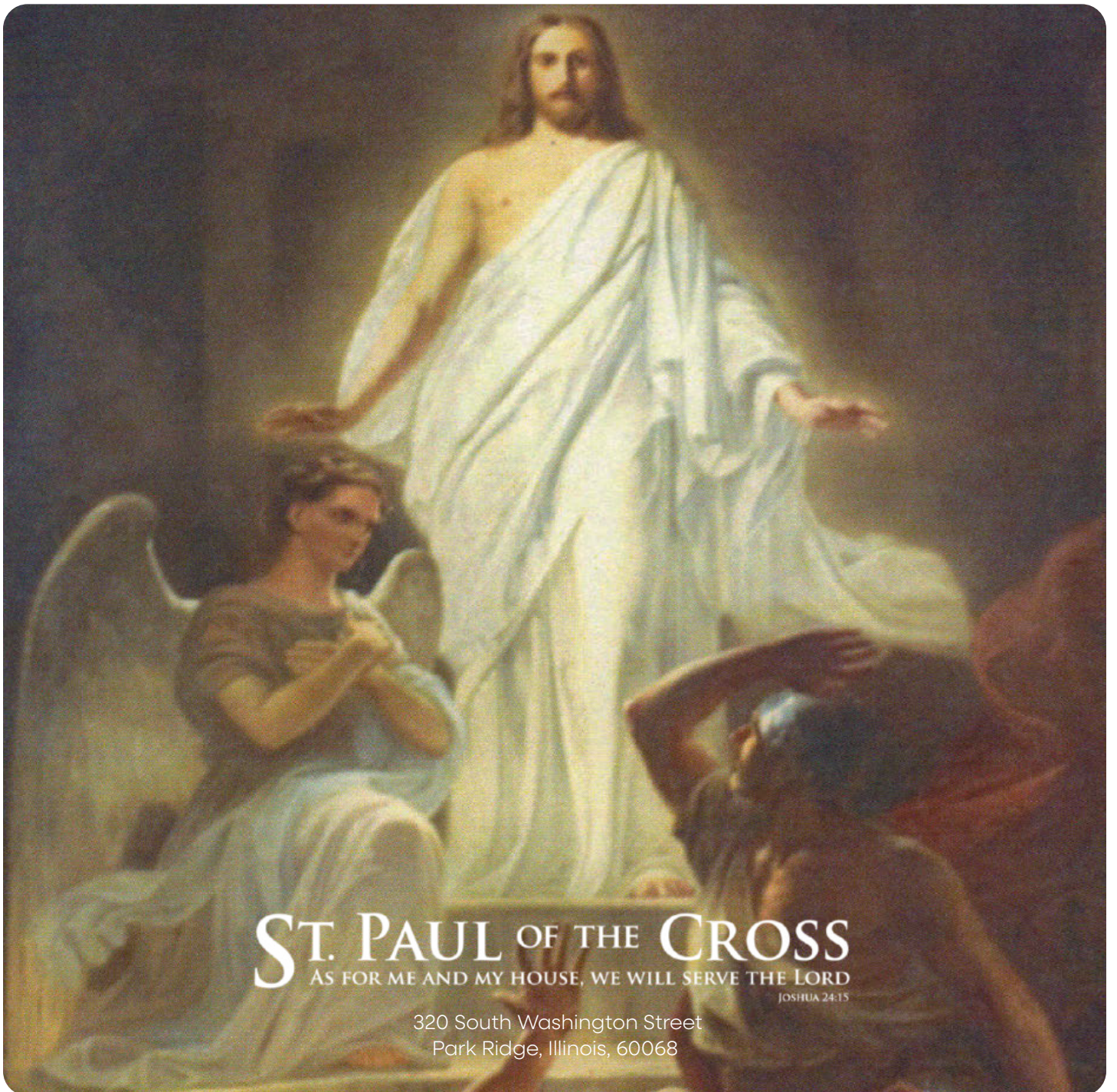


MARCH 31, 2024

CRUCIS

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION



Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

Schedule

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Upper Church

Monday through Friday 6:25 am
8:30 am
Saturday (weekday Mass) 8:30 am
Saturday (vigil) 4:30 pm
Sunday 7:30 am
9:00 am
10:30 am
12:00 pm

MONTHLY FAMILY MASS

Holy Family Chapel

2nd Sunday Family Mass 10:30 am

TEEN MASS (open to the public)

Upper Church

Sunday, May 19th @ 12:00 pm

CONFESSIONS

in vestibule of Upper Church

Monday through Friday 8-8:15 am
Saturday 3-4:00 pm

FUNERALS

Monday through Saturday Morning

WEDDINGS

Friday and Saturday

BAPTISMS

Saturday and Sunday

Baptisms

Finnegan James Huntington

Son of Theodore T.
Huntington and Caroline A.
Kohler



Pray for our Sick

Names Stay in Bulletin for 2 months

Delaney Bartz
Julie Benedetto-Wilcox
Ray Benedetto
Julie Finan
Joe Garvey
Donald Izban
Georgiana T. Glennon
Laura
Stanislaw Kazmierczak
Vince Ross
Carole Zachary

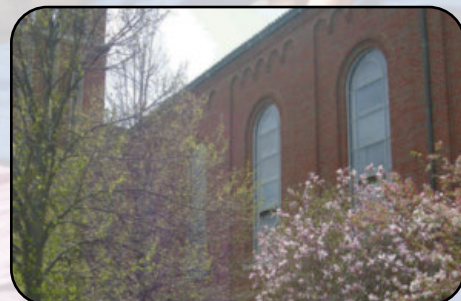
In Loving Memory

Please pray for the souls of the
faithful departed in our SPC com-
munity.

