

3rd Sunday of Easter

APRIL 18, 2021



Reading I: Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19

Peter's use of several honored titles of God in the Old Testament shows that he is a true Israelite speaking to his own in this sermon, and he urges them to repent and be converted to Christ.

Reading II: I John 2: 1-5a

Jesus is our true Advocate should we fall into sin. Paul tells us that "to know God" means keeping His commandments.

The Gospel: Luke 24: 35-48

Several themes of Luke's Gospel come together in this last section. Such are table fellowship, God's promises fulfilled in Jesus; forgiveness of sins; witnessing; the Holy Spirit; Jesus' journey to the Father is complete.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to Pam Vogt and her family upon the recent death of her son, Jack Shapiro. Please keep them in your prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Dorner Family, Grace Palmeri, Beverly Oboyski and Tom Calabrese

10 a.m.: Chris Pierce, Rosa Roman, Ronald Faso and Frances Hernandez

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. Saturday, April 10: **40** in the church/choir
10 a.m. Sunday, April 11: **52** in the church/choir;
46 in the hall. Total: **98**

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 4-11: Totaled \$ 7,485.29

Envelopes: \$ 2,735.29 – Online: \$ 4,750.00

Holy Week & Easter to date: 5,544.69

THANK YOU!

WILL THERE BE STEAK IN HEAVEN?

In my retirement, I have learned that I am at least a half-decent cook. My loving Mom was prescient years ago when she taught me how to cook a decent breakfast, and a few dinner menus, under her simple rubric: "You might not be able to get a cook at the rectory." How right she was, as many a priest these days can attest.

Over the years, I've grown more confident at the job. When I read this week's post-Easter appearance of Jesus and how He was handed a piece of baked fish to eat, I couldn't help think of the many pieces of fish I have successfully baked!

Of course St. Luke, with his keen and practiced doctor's eye for details, adds this piece of information to underscore the fact that Jesus' was a true bodily resurrection and not some chimera conjured up by the Apostles. Jesus' body was real enough to grow hungry, even though it had been glorified.

That brings to the fore the whole question of what happens to our own bodies in the next life. Faith provides the main answer. As the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults asserts: "*Faith in the resurrection of our bodies is inseparable from our faith in the resurrection of Christ's body from the dead. He rose as our head, as the pattern of our rising, and as the life-giving source of our new life.*"



Later in the same section the Catechism adds: "*In the final resurrection, our bodies will be transformed, though we do not know precisely how. The manner of our resurrection exceeds our understanding and imagination and is accessible only to our faith.*"

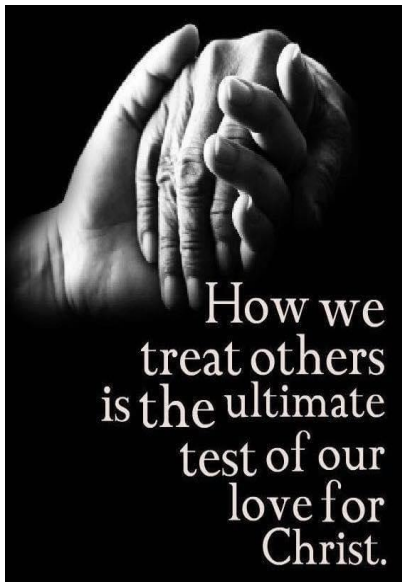
I find myself asking fanciful questions after reading those serious statements. Are we to enjoy good food like baked fish or grilled steak in heaven? Are all the desserts there to have no caloric effects on our avoirdupois? Will we be cooking our food, or will it just appear at our place on celestial china?

What is certain here on earth is that phrase in our Nicene Creed that we profess every Sunday which states our belief in "the resurrection of the body."

I close with one more citation from the Catechism. "*It (our resurrection) is a sobering belief because it reminds us of the judgment yet to come, and at the same time, it is a joyful belief that heralds life everlasting with God.*"

Good for all of us to bask in that belief this April weekend.

**God love you and give you His peace,
Rev. Leonard N. Peterson**



How we
treat others
is the ultimate
test of our
love for
Christ.

A CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

We are continuing to share resources for insight into the current issues of social justice from a Biblical/Church perspective. This week's reflection is "Bishops Denounce Violence against Asian Americans" – as does the faith community of St. Paul's.

www.ncronline.org/news/justice/bishops-denounce-violence-against-asian-americans

For one-click access to this and all the other articles, go to www.stpaulsbullville.org; then click "Read More" under the Social Justice heading on the home page.

IN THE LOOP



The next **Book Club** selection is "THIS IS THE FIRE: What I Say to My Friends About Racism," by Don Lemon, a reporter and Black man who addresses how to end racism in America.

The Prologue and Chapters 1 and 2 will be discussed from 10-11:15 a.m. on **Tuesday, April 20**, on ZOOM, and the Book Club will meet on Tuesdays through May 11. For information, contact Deacon Carl by email (carlloc@yahoo.com) or the church office.



Through the Center at Mariandale in Ossining, the Dominican Sisters of Hope is sponsoring a four-part online reflective series titled, "**Unity from the Depth: A Contemplative Response to Personal and Collective Division**," beginning May 22. For more information about this or the center's other offerings, visit www.mariandale.org and click on "Online Programs." Details about this series can also be found on our website, www.stpaulsbullville.org.



We're getting closer, but still about \$7,000 shy of our goal of \$43,000 for this year's **Cardinal's Appeal**. As of April 9, \$35,704.74 has been received/pledged by 132 families. Consider making a donation if you have not already done so. Thank you.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

More often than not, little blessings are really big blessings in disguise – as evidenced by what came to mind when the kids were asked to share the small, day-to-day blessings in their lives. Family and friends were paramount. The basics, such as a place to live, a prepared breakfast and a dog, were top of mind – along with activities such as camping, Scouting and dance. There was an appreciation of good weather, a scenic view – and even history. Personal items such as clothing, jewelry, video games, Legos and a Bible were also regarded as blessings. And let's not forget the M&Ms!

Scripture sharing followed and included:

Mark 6:31 - Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

1 Peter 4:10 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

Matthew 28:20 - ... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Matthew 11:28 - Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



Manza Family Farm
Quality Trees And Shrubs
At Low Prices

Planting Can Be Arranged
Delivery Available
730 State Route 211
Montgomery, NY 12549
845-692-4364
Fax: 845-692-4109
Tom Manza - tommanza@aol.com
www.manzafamilyfarm.net

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