

Week of April 23, 2017

MONDAY

Acts 4:23-31 * Ps 2:1-9 * Jn 3:1-8

TUESDAY

8:00am Word & Communion

1 Pt 5:5-14 * Ps 89:2-3,6-7,16-17 * Mk 16:15-20

WEDNESDAY

8:00am Mass

Acts 5:17-26 * Ps 34:2-9 * Jn 3:16-21

THURSDAY

8:00am Mass

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

FRIDAY

9:00am School Mass

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

Nursery & Children's Liturgy of the Word

Acts 2:14,22-33 * Ps 16:1-2,5,7-11 * 1 Pt 1:17-21 * Lk 24:13-35

*All events take place at St. Gabriel East Campus unless otherwise noted.



Parish Activities

Mon., Apr. 24	3-8pm	Parish Blood Drive
	6:30pm	Choir Practice
Tues., Apr. 25	10:00am	Scripture Study
	5:30pm	RCIA
	6:30pm	Sacramental Prep
Thurs., Apr. 27	6-7:30pm	Open Gym-west campus
Sat., Apr. 29	9am-12pm	Sacramental Prep Retreat
Sun., Apr. 30	6:00pm	Youth Ministry Trivia Night

Blood Drive: Mon., April 24, 3-8pm in the social hall. There's still time to make your appointment – visit miblood.org.

Cantor Scheduling: April 24, at 6pm followed by choir practice at 6:30pm.



Scripture Study beginning Tues., April 25, 10am at the Parish Center: **Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother**, a Catholic Bible study that will take you on an extraordinary pilgrimage, revealing Mary's unique role in God's Kingdom and in our lives. Join us for this DVD based series that was filmed on location in the Holy Land, which will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys and sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her divine Son.

Thank You! To Stephanie Schacher and our parish Youth Ministry for preparing and providing our annual Easter egg hunt for the children.

Thank You! We sincerely thank St. Gabriel Parish for your love and support during our medical crisis. We couldn't be more blessed and grateful to have friends and family like you in our lives.

God Bless, the Madison Wilcox family

Baptism..

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; Before you were born, I dedicated you." Jeremiah 1:5

Benjamin Steven Krzysik

son of Michael & Kelly Krzysik

Congratulations!!

"Live as if you were going to die tomorrow and as if you were going to live forever."

Stewardship

Weekly Target: \$11,538.47 * Offering: \$13,940.01

Easter Flowers: \$145.00 * Food Pantry: \$25.00

Rice Bowl: \$824.94

C.S.A.

26 new pledges: \$6,815.00

5th report

Total pledges: 268 (49% of households)

Total pledged: \$59,449.00 (76% of our target).

Hopefully those who have not yet responded will step forward and do their part. We have a responsibility to fund the diocesan budget. While we derive many benefits from the diocese, we don't give in order to receive. No, if we give generously, we will receive. Believe it! *Fr. Tom*

Education/Formation

FAMILY TALK TIME Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee With faith, we can believe in Resurrection. If you were Thomas, how would you have reacted to seeing Jesus?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** Both Resurrection appearances occurred on the first day of the week, which eventually became our Sunday. Jesus' appearances were certainly miracles. Thomas was the only disciple missing at Jesus' first appearance, and he believed when Jesus appeared for the second time. We can identify with Thomas' unbelief, because we can often doubt the presence of God in our lives. It is appropriate this Sunday to welcome and contemplate the great mystery that is Easter.

► **Living the Word:** The season of Easter is meant to be lived in a mood of great joy. Longer days with more daylight approach, and it may be time to do some planting – again, new life. The younger children can seed and sow grass, while the older ones may start seedlings that will eventually be transplanted into the warm ground for a garden. Keep the "alleluia" hello active in your home. Take time over the next four days for a family reading of the *Exsultet*, a lyric poem that is sung at the Easter Vigil.

Auburn Area Catholic School

► **Book Mobile:** Thursday, April 27, 1:15-2:15pm.

► **Open Enrollment:** AACs is taking registration for 3 and 4 yr. old Preschool and Kindergarten – 5th 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.auburnacschool.org.

► **In-coming Kindergarteners:** Hearing and vision testing at the school Mon., April 24, 8:45-9:30. This is open to the public.

► **The 1st Graders** have been collecting personal hygiene items for the families at the McNally House. They will be taking a field trip to deliver these items this week.

► **Flower Sales:** taking place now through May 5th. Pick-up will be Fri., May 12. If you are interested in ordering, please contact a school family or call the school office at 662-6431.

► **Grandparents/Special Persons Mass:** We will be celebrating this Friday, April 28. We look forward to seeing you there.



The Parish in the Community

Rummage Sale: Assumption of the BVM: (3516 E Monroe, Midland) May 2, 11-7pm; May 3, 9-5pm; May 4, 9-noon (bag day & ½ off marked items). All proceeds are donated to charities.

From Father Tom's Desk

2nd Sunday of Easter

Sr. Mary McGlone, [Celebration](#)

John's Gospel gives us two accounts in which Jesus becomes present in the midst of a group of his disciples, appearances neither Mark nor Matthew even mention and which Luke presents as a single incident. In reading the resurrection accounts we need to remember that the evangelists' purpose was not to write newspaper reports but to lead the readers to reflect on their own faith in the risen Lord.