Brian Masterson
Judith Schneider

Wedding Banns

II Jesse Racine
&
Joanna Nagle



Stewardship Report

WEEKLY OFFERING (March 17th - March 23rd)

Envelopes	\$10,233.00
Loose	\$6,133.20
Electronic Giving	\$10,177.94
Total Weekly Offering	\$26,544.14

LENTEN ALMSGIVING

Through March 23rd	\$50,707.10
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ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DATA

2024 Annual Catholic Appeal (through March 19th)(goal: \$145,569)	\$75,546 paid (52%) \$87,366 pledged (60%)
Sunday Giving FY24 Year to Date (July 1st through March 23rd)	\$1,364,156.73
Sunday Giving FY24 vs Budget (July 1st through January 31st)	+\$45,566.00

Readings for the Week

Sunday:	Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7
Monday:	Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday:	Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday:	Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday:	Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48
Friday:	Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday:	Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday:	Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

Letters from a Pastor to his People



Dear Parishioners,

I heard a song the other day that I hadn't heard since I was a kid: Michael Bolton's *How Can We Be Lovers If We Can't Be Friends?*

How about that for starting an Easter letter? Michael Bolton? Wow, Father James, it looks like your fast over the Triduum has messed with your head.

Hear me out. The title of the song is true and totally applicable to our relationship with God. We can't really love God if we're not friends with him.

If I were to poll everyone at Mass this Sunday, DO YOU LOVE GOD? I bet the majority would say YES. If I were to ask ARE YOU FRIENDS WITH GOD? I bet most would say UNSURE or even NO.

If we say we love God without really being friends with him, chances are love is more of an obligation. We're probably saying we believe in God and perhaps even respect him. But that's different than loving him. Love isn't transactional or calculating. Love is a choice. It is human and it fills us with meaning and joy. If there's no friendship with God, then our love is not truly life-giving. It's not a two-way street with both partners giving and receiving. My hunch would be one side is only talking (either you're only asking God for things and are never listening, or you're just doing things for God, like going to Mass, and not actually giving your heart). Let's listen some more to Spiritual Sage Bolton...

*We lie awake, this wall between us
We're just not talkin', we got so much to say
Let's break these chains, our love can free us
Whoa, whoa, ain't it time we started trying
Whoa, whoa, gotta stop this love from dying*

Does that characterize your current relationship to God? Are you next to him right now in church but it feels like there's a wall between you? Is there so much on your heart and mind—so much you want to ask him and get answers to—but you're 'just not talkin'? Is your love dying?

Love flows from friendship. Be with Jesus the way you would be with a friend. Make time for him. Plan it in your day and commit to it. When you're with him, be present to him and don't be on your phone or thinking about something else. Talk to Jesus. Tell him exactly and honestly what's on your heart right now. It's okay

to ask him for something, but be sure you also give him time to respond to you, which means waiting in silence.

If it's easiest for you to do all this in a chapel or church setting, then go there. If you'd rather do it in a comfortable place in your home or room, or while going for a walk in nature, then do that. Friendship should never be forced or inauthentic. The same goes for prayer. Prayer should be *Time, Love and Tenderness*.

When Jesus emerged from that empty tomb, the task of the redemption having been accomplished, it was like he was reaching out to us to be friends. The devil's song is *Said I Loved You, but I Lied*. Not Jesus. Take his hand. It will make your life so much better.

+

I want to thank everyone who helped make the Holy Triduum and Easter Masses smooth and beautiful celebrations: sacristans, ushers, altar servers, deacons, Fr. Nick and the church decorators, the musicians, those who helped set up the gym, the Knights of Columbus on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, Beshar and the RCIA team, and many others.

Congratulations to our **RCIA candidates and catechumens** who entered the church this Saturday night at the Easter Vigil: Jack Leach, Rose Kosatka, Jamie Russo, Alyssa O'Donnell, Renee Mark, Max Wagner, Jonathan Lopes, Jenesis Lopez, Luis Vargas, Alfredo Torres, Delaney Starwalt. We are proud of you and will be keeping you in our prayers.

Our Christmas and **Easter collections** comprise a significant portion of our budget, so thank you to all who have contributed. As I mentioned in last week's bulletin, we have some significant expenses on the horizon with our boiler and cooling units in the church and school buildings, so your contributions will very much go to helping us keep our campus in good shape.

We will have a special **Divine Mercy Prayer Service** in church next Sunday, April 7th at 3pm.

Finally, you may have noticed on the front cover the **new name for our bulletin**: *Crucis*. It is Latin for "from the Cross." A special shout-out to parishioner Dan H. for the suggestion. We liked its simplicity and meaning. We hope you continue to enjoy reading the news and reflections from the Cross.

A blessed Easter to you and your loved ones. Christ is risen!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. James Wallace

Community Reflections



“Even if I fall one thousand times in a day, one thousand times I will get up.”

These words from Fr. Tim Gallagher’s homily echoed through the Church during our retreat. He was referencing the writings of Italian priest Bruno Lanteri, and that phrase struck a chord in my heart. Suddenly I was reminded of the times I had failed to be a good son, failed at being a good student, or failed at being a good employee at my job before seminary. And yet... I was filled with hope! Every time we sin and fall down, we are reminded that it’s an opportunity to experience the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit, and that’s exactly what the Resurrection models for us today.

