

Easter Message to St. Elizabeth Parish



Easter 2021

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

The Glory of Easter: Happy Easter! What a spiritual journey it has been! Since Ash Wednesday, we have been walking discerningly with Jesus Christ. Listening deeply, we have been responding to God. His grace has been at work. Heeding the call to believe in the gospel, we have been engaged in spiritual and devotional practices. Now is the moment of truth and light. Christ is Risen, Alleluia! He has vanquished death and darkness, Alleluia! He has destroyed sin and evil, Alleluia!

Personal Meaning of Easter: The Easter Lord uplifts each of us from sinfulness to grace, from despair to hope, from lethargy to energy, from sadness to joy, from fear to courage, from coldness to warmth, from hatred to love. We are convinced that he *easters* in us. Now we can hope. We can shine. We can overcome. We can love. We can share. We can celebrate. We can live for God and others. The Easter Christ empowers us for fullness of life.

Universal Meaning of Easter: Our personal fulfillment, however, is placed at the service of others. Easter means that we forge families, communities, and nations capable of the power and promise of the Resurrection. Citizens of nations though we may be, we rise to be the citizens of the world--the world God so loves that he gave his only son. The Risen Christ cherishes and charms us, dazzles and delights us, nudging us to create a world of peace and justice, love and laughter; a world without hunger, sadness, and despair, where everyone can find their place and dignity.

Thank You: The Risen Christ is enshrined at St. Elizabeth Parish. In other words, we are Christo-centric. He shines forth in our parish life. I thank you for your faith and optimism, for your joy and friendship, and for your active participation in liturgical celebrations. The pandemic has altered our way of life, but with optimism we wait for the times when we can resume with gusto our spiritual and social celebrations in the parish. Thanks to your generous financial offerings, St. Elizabeth has been able to continue to do God's work.

Happy Easter: Here's wishing you a Happy and Blessed Easter! May the Risen Christ fill you and your families with his glorious grace and perpetual peace!

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota, Ph.D.

April 4, 2021

I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.
— Psalm 118:17



REJOICE AND BE GLAD

During the first three or four centuries of Christianity, if you asked a Christian to name the feast days of the church, your answer would have been a puzzled stare, for there was only one feast: The Resurrection of the Lord. Every Sunday was a feast celebrating the one great feast. Even though our calendar now has many beautiful and holy feasts, we must continually be called back to the fact that all these other feasts exist because of the feast of Christ's Passover from death to life. The psalm today proclaims this message well: "This is the day." It is not one of many days, but it is the day of all days, the one that gives all the others their origin, purpose, meaning, and destiny. Listen carefully to Peter's speech in Acts with its recollection of the Passion, to the words of the apostle Paul, and to the account of Mary Magdalene, John, and Peter finding the empty tomb, and you will hear the many wonderful works that God has done for us through Christ. Rejoice and be glad!
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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen (Acts 10:34a, 37-43).

Psalm — This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118).

(1) Second Reading — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (Colossians 3:1-4) *or*

(2) Second Reading — Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8).

Gospel — Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb (John 20:1-9) *or* Mark 16:1-7 (*or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35*).

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Sunday Collection March 28, 2021

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|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Weekly Need: | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Palm Sunday Collection | \$ 3,675.00 |
| Over/Under | \$ 1,325.00 |

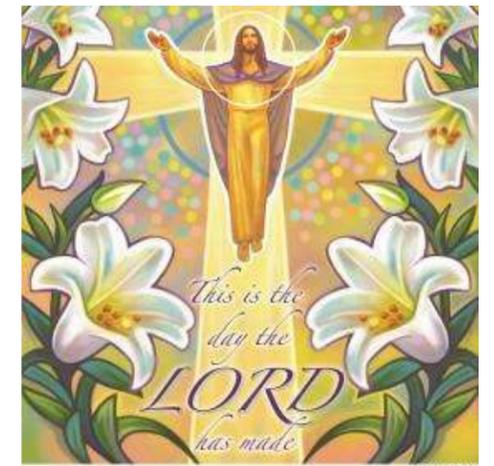
If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. **We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**

MASS INTENTIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 8:00 am | April 5 † Maria Kielian |
| Tuesday 8:00 am | April 6 † Fedelina Camba |
| Wednesday 8:00 am | April 7 † Ador Calantog Alfredo Woo (L) |
| Thursday 8:00 am | April 8 † Joseph and † Carmen Spiteri, † Tessa Spiteri-Lencioni |
| Friday 8:00 am | April 9 † Frank DeLuca |
| Saturday 8:00 am | April 10 † Paul, † Theresa and † Joseph Vella † Eva Castro |
| 4:30 pm Sunday 7:30 am | April 11 People of the Parish † Luciana Laxa † Jessie Borg |
| 9:30 am 11:30 am | † Illiana Carrara |

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Please note: All Mass times including Mass intentions were scheduled pre-Covid 19. Currently the only Mass will be Sunday at 10:00 am in the schoolyard parking lot. Weekday Masses are celebrated in the Church.



The Parish staff would like to wish you a very Happy Easter.

The Parish office will be closed on Monday, April 8th the day after Easter holiday.