

# ✠ Week of April 8, 2018

## MONDAY

Is 7:10-14; 8:10 \* Ps 40:7-11 \* Heb 10:4-10 \* Lk 1:26-38

**TUESDAY 8:00am Word/Communion**

Acts 4:32-37 \* Ps 93:1-2,5 \* Jn 3:7-15

**WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass**

Acts 5:17-26 \* Ps 34:2-9 \* Jn 3:16-31

**THURSDAY 8:00am Mass**

Acts 5:27-33 \* Ps 34:2,9,17-20 \* Jn 3:31-36

**FRIDAY**

Acts 5:34-42 \* Ps 27:1,4,13-14 \* Jn 6:1-15

**SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass**

Acts 6:1-7 \* Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19 \* Jn 6:16-21

**SUNDAY 9:30am Mass**

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Acts 3:13-15,17-19 \* Ps 4:2,4,7-9 \* 1 Jn 2:1-5 \* Lk 24:35-48



## ✠ Parish Activities

**Mon., Apr. 9 6:15pm Religious Education**

**6:30pm Bible Timeline**

**Tues., Apr. 10 10:00am Scripture Study**

**6:30pm RCIA**

**Thurs., Apr. 12 6:30pm Commission Meetings**

**7:30pm Parish Council Meeting**

**Fri., Apr. 13 5:30pm AACCS Sports Banquet**

**Next Weekend:** Please join your fellow parishioners for **Coffee & Donuts** after Mass. Also, **SCRIP** will be available. And, don't forget the **Food Pantry** – all of your donations are greatly appreciated!



**Thank You** to Mike Lance and Stacy Krueger who journeyed with our catechumen, Chis Krueger this year in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Their commitment to this process is a true sign of the Spirit's presence within our faith community.

**“Paul, Apostle of Christ”** This movie, currently playing in theaters, portrays an epic and Biblical look at the lives of Paul, Luke and the early Christians trying to live out their faith under harsh persecution. It deals with themes of love, grace, guilt, forgiveness, God's will, discernment and more. Information on the content of the movie and questions for discussion are available at the Café kiosk. What a wonderful way to celebrate the Easter season!

**Staff Position Opening:** We are looking for a new Office Administrator! It's a part-time 28 hours per week position. Applicants should have excellent oral and written communication skills, a working knowledge of Microsoft Office, and the ability to multi-task and meet deadlines. Applicants should be detail oriented, organized and flexible. A full job description is available upon request. Please submit a resume and three references to Father Tom.

## Baptisms...

*“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you;  
Before you were born, I dedicated you.”* Jeremiah 1-5

*Avery Jayne*

daughter of Adam & Stephanie Horschig

*Jax Andrew*

son of Andrew & Jessica Krauss

**Congratulations!**

## ✠ Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 \* Offering: \$16,791.81

Monthly Target: \$50,000.00 \* March Offering: \$48,179.49

Annual Target: \$600,000.00 \* YTD July thru March: \$431,025.90

Easter Flowers: \$22.00 \* Rice Bowl: \$866.08

Catholic Relief Services: \$102.00

## CSA 2018 Report

New responses received: 39	Pledging/donating \$7,535.00
Total pledges/donations: 194	(37% of registered families)
Total amount Pledged: \$39,475.00	(50% of our \$78,232.00 target)

## Children's Good Deeds: My Good Deed was...

...to give money to the poor in the Rice Bowl.  
...cleaning the basement. ...helping cook dinner.

## ✠ Education/Formation

**Family Talk Time** Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee  
How do you think the disciples felt when they saw Christ again?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** Through the breath of the Holy Spirit Jesus animates the souls of his disciples and sends them out to change the world. That same breath is always surrounding us everywhere we go. We simply need to intend to tap into it and we can also be filled with the Holy Spirit and the ability to preach and heal through our lives. This isn't a call reserved for the few. Imagine if with each breath we took, we blessed those around us. Such a blessing would transform how we see and are seen with each exhale.

► **Living the Word:** Gather the family in your prayer space and guide them through the following meditation: Take a deep breath in as you allow your eyelids to gently close. Notice how your eyelashes rest gently on your cheeks, the rise and fall of your breath, and the beating of your heart. For a moment, imagine yourself in a beautiful place in nature (the leader can elaborate here) and as you look to your right you notice a kind person beckoning you. As you approach, the person places his/her hands on your shoulders and gently breathes on the top of your head, filling you with a warm white light. As you soak it in, notice every muscle, every cell feeling more relaxed and more alive.

## ► 5 Ways to Live Easter Joy Each Day

Take Out: Family Faith on the Go, April 2018

- Do something nice for someone.
- Take a moment to appreciate the beauty of the nature around you.
- Try to live more simply. Give away material possessions you no longer use.
- Don't stifle your laugh when you see something funny.
- End each day by thanking God for all the good things in your life.

## ✠ Auburn Area Catholic School

► **Open Enrollment!** AACCS is taking registration for 3 and 4 yr. old Preschool and Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade. If you are interested in learning more about our school, please contact Mrs. Reder at 662-6431. She would love to give you a tour. You can also get information on our website at [www.aucurnacschool.org](http://www.aucurnacschool.org).

► **The 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> graders** have been collecting baby items for families who visit Abortion Alternatives in Midland. They will be delivering the collected items on Friday, April 13.

► **Flower Sales** will begin on April 13 with orders due on April 27. Pick-up will be on Friday, May 11. If you are interested in ordering, please contact a school family or call the school office at 662-6431.

► **Mass honoring Grandparents or a Special Person:** Fri., April 20. We look forward to seeing you there.