During Lent we’ve been journeying through the desert, always surrounded by Christ but also encountering our brokenness, struggles with sin, or family and work challenges. It’s easy to feel weighed down by that heaviness. But now, like Sylvester Stallone getting up off the mat against Apollo Creed in the first Rocky movie, we have the opportunity to rise with Christ. By the grace of God we stand up again and experience the joy and infinite love of Jesus for each of us in the Resurrection.

As Catholics, we know that Jesus conquered death and opened the gates of Heaven for us through the Resurrection. Through the Gospels we experience the empty tomb and believe the words of the angel from that first Easter morning: “Jesus has risen!” Today, we have the opportunity to ponder the mini resurrections in our life. When we sin, God helps us get back up through the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If we fail at work or at school, as a parent or as a son or daughter, we get back up. Those resurrections remind us that we are made for more: deep relationship with God and eternal life with Him in Heaven. By spending time in prayer, we receive Jesus’s personal, infinite love for us! Let us always allow the Lord to help us rise with Him. Happy Easter!

Yours Truly,
Lee Noel

Adoration Chapel

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

COME SPEND SOME TIME WITH JESUS!


Our Adoration Chapel is open from 5 am until 11 pm.

Our current adorer schedule is pictured below. Red boxes indicate where there are no committed adorers. We need at least two committed adorers for each slot before we can reopen during the night. Yellow slots are when we have only one committed adorer; additional commitments are needed to fortify the schedule. Green indicates two or more adorers are present.

If you would like to sign up for a timeslot, please call the parish office at 847-825-7605 or email adorationchapel@spc-church.org.

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
12:00 AM							
1:00 AM							
2:00 AM							
3:00 AM							
4:00 AM							
5:00 AM							
6:00 AM		clean		clean		clean	
7:00 AM							
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10:00 PM							
11:00 PM							

Mass Schedule

FEAST DAY	TIME	PRESIDER	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	MASS INTENTIONS
MON, 4/1 Monday within the Octave of Easter	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick			Healing and Blessings for Nurdan and Rudy Kleiner
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick/ MN*			Helen Schaefer, Max Diaz, Laura Seger, Healing and Blessings for Paula
TUE, 4/2 Tuesday within the Octave of Easter	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick			Robert Marshall
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Marco DiFranco, Jo Ann Gallagher
WED, 4/3 Wednesday within the Octave of Easter	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick			Healing and Blessings for Christine Kolman
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Rev Daniel Smilanic, Anniversary Blessings for Kerry and Darlene Plencner
THUR, 4/4 Thursday within the Octave of Easter	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick			Blessings for the O'Sullivan family
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Fr Dan Smilanic, Living and Deceased members of the Walton and Garrity families
FRI, 4/5 Friday within the Octave of Easter	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick			Herbert and Mary Gartner
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Jolanta Bialobrzewski, Jan Bialobrzewski, Jose Navarro, Holy Souls in Purgatory
SAT, 4/6 Saturday within the Octave of Easter	8:30 am UC	B. Bartosic			Gregory Ginex, Felix Skawski
	4:30 pm UC	Fr. James			Joe Saldanha, Jean Zurawski, Marion Waterman, Dr. Joseph Strzyz
SUN, 4/7 Sunday of Divine Mercy	7:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Baby Emma Bauer Birch, Birthday Blessings for Frank Wach, Birthday Blessings for Angie Hart
	9:00 am UC	Fr. James			Vincente Llanes, Sr., Tom Burian, Antonia Alicea, People of the Parish
	10:30 am UC	Fr. Nick			Jose Almendarez, Michael and Irene Jaworski, Amy Zalud, Joey Furio, Liana Pini, Alyce and John Brunke, Elaine Zych, Healing and Blessings for Cayden Ingram
	12:00 pm UC	Fr. James			Living and Deceased members of the Notre Dame class of 1959, Living members of the St Paul of the Cross class of 1956
	3:00 pm Divine Mercy Prayer Service	Fr. Nick			
*LEGEND: /MN = Deacon Martin Nyberg preaching					

Events This Week

DATE / TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Thursday, April 4th @ 7:30 pm	Kinane Center	Praying with Scripture (Lectio Divina)

Opportunities at St. Paul of the Cross

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday April 7th
@3PM
Upper Church

Chaplet, Devotions & Benediction

For the sake of His
sorrowful Passion,
have mercy on us
and on the
whole world.

NO SCRIPTURE SEMINAR *with* FATHER JAMES THIS WEEK

WORD ON THE STREET

Tuesday April 23rd
with Fr James and Fr
Tim Anastos!
Starting at 7:30, but
come early.

See you all there at
the Harp & Fiddle (110
Main St, Park Ridge)

SPC SCHOOL KID'S SUMMER CAMP IS ALMOST HERE

Our summer camp
schedule is as
follows:

JUNE 10-14

JUNE 17-21

JUNE 24-28

VISIT: [https://
www.spc-school.
net/parents/sum-
mer-camp](https://www.spc-school.net/parents/summer-camp) TO
LEARN MORE.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED AT OUR PARISH BLOOD DRIVE ON PALM SUNDAY!

We are so grateful to all who
participated.

