

# HAPPY EASTER!

APRIL 9, 2023



## THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

**First:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43

**Second:** Colossians 3:1-4

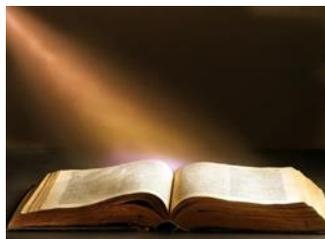
**Gospel:** John 20:1-9

**FOCUS:** *This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.*

Today's readings describe the effects of Jesus' resurrection on those who walked with him, and also what the resurrection has accomplished for us. In Acts, Peter testifies that belief in the Risen Lord leads to the forgiveness of sins. Saint Paul tells the Colossians that our death and life in Jesus will result in our glorification. Everything that Jesus did, he did for us.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD:

In the first reading, Peter summarizes the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and his commissioning of the Apostles. The second reading urges the Colossians to concentrate



on heavenly – not earthly – things. In the Gospel reading, the women find the empty tomb and tell the disciples. Peter and the beloved disciple run to the tomb and find the burial cloths.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**8 p.m.:** Parishioners of St. Paul's,  
Living and Deceased

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Whether it's your first time here or you're a long-time parishioner – or something in between – how wonderful we're able to all celebrate together the good news of the Risen Lord. And there's no better way to celebrate than to gather in his house for worship.

If you're new: Welcome! We hope to see you again, regardless of your personal circumstances or religious status. You are respected and encouraged to return.

To our dedicated faith community: Our sincere thanks for all that you do to make St. Paul's what it is.

We all wish you and your loved ones a Blessed and Happy Easter. ... and try to save some Cadbury Crème Eggs for tomorrow!

## A TOAST TO BREAKFAST

French toast is known by many other names worldwide because isn't French at all. The concept for this hearty breakfast favorite was actually first savored during the Roman Empire. And it was popularized in America because of a grammatical error.

In 1724, Albany innkeeper Joseph French planned to serve his guests French's toast – but forgot the apostrophe S!

So come hungry to church on **Sunday, April 23**, because Dzurillas' Toast (plural apostrophe because it references Rick *and* Julie!) will be served up immediately after Mass. Eggs, hashbrowns and sausage will round out the buffet – along with coffee, tea and juice.

Tickets, \$9 or \$20 for an immediate family, go on sale after the Masses next weekend.



## LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m.: 70

10 a.m.: 230

## TREASURER'S REPORT

**March 26- April 2: Totaled \$ 6,821.06**

Envelopes: \$ 3,718.00 – Online: \$ 3,103.06

THANK YOU!



## AN AVENUE OF LIGHT

Right after a run-through just before the March 31 Prayer Service for Healing, Hope & Peace, Chris Worthington and Deb Harrison looked at each other and said almost in unison, "What just happened? God."

Many of the 10 kids involved had been unable to attend the previous practices. Yet, their delivery and enthusiasm for the readings and songs were clear and powerful. This continued during the Service.

"They *wanted* to be there, even though it was the first night of spring break," says Chris. "It showed."

The first youth-hosted Prayer Service last year focused on Hope, to counter a media bombardment of bad news and negativity. Sadly, not a whole lot has changed, so it was decided that much-needed light, and the ability we each have to shine that light through change, be the focus.

As attendees approached the altar, singing "Here I Am Lord" to put their commitments to change in a basket, they also placed a votive light at the base of the cross. As everyone returned to their seats, Deb strummed lightly on guitar. The lights were turned off, and then there was complete silence.

"There was something moving about the dark, quiet space filled with people who were all doing, maybe even feeling, the same thing," says Chris.

Attendees expressed words of gratitude for the impactful evening and the inspiration for change that comes from our youth.

## FROM THIS DAY FORWARD ...

Spending 18,250 days with one person rarely just "happens." Instead, it's the shining expression of a lifelong commitment to vows pledged.

The Archdiocese of New York's **Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass** will take place at 2:30 p.m. **Sunday, June 4**, at St. Patrick's Cathedral for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage in 2023. Couples must register through the church office by May 15.

But here at St. Paul's, we think that spending 9,125 days with the same person is also worthy of celebration. Our Masses the weekend of **May 27** and **28** will honor those marking their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversaries as well as couples celebrating 50 years together. Let the office know if you've reached either milestone.

## DIDN'T QUITE MAKE GOAL YET...

At the Parish Meeting in January, the Financial Report – and our deficit position – were discussed. The Finance Council recommended an increased giving campaign – with a twist. Anonymous parishioners had donated \$300 gift cards to be raffled if a monthly goal of \$32,368 was reached by the end of March.

Our March total was \$28,880, 11 percent below goal, or \$872 short per week. April offers a clean slate, and it was decided to **extend the campaign for another month**. (Contributions will be adjusted for the Easter collection.)

Again, If you have increased your donation, thank you very much. If you have not, and it's not a burden to do so, please consider what you might be able to give.

