

# EASTER – THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

*If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.*

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

Holy Saturday, March 30, 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil, - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

Easter Sunday, March 31, 9:30 a.m. Mass – For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

11:00 a.m. Mass - For world peace, the poor and the Parishioners of St. Peter's

1:30 p.m. Nigerian Community Easter Mass

Monday of Easter Octave, April 1, No Mass

Tuesday of Easter Octave, April 2 No Mass

Wednesday of Easter Octave, April 3, 8:30 a.m. Mass

Thursday of Easter Octave, April 4, 8:30 a.m. Mass

First Friday of Easter Octave, April 5, 8:00 a.m. Mass

Holy Hour Eucharistic Adoration from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

First Saturday octave of Easter, April 6 - 5:00 p. m. Mass

Sunday, April 7 Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday, Mass - 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY REFLECTION:** Each one of our four canonical gospels ends with stories of the discovery of the empty tomb and accounts of appearances of the risen Jesus. Throughout the first week of the Easter period the gospel at Mass is taken from this material. Today we read John's account of the discovery of the empty tomb. The account gives a prominent role to Mary Magdalene, who becomes known by Christians as 'the apostle to the apostles'. It is she who discovers the empty tomb and passes on the news. Why is it empty? She will know why when Jesus appears to her later in the chapter. The disciple whom Jesus loves, thought to be the author of the account, is convinced of the resurrection without even seeing the risen Jesus. It is sufficient for him to see that the body of Jesus no longer lies in the tomb. The later appearance of Jesus to the eleven disciples will confirm what he already knows. Christian faith proclaims: 'Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!' Without the resurrection, the real rising of Jesus to new life in a transformed and glorified body, there would be no good news to proclaim. The God of love is more powerful than death and sin, and God has shown this in raising Jesus, who became a victim of sin, to the life of the resurrection. The world is in dire need of news that is true, amid so many messages which are false, undermining and deceptive. True hope lies in the God who raised Jesus from the dead. Do we appreciate the fundamental significance of the resurrection of Jesus? Do we have the vision to see the wonders God works in each human life? We pray for those baptised and those received into the Catholic Church this Easter. We pray for Christians for whom the cross is a daily and painful reality that they will know that the risen Christ is at their side.

**QUO VADIS?** Where are you going? Is the Lord calling you to serve him as a priest? Join other men discerning the priesthood for monthly formation, fellowship, and Eucharistic Adoration. The next session will be held on April 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m. at the new Café des Tours, located in the basement of Notre Dame Cathedral in Ottawa. To join the Quo Vadis email list or for more information, contact Fr. Connor O'Hara, the Vocations Director for the diocese, at [vocations@ottawacornwall.ca](mailto:vocations@ottawacornwall.ca)

**Collection - March 23 – 24, 2024:** Envelopes: \$1, 690.00, Loose: \$450.00; Clergy Support: \$280.00; St. Vincent