If you missed our blood drive, you can still help!
Please make an appointment at any of the Vitalant
donor centers before 4/29/24 using this link or QR
code and your donation will count toward our total.
There are convenient donor centers in Norridge
and Glenview.



**THANK
YOU**

Announcements

SCAM ALERT

Please be aware of scammers appearing to be Fr. James and Fr. Nick who will send you an email or text message asking to talk and then asking for gift cards or some other help. **DO NOT RESPOND!** If you ever receive a message appearing to be from Fr. James or Fr. Nick, you can double-check by looking at the email address. The only email addresses Fr. James and Fr. Nick would send from are the ones listed on the back page of the bulletin. Also note that Fr. James does not send text messages.

MONTHLY SPC WOMEN'S GROUP GATHERINGS!

The SPC Women's Group, also known as the Apostolate of Women, will now gather monthly to meet new and old friends and to provide all women of the parish with updates on recent activities of our pillars (Spiritual, Service, and Social) as well as our guilds (small groups). We'll also share opportunities for you to get involved and, most importantly, enjoy each other's fellowship.

You don't have to be a member to attend, although of course we would love you to join the group.

Tuesday, April 9th at 7pm in the Holy Family Chapel

We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions or topics you'd like included in these meetings, please send us an email at aow.spc@gmail.com.

Father James' Easter Reflections

Easter Sunday

"For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."
Colossians 3:3

Saint Peter was told by God in a vision to visit Cornelius. Peter was hesitant, for Cornelius was a pagan and a Roman soldier. A Jew could not come in contact with an unclean individual, let alone an enemy of Israel. But God broke Peter out of this old way of thinking with a sign. Certain foods, people, objects and places were no longer profane. The period of fear and isolation was over. Life could be lived. The news given to Peter brought him great joy.

This is the context for our first reading from Acts of the Apostles this Easter Sunday, which is an excerpt from Peter's speech to Cornelius. Christ has set us free from burdens and impositions. We are able now to live in ease and peace and freedom.

When the two Marys traveled to the sealed tomb on Easter Sunday morning, they were worried about how they would enter the tomb to anoint Jesus' body with the spices, for

the stone was so large. Their burdens were lifted when they arrive and see the stone rolled away.

We need no longer be anxious about the heavy stones in our life. What's the worst that can happen? We die? Well, death no longer has power over us. It is our entry to Heaven.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, you removed the obstacles from Peter and Mary Magdalene. Remove them from my life. Your resurrected body can pass through locked doors and be in two places at once. Breathe your freedom and lightness into me.

Monday in the Octave of Easter

"Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."
Matthew 28:10

The disciples were afraid when they saw the risen Lord. There is precedent for this. The Israelites were frightened when God revealed himself for a split second in the desert on Mount Hermon. They asked Moses to tell God to never again show his face to them. The shepherds were afraid when

Father James' Lenten Reflections (continued)

they saw the glory of the Lord in that field outside Bethlehem. Peter, James, and John were frightened when they saw the divine radiance at the Transfiguration. The whole apostolic cohort was frightened on the boat when God walked on water to them.

We all would have some modicum of fear if Jesus were to literally appear to us today. As much as we love the Lord, there is a part of us there is a part of us that fears we might be judged. There is part of us that wants Jesus to stay at a safe, spiritual distance. There is something within us that fears Heaven. Gazing upon a loved one does take to us an amazing place beyond ourselves. It is so rapturous it is frightening.

Whatever be the source of that fear in us, our Lord tells us to let it go. Trust that we can indeed see the face of Jesus, and expose our hearts, and live.

Directed Prayer: Lord, I am afraid to see you because I put so much pressure on myself to be perfect and to have you figured out, so I can say something proper to you. I surrender all that. You don't need me to be perfect or say the right thing. All those people to whom you appeared in the scriptures were sinners, just as me.

Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

"Jesus said to her, 'Mary!'"
John 20:16

It is when Mary hears the voice of Jesus calling her name that her eyes are opened and she recognizes the Lord whom she earlier thought was the gardener. Thomas will require touch and sight of the wounds. Peter needs something of the mind: an acknowledgement of his past and affirmation of his future. John needs something of the heart: the folding of the garments that he had two days earlier folded over the dead body of his beloved.

Our souls are triggered by the Lord in various ways. One of those ways, which we highlight today, is the way of Magdalene: voice. "My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me." The sheep recognize the shepherd by not by the clothes he wears or the staff in his hand. It is his voice. His voice that calls the sheep by name, lovingly and confidently. When Jesus speaks to us, we follow.

If we are called to be like Christ, called to be good shepherds, then we are called to speak like Christ. We are to know the names of the people in our lives. When we call their names, we are to do so with a power and love that Jesus called to Mary.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, you gently and confidently speak my name. I listen. I follow. I open my heart to you and love you. Jesus. I speak your name. I speak the

names of the people in my life (name them). May they be set free.

Wednesday in the Octave of Easter

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"
Luke 24:32

The disciples on the road to Emmaus had Christ in their midst but they did not see him. "Their eyes were prevented from recognizing him." They were too focused on the past--why had this had happened? They were too focused on the future--what will this mean?

When we are pulled away from the present moment, we miss the risen Lord.

"What are you discussing as you walk along?" Jesus asked Cleopas and his companion. It is the same question Jesus asked the apostles when they were debating among themselves who was the greatest in the kingdom of God. The apostles were similarly out of the present moment.