► **In-Coming Kindergarteners:** There will be hearing and vision testing here on Mon., April 23, 8:45-9:30pm. This is open to the public.

## ✝ From Father Tom's Desk

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

John the Evangelist tells us that on the first day of the week, the first day of the new creation, as the disciples were gathered behind closed doors in the evening, Jesus burst through their darkness and fear and allowed them to perceive him in their midst. Reminding them of what he had promised the last time they were together, he greeted them with the simple words, "Peace be with you." He didn't say, "I knew you'd scatter like frightened sheep." He didn't even mention what he had suffered or their loss of hope. Instead, as he blessed them with peace, he invited them to look at the scars left by what he had been through – the visible signs of death made impotent.

In what may be the greatest understatement in his Gospel, John simply says, "The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord." That rejoicing had to be a complex mixture of utter confusion, guilty embarrassment, humbling relief and grace-filled peace. The risen Jesus who presumably could have appeared to them under any guise, identified himself to them by showing the marks of his suffering. More than any words could ever do, his appearance made them realize that his passion was indeed his glory and a promise for all humankind. Jesus' first greeting of peace told them both that they were forgiven and that they had nothing to fear from the powers of the world.

Jesus' second greeting of peace took the disciples in a new direction. Their original encounter with their risen Lord had brought them forgiveness and new life; the next step was for them to take up his mission. John describes the mission of the entire church in the command of Jesus to disciples: Forgive sins.

The Greek word John used for forgiveness can also mean to send something away or leave something behind. In essence, forgiveness is the gift of freedom par excellence because it releases a person from the limitations or definitions of the past. It is the offer of new birth, a transformed life.

### A Season to Celebrate

[The Blessed Pentecost](#), Nathan Mitchell, Notre Dame

The Christian celebration of "the blessed Pentecost" will strike many as mad indeed. Fifty days of "dwelling in" the paschal mystery! Fifty days of surrendering in joyful faith and love as the Spirit of God takes possession of our lives!

One reason why such a prolonged celebration strikes us as difficult – if not downright absurd – is that we tend to link feasts and holidays with mindless hoopla. "Party time," for many, is an invitation to obliterate consciousness, to get wasted, to veg out, to forget. But a season of Christian festival is precisely the opposite. It is a time of intensified consciousness, finely tuned awareness, awakened memory. The great fifty days of Pentecost are not an unwelcome, unrealistic, obligation to "party on," even if we don't feel like it, but an invitation to explore more deeply "the weather of the heart," to awaken our memory of God's presence and power in our lives, to look more closely at all the rich and varied textures of creation. In short, Pentecost is a season for learning how to say yes in a culture that wants to keep on saying no.

### So Like Thomas

[Celebration](#)

The third time Jesus greets the disciples with peace, he addresses the one disciple who had not seen him and could not believe that such suffering and rejection as Jesus had undergone could be overcome. Thomas' statement, "Unless I see the marks..." implies that he was seeking a deeper faith than his friends had been able to convey to him. John names Thomas "Didymus," the twin, implying that he is the

reflection, the twin, of all the disciples who were not in that upper room on the first night of the first week. Thomas wants to be convinced. He knows what he believes from having experienced Jesus' death in his own way, he knows what he believes about suffering and death, but there is enough of a crack in his certainty to say "If I see the marks..."

When Jesus appeared to Thomas as his wounded-risen self, he captured Thomas in the dynamic of mercy and reconciliation. Thomas finally understood the God of unwavering love and life. When Thomas said "My Lord and my God!" he proclaimed his faith in everything Jesus had taught about God as his Father.

People who desire growth cannot avoid some failures. The secret and grace of Christianity is that the merciful Christ meets us in the very midst of our failures and fears, offers us peace, and sends us to do everything possible to share that peace with the whole world.

### Looking up

[GraceWorks](#), Dallas TX

**What if we looked up? For one thing, we might stop looking at where our feet are taking us and start paying attention to where God would take us. When we look up, the story changes from being about our journey as we step into God's story which is God's very life. If we would look up, we would find the grace and mercy, the life and hope that sees beyond what we have defined as life and meaning to the gift God gives: life and hope and joys eternal.**

***"Soar we now where Christ hath led,  
Alleluia! Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Make like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!"***

**When we look up, we "soar where Christ leads us" rather than limping around in our own death-bound world.**

**For all of us, when we look up, we take our eyes off the dusty old road on which we find our lives and discover God has another way. That way goes through a bloody cross and an empty tomb. That way is the way of death and resurrection, life and hope. So look up my brothers and sisters. Look up and soar into God's abundant life!**

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!**

### They'll Know You're Christians (Acts 4:33)

Verse 33 which speaks of the apostles' witness to the Resurrection can be understood as a further explanation of the community's lifestyle. They gave testimony to the Resurrection by the way they cared for one another. This means that their awareness of the Resurrection so transformed their understanding of daily life, their relationships, and their freely-assumed mutual obligations that the well-being of each member of the community became more important than personal property.

The sharing of goods Luke described in this community was not a socialist system or the original model for religious communities with their vow of poverty and common ownership of everything. This passage does not say that everyone put everything in common, but rather, some gave what they had to the apostles to provide for those in need. Luke does not portray this as a requirement for community membership. The emphasis is not on what was given but rather on the fact that no one was in need.

[Celebration](#)

## ✝ The Parish in the Community

► **Rummage Sale at Assumption of the BVM:** 3516 E Monroe, Midland (corner of Jefferson & Monroe), Tues., Apr 17, 11am-7pm; Wed., April 18, 9am-5pm; Thurs., April 19, 9am-noon (½ price & bag day).