Jesus appeared in their midst as the antithesis of everything represented by their current state of heart and mind. While they were shrouding themselves from reality, he, the supposedly missing one, sought them out. John says simply that Jesus greeted them with peace. While that is an ordinary greeting spoken today by both Jews and Muslims, it expresses profound blessings of wholeness and integrity, and undoubtedly in this instance, reconciliation. The disciples who thought they were safely locked away were suddenly confronted by the crucified one now fully alive. Although that would have been enough to undo them, they were also face to face with the friend and teacher they had abandoned and denied.

The risen Lord never appeared with flashy ostentation. Instead, he appeared to his beloved friends with a simplicity comparable to that of his birth in the stable. When he appeared on the inside of the locked doors, he showed the disciples his hands and feet, signs of all that had happened and also the definitive sign that evil and death had no power over him - not on the cross, not ever.

Jesus who had spoken at such length at the Last Supper makes only a few short statements when he appears among the disciples. The one word he repeats is "Peace." When they hear that they surely recall his promise to give them peace unlike any in the world. After that greeting Jesus showed them the maimed hands and feet that identified him as exactly who he was: the crucified and risen one.

Easter's Task

McGlone, [Celebration](#)

After speaking a second blessing of peace Jesus imparted on them the graced power to become who they were called to be. Breathing over them into his own relationship of being loved and commissioned to carry on the Father's work. Jesus gave the disciples the one ministry that symbolized and included everything he had done and was handing on to them: "Forgive. You have the power. You have the necessary grace. Forgive."

Thomas' Witness

McGlone, [Celebration](#)

Thomas is Jesus' key dialogue partner in the second appearance story which begins just like the first: with peace. Except for his need to touch the risen Jesus, we don't know the details of Thomas' struggle to believe. Did he find the testimony of the first witnesses unconvincing? Was it doubt that death could really be overcome? Perhaps he couldn't believe that they could all really be forgiven for their betrayals. Whatever blocked him, it was symbolized in what Jesus had suffered; Thomas had to see for himself that one so wounded could be living and loving. So Jesus acted out exactly what he had told the disciples to do: demonstrating how to be forgiving and hold fast to one who could be lost, Jesus invited Thomas to touch him and to take his place in the believing community. Thomas needed no further evidence. In this second week of Easter the early community and especially Thomas stand as witnesses to us. Their stories encourage us to allow Christ's word of peace and reconciliation to touch us and move us into mission. They remind us that locked doors are ineffective against the appearance of grace and that Christ approaches closed minds with love.

Community Life

Celebration

Luke depicts Christians as intensely communal people whose life was marked by three characteristic activities: They attended to the teaching of the apostles, they lived in solidarity and they prayed together. This meant first that they attended to their own growth in faith by reflecting together on their Scriptures, their experience of the historical Jesus, and the signs and wonders happening in their midst. Members of the early Christian community found themselves in the unexpected position of having to thoroughly rethink their faith traditions in the light of what God had done through Jesus. It was, of course, a task that would continue for millennia, but their reflections became the organizing material for the narratives and teachings of what we call Christian Scriptures and all the theology that flows from it.

According to Luke, the second activity that characterized the community was life in solidarity. Some people describe this as the original Christian socialism, but that description falls short in that it seems to assign an ideology or a theory by which to regulate their communal life. Instead of following a philosophy, their way of being a community was a response to their experience of God among them. The more deeply they were aware of God's love, mercy and forgiveness, the more they created practices that gave concrete expression and structures to prolong the experience of grace they felt among them. To the extent that they knew themselves to be loved without measure and called into union with God and one another, rivalry and hoarding made no sense. The thought that some of them might lack what they needed would have been a source of pain and shame.

The third dimension of their communal life was shared prayer. They prayed in their traditional way at the temple area as well in their unique way by celebrating the Eucharist, the breaking of the bread. Their celebration of the breaking of the bread gave sacramental expression to their participation in Christ's self-giving. Saying that they ate their meals with exultation illustrates their basic attitude of gratitude, their awareness of God's grace in their life together.

"Lord, help my unbelief."

April Wedding Anniversaries

- 50 years or more.....John & Geraldine Schacher
Daniel & Marlene Derdowski
Leo & Marlene Tomczak
Robert & Emma Huskins
William & Marcia Reder
- 40 years or more.....Edwin & Patricia Wittbrodt
Ronald & Elizabeth Owen
David & Louann Cimbalk
Richard & Lezley Grzegorzcyk
- 30 years or more.....Kenneth & JoAnn Kosnik
Thomas & Ann Smith
Melvin & Sherry Pfenninger
Timothy & Gwen Gwisdala
Walter & Patricia Hechlik
Michael & Theresa Tasior
Rick & Doreen LeVasseur
David & Sandra Saunders
Michael & Leslie Clare
Paul & Michele Vennix
- 20 years or more.....Jim & Caroline Campbell
Robert & Suzanne Rivard
Stephen & Amy Katt
- Ten years or more.....David & Tracy Arthur
Jay & Tina Hickey
Matthew & Kelly Snawder
Nathan & Ashely Bock



Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness.
(If you'd like your anniversary included, please call the parish office.)