We stay grounded in the here and now because the moment is actual union with God. He is before us, and he wants an exchange of love to occur. If we are thinking about the past or future our eyes and heart are elsewhere. Right now Christ wants to show us he is faithful and caring and proud of us. "Today you will be with me in paradise," he told the good thief.

At Emmaus the disciples' eyes are opened for a split second when they receive the broken and blessed bread from Christ. That's all they needed, and they never again had downcast eyes.

Directed Prayer: Jesus, I acknowledge my past and my hopes for the future. I know you affirm me. But you invite me to let go of the burden. Right now, with you before me, is lovely, and that is where you invite me to remain.

Thursday in the Octave of Easter

"Everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled."
Luke 24:44

According to the Scriptures. It's a phrase we encounter often, be it in the Scriptures or in the Creed we say at Mass ("He rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures"). Everything is part of a plan. Nothing is arbitrary or random. Not that we are determined and fatalistic, but, rather, that God has beautifully orchestrated every moment of our lives.

When Christ appeared to the apostles after the Resurrection, he explained to them the Scriptures. It might have appeared incredibly

desolate when Peter denied Jesus or when Jesus was abandoned on the cross, but all of that was needed to make the beautiful harmony.

The story is not over. We are living in the existing edifice built from the blue-print of the Bible. Each season of Easter Christ comes to us and opens our minds a little more to receive this cosmic symphony and invite others to hear it.

There was a loud thunder clap when God appeared before Moses on Mount Sinai. It painfully shook the ears of those hearing. Now God provides a string quartet to soothe our heart.

Directed Prayer: Lord, my mistakes from the past and my weaknesses right now I bring before you. They are painful, but you tell me that you have blessed and anointed them. May I hear the beautiful music you are producing with my life and the lives of those around me.

Friday in the Octave of Easter

“When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad, and jumped into the sea.”

John 21:7

Why did Peter jump into the sea? Was it for a good reason or a bad reason?

If we are to spin it positively, then we would say Peter jumped into the sea because he was eager to be near the Lord. It was why he ran to the tomb on Easter Sunday morning. Perhaps now Peter thought he could run on water to Jesus, as he had walked earlier toward the Lord in the midst of the storm.

If we are to take the negative spin, then we would say Peter jumped into the sea because he was eager to turn away from the Lord. Just as he had once told the Lord at the initial catch of faith, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man,” now Peter was once again ashamed of his sinfulness. He ran away from the Lord like he ran away from Calvary after he had denied Jesus.

Maybe there was a little bit of both good and bad in Peter, both a turning towards and turning away from the Lord. Perhaps it is the same for us, we who would both run towards and run away from Jesus.

Either way, Christ will be waiting for us on the shore. He will be with a fire to dry and warm us, and set us on our way.

Directed Prayer: Lord, I love you. I don’t understand all that is my heart. There are parts of me I can’t fix, parts of me that lead me away from you. But I love you all the same, and I know you are patient with me. When I jump into the water in prayer today, please cleanse me and make me a new person, one who trusts entirely in your mercy.

Saturday in the Octave of Easter

“He appeared to them and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw him after he had been

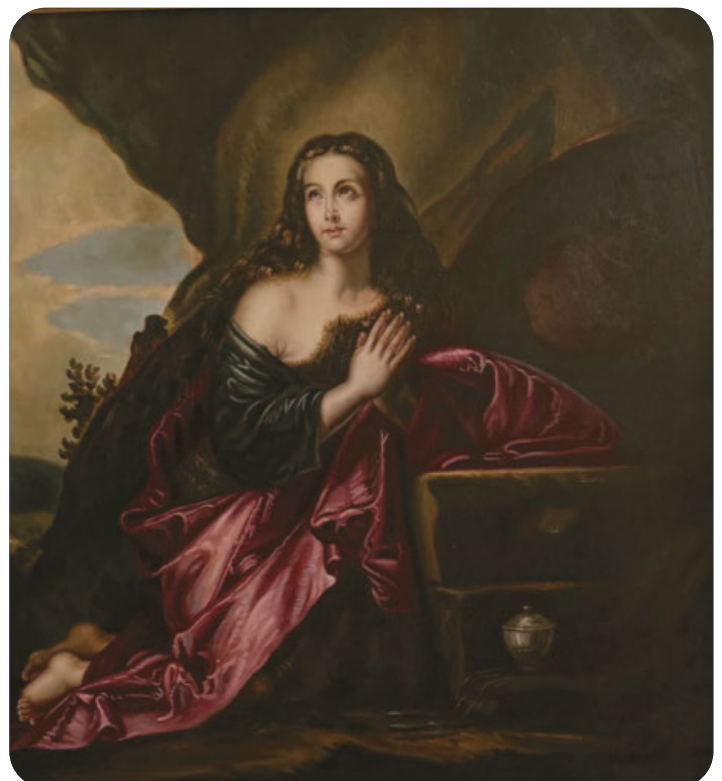
raised.”
Mark 16:14

To believe in the resurrection we have to want to believe in it. We have to want Jesus to be alive. We have to want our relationship with Jesus to continue and progress. Part of the reason for the apostles’ unbelief with the news of the resurrection was their initial lack of desire to want. If we want something, it will happen. We will believe and it will be true. The apostles thought the life of Jesus was over. Their three-year run with the Lord, while enjoyable, had come to an end and it was time to move on to something else. When they hear this might not be the case, they are reticent to believe. They have moved on in their hearts. Jesus will have to refashion their hearts and give them a second calling. “Follow me” becomes “Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.”

