to be an instrument of peace in our families, communities, workplaces and the world.

"Celebrating at Home" - The Carmelites

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. – Incomplete

10 a.m. - 153



ECLIPSE SHINES LIGHT ON SPIRITUALITY

When the moon passed between the sun and Earth last Monday – also the Annunciation of the Lord and the day after the Easter Octave – not only was a total solar eclipse created, but it gave rise to theological and liturgical musings as well. Many in its path looked skyward to observe the phenomenon from a spiritual perspective. After all, before the internet and modern astronomy, generations looked more intently at the universe for symbolism and meaning. This eclipse then was a reminder for many that this cosmic performance ultimately traces its orchestration back to God.

“If you believe God created the universe, then the study of the universe is the study of God’s work, and it will teach you something about God ...” said Christopher Graney from the Vatican Observatory.

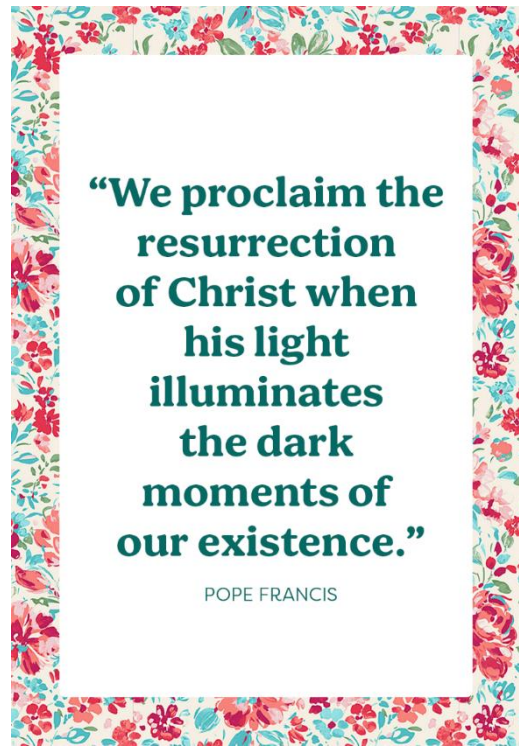
The eclipse can be viewed as an analogy of the experience of sin, of being lost and unable to see the light. But God’s light never ceases to shine. As St. Paul teaches, where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more. (Romans 5:20-21)

“The universe is very ordered. We just had quite an experience of God’s creation of the universe and how the sun, the moon and the Earth worked together that day to make for an eclipse,” said Fr. Robert Schrader, a priest in the Diocese of Rochester for whom the eclipse was also a 75th birthday present. He compared the flood of visitors to his neck of the woods last week with the Woodstock Festival in Bethel in 1969 (although Creedence Clearwater Revival and mud were missing, he quipped.)

However, not unlike at Woodstock, there was a sense of unity among the eclipse-watchers. For a little while, divisiveness and differences were obscured – a symbolic moment of light in the darkness!
(Information gathered from several Catholic websites.)

CARDINAL’S 2024 APPEAL

Our parish goal is **\$50,600**, of which **\$ 42,160** has been received/pledged as of April 9 from 100 families. If you have not done so already, please prayerfully consider your gift, which can also be made online at www.cardinalsappeal.org. Thank you.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



There will be a **French Toast Breakfast** after the 10 o’clock Mass on **Sunday, April 28**. Eggs, hash browns and sausage will round out the buffet. Tickets go on sale after the Masses this weekend and are \$10 or \$20 for an immediate family.



This year, the Archdiocese of New York’s **Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass** will take place at 2:30 p.m. **Sunday, June 2**, at St. Patrick’s Cathedral for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage in 2024. Couples must register through the church office by May 10. St. Paul’s Masses the weekend of **May 27** and **28** will honor those marking both their 25th and 50th anniversaries. Let the office know if you’ve reached either milestone.



The **Marianist Family Retreat Center in Cape May Point, NJ**, is offering weeklong family retreats beginning June 24, including one for single-parent families in July. The cost, which includes meals, lodging, activities and beach access, is \$230 each for those 8 and older, \$160 for ages 2-7. For more information: www.capemaymarianists.org.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

March 31- April 7: \$ 7,885.30

Envelopes: \$ 2,984.10 – Online: \$ 4,901.20

Total Easter Gifts

March 30 - April 7: \$ 6,614.00

Envelopes/cash: \$5,260.00.00 – Online: \$1,354.00

THANK YOU!