Each of us are in need of an experience of the resurrection. A part of our lives that is fallen needs to be raised up. But do we want it? If we do, the resurrection will come.

Each of us know someone who needs to be resurrected. Each of us has someone with whom we struggle. If we believe that they too can be raised, and that we can live in love and peace with this person, then that individual will be raised up. The empty tomb is waiting for us.

Directed Prayer: Mary, give me the desire to want the resurrection. Pray that I may let go of my need for comfort and go out to the margins. Make my heart receptive as yours was. Holy Spirit, rush into me and raise me up.



Cardinal Cupich's Easter Letter

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

Easter 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The resurrection of Jesus stands at the center of our faith. We believe, as Saint Paul says, that Jesus “died for our sins and rose for our justification.” He entered the very darkest corners of human existence, took our pain, suffering, and death upon himself, and then drew us into the fullness of risen life.

As we celebrate the Lord’s resurrection this Easter 2024, we are clearly aware of those dark corners of human existence that Jesus took upon himself. With troubled hearts, we watch war and violence unfold in the Holy Land, in Ukraine, in parts of Africa, and in our own city of Chicago. We know the crippling effects of climate change and the natural disasters that have affected so many people throughout the world. We struggle with the social and political polarization that threatens our life together.

We step back from all of this, and we can surely affirm that we need the transforming and life-giving power of the Resurrection. We also stand together as a church, a synodal church, that journeys together and reclaim our faith and trust in the power of the Risen Lord who makes all things work for the good for those who love him. We stand together in our often broken and wounded world to witness hope to all humanity, to proclaim that God’s life and not death will have the last word.

May this feast of Easter be a graced moment to rediscover and reclaim our great faith and hope in Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, who goes before us and leads us home.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Howe Card. Cupich".

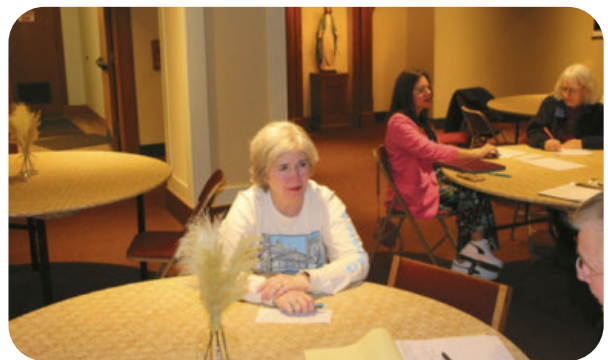
Archbishop of Chicago

Parish Pastoral Council

On Monday, March 11, 2024, the Parish Pastoral Council hosted a parish-wide Conversation in the Spirit. There were 9 participants and 7 Council members present. Parishioners unable to attend also provided email and telephone input. Four main questions were addressed.

1. What are your “dreams” for the Church?
2. How do I, as an individual, take responsibility for spreading the Word of Jesus?
3. How does SPC, as a parish, spread the Word of Jesus?
4. How can SPC, as a parish, improve its mission to spread the Word of Jesus?

Overall, the conversation aimed to empower both individuals and the parish as a whole to actively participate in spreading the message of Jesus Christ. Here are some images from the meeting.



Let Us Raise Our Imaginations from the Dead

I was on an early morning trip into the city of Chicago when the thought came to me that it must be a very difficult thing to rise from the dead. In fact, I imagine that the more scientific minded among us would say that, given the laws of nature, it is impossible. I imagine that they would swear on pain of death that a more unimaginable thing can't be conceived of. By this, of course, they'd mean that nothing goes more against the atheistic dogma that pervades many modern cultures than to say that a human being is much more than a body. Unknowingly, it is precisely here that the whole spiritual trouble of our modern age is made clear, almost screamed out even—our age is dead because it lacks imagination.

Now the whole of Christian tradition hinges on the central fact that at least one person has risen from eternal slumber and it should, if taken seriously, drive our imaginations wild. This, I suppose, is one part of the religious life that is often taken for granted—the richness that it brings to the life of the mind. Religious people are often accused of being closed minded because we sometimes have immovable and unshakeable rules that govern our lives. But far from being constraints they actually provide an opening, allowing us to share in the story of Christ, letting our imaginations run wild with our shared understanding of him. That is, it is the rich, participatory drama of Christ and the subsequent rules that govern the unfolding of his purpose for our lives that allow us to be Christian artists—people that can create ourselves through Christ. And what a wonderful opportunity that is. After all, you've always heard of a mad scientist but never a mad artist. He or she may be tortured (on a cross even) but not mad. That is perhaps why Jesus mainly spoke in parables because the Kingdom of God might really be like unto a man lost in the eternal bliss of imagination. Hence, it is with a wild imagination that I considered how I'd raise from the dead on that train ride that morning.

The first thing I imagined doing is to come to terms with the fact that I'm in fact dead. Exactly what that means, I still don't have the slightest clue, but I imagine it is foundational to the process of raising from the dead. After that, I imagine I'd find another dead person and ask them what are the rules to being dead, what are the spoken and unspoken guidelines to life after death? And after equipping myself with this knowledge, I'd try to build a machine that could circumvent these rules and return me to the land of the living.

But, of course, the more I thought through my musings, the more they appeared silly. My steps to returning to land of the living would fall short for the following reasons: as I said above, I wouldn't have the slightest clue of how to conceptualize being dead; it is also probable that no other dead person would want to talk to me about being dead; thirdly, where would I find the parts to build my machine?

But then like a flash of lightning, inspiration struck me and I remembered that Jesus had said "he that believeth in me shall never die" and my imagination went even more wild.

Regards,

Mark Hutchinson

GRIEF SHARE ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

**Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
March 19 thru June 11, 2024**

This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one.

A \$30.00 donation is appreciated to cover the cost of the workbook and operating expenses.

Please contact Kathy O'Toole Nowicki with questions or to register at irish1chgo@gmail.com or call our rectory at 847-825-7605. You may also go to www.griefshare.org for more information and to register online.

PANTRY NEEDS THIS WEEK

- * Crackers
- * Cookies
- * Strawberry jelly
- * Shampoo (no bottles of conditioner-only please)

(Please remember that we ask for standard, family sized packages...no jumbo/commercial multi packs please. Thanks!)

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Table of Plenty 2024

For ALL Incoming PK 4 yr – 5th Graders

Come join us here at St. Paul's for our VBS Program – Table of Plenty! The yummy schedule for this weeklong adventure is to strengthen your child's faith with fun and faith-filled activities. Children will learn that everyone is welcome at God's table! They will sing songs, play games, make crafts and have fun all while discovering the beauty of Jesus' love filled teachings. Sign Up Today!

When: June 17 through June 21 - 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Where: St. Paul of the Cross Campus

Cost: This adventure is \$65 for one child / \$95 for two children / \$105 for three or more children

Who: Students entering 4 year old Preschool through 5th grade this coming school year 2024-2025

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Information on groups & other specifics will be emailed in June

We Need High School or College age class leaders – email us!

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Archive Corner with Mark Miller

The archive corner would like to share some pictures of our campus that we have collected over the years, showing the beauty of Spring. Happy Easter!



Disciples in Mission Seeks Your Help with Refugees

Disciples in Mission is partnering with Exodus World Service to sponsor an event to support refugees arriving to the Chicagoland area and ready for placement into a permanent home. We will collect items that are generally needed when a family establishes a home for the first time, a "Welcome to America" Package. You can assist us in one of 2 ways:

1. Purchase items from a pre-defined Amazon "Welcome to America" Registry List or
2. Make a financial donation for the purchase of items.

If you are interested, we invite you to read further for additional details.

Who is a Refugee?

A refugee is a person who has been forced to leave his/her homeland and is unable to return because she or he has experienced persecution or has a well-founded fear of persecution. Persecution can be related to race, nationality, religion, political opinions, or membership in a particular social group. After seeking refuge in a second country (not the United States), refugees apply to be resettled in a third country. Refugees are approved by a country for residency status and are to be differentiated from asylum seekers, migrants, humanitarian parolees, immigrants, or unauthorized immigrants.

Who is Exodus World Service?

Exodus' mission is to mobilize the Christian community to welcome and befriend refugees, believing it is God's call to welcome refugees. They partner with agencies who help refugees resettle in the United States so they can connect our new neighbors, who have been vetted and invited by the U.S. government, with caring volunteers.

How Can You Help?

Purchase an Item from the "Welcome to America" Amazon Registry List or Make a Financial Donation to the Disciples in Mission Fund. Access the "Welcome to America" Amazon Registry List @ <https://tinyurl.com/Disciples-In-Mission-Registry> or scan the QR code here. **Purchase your items, have them delivered to your home, and drop them off at the St. Paul of the Cross Campus Kinane Center (Building C), at 215 Ridge Terrace on Sunday, April 14 between the hours 8:30 - 11:30 AM.** Financial donations will be accepted through April 21, 2024 and can be made on the Amazon Registry, as a selection item in the registry. If you prefer to make a cash donation, you may send a check to the Rectory with the designation, Disciples in Mission Refugee Fund.



What will we do with your donations?

Volunteers use financial donations to purchase items not purchased from the Amazon Registry. Exodus World Service will notify Disciples in Mission when a refugee family is to arrive. Volunteers will deliver the items and stage them, greet the family when they arrive to their new home, and welcome them to their new country.

Disciples in Mission asks that you pray for resolution to the conflicts creating a need for refugee services and would like to thank you for considering a donation to this cause and reading all the way to the end!

*Disciples in Mission is a collaboration between Immaculate Conception, Mary Seat of Wisdom, Our Lady of Hope, Our Lady of Ransom, St Juliana, and St Paul of the Cross to provide services to those in need within our communities. **Inquiries can be made to: disciplesinmission@spc-church.org***

Ministry Corner

Hello from the
St Paul of the Cross
Scouting Program.



Pack 24 (Cub Scouts) and Troop 24 (Boy Scouts) has been active at SPC since 1931. For 92 years we have served generations of boys and have taught leadership skills and duty to God and country.

Scouting provides numerous outdoor activities including camping, hiking, climbing, swimming, and canoeing. The highlight of our year is a week-long summer camp in Michigan.

Scouting also teaches the traditional skills of first aid, knot tying, and emergency preparedness. We hold weekly meetings for Cub Scouts (grades 1 – 5) and Boy Scouts (grades 6 until age 18) and have monthly activities. Our meetings and activities begin with a flag ceremony and a prayer.

Feel free to join us at Pack 24 or Troop 24. Always looking for new scouts and parent leaders. Ken Kulas (kulasken@gmail.com) – SPC Pack 24 and Troop 24 Leader

Ken Kulas

Ken Kulas

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES

Bible Study—George and Sue Kirkland—george@georgesue.com
Book Club—Dawn Golembiewski—golembiewski.dawn.renee@gmail.com
Catechesis—Anna Mae Parkhill—annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org
Disciples in Mission—Susan Clifford and Sue Feldman—disciplesinmission@spc-church.org
Evangelization—Nick Testa—nicktesta@spc-church.org
Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel—Ben Paoelli—adorationchapel@spc-church.org
Praying with Scripture—Beshar Bahjat—beshare@hotmail.com
RCIA—Beshar Bahjat—beshare@hotmail.com
That Man is You!—Will Gohl—wmgohl@gmail.com
Vacation Bible School—Anna Mae Parkhill—annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org
Vocation Ministry—Jerry White—jerrywhite56@gmail.com
Walking with Purpose—Megan McLaughlin—walkingwithpurposespc@gmail.com

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers, Arts and Environment, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion,
Lectors, Sacristans—Fr. Nick—frnick@spc-church.org

Bereavement—Margaret Teich—mfteich@yahoo.com
Liturgy Committee—Deacon Andy—andycameron@spc-church.org
Ministers of Care—Ann Vidovic—viddesign4@yahoo.com
Music Ministries—Ed Eicker—edwardeicker@spc-church.org
Ushers—Steve Bozek—sbozek@sbcglobal.net

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Baptismal Preparation Class—Deacon Andy—andycameron@spc-church.org
Fun, Faith & Music—Anna Mae Parkhill—annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org
Wedding Ministry—Joyce Johnson—jmj323@comcast.net

PARISH SERVICE MINISTRIES

Altar Linens, Mass Intentions—Donna Ebert—donnaebert@spc-church.org
Apostolate of Women—Melissa Poindexter and Jessica Armour—aow.spc@gmail.com
Collection Counters—Mike Angelini—angelinimike9@gmail.com
Home and School Association—Dr. Erika Mickelburgh—emickelburgh@spc-school.net
Inclusion Committee—Debbie Russo—russonet@spcglobal.net
Knights of Columbus—Robert Gawronski—kofcmaria4836@gmail.com
Men's Club—Randy Bull—rbull29@gmail.com
New Parishioner Welcome—Maria Mehl—msmehl@gmail.com
Parish Finance Council—Robb Armour—rarmour123@gmail.com
Parish Pastoral Council—Patti Nowak—pattinowak56@gmail.com
Parish Records—Marianne Armstrong—mariannearmstrong@spc-church.org
Respect Life Committee—Cecilia Klein—cmklein817@gmail.com

SOCIAL SERVICE MINISTRIES

Centennial Garden, Domestic Abuse Awareness Group (DAAG), Food Pantry,
General Assistance, GriefShare, Holiday Outreach, Lenten Almsgiving,
Our Lady of the Angels Mission, Sharing Parish/St. Benedict the African,
Sunday Night Supper—Leni Duffy—leniduffy@spc-church.org

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

Boy Scouts—Steve Knapp—knapp1415@gmail.com
Cub Scouts—Ken Kulas—kulasken@gmail.com; Ken Kapst—kapstk@aol.com
Girl Scouts—Karen Huber—hubekar@gmail.com
School Athletic Board—Kelly Spanos—kspanos@spc-school.net
Young Adult Ministry—Beshar Bahjat—beshare@hotmail.com



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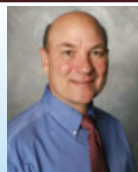
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VIRTUS

virtus@spc-church.org

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULING

schedule@spc-church.org

BULLETIN EDITOR

spcbulletin@spc-church.org
UPCOMING BULLETIN CONTENT DEADLINES
April 14th issue: Friday, April 5th
April 21st issue: Friday, April 12th

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

(Upper Church)

Monday through Friday 6:25 am - 8:30 am*
Saturday 8:30 am* - daily Mass
4:30 pm* - vigil
Sunday 7:30 am
9:00 am
10:30 am*
12:00 pm

* Livestreamed services. Our 10:30 am Sunday Mass is also simulcast to our Upper Church vestibule and Holy Family Chapel

MONTHLY FAMILY MASS

(Holy Family Chapel)

2nd Sunday Family Mass 10:30 am

TEEN MASS (open to the public)

(Upper Church)

Sunday, May 19th, 2024 12:00 pm

ADORATION

Adoration Chapel open 5:00 am until 11:00 pm daily
email adorationchapel@spc-church.org to register

CONFESSION

(Upper Church vestibule)

Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 8:15 am
Saturday 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

FUNERALS

Monday through Saturday Morning

WEDDINGS

Friday and Saturday

Call rectory office at least 6 months in advance

BAPTISMS

Saturday and Sunday

If this is your first child, baptism prep class is required and provided on the fourth Thursday every month at 7:00 pm. Please contact the parish office at 847-825-7605 to register.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

(8:30 am - 12:00 pm)

and

DONUT SUNDAY

(after 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses)
First Sunday of Every Month (unless advertised otherwise)

ANointing OF THE SICK

Call rectory office at 847-825-7605

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Call rectory office at 847-825-7605

ROSARY

After 8:30 am Daily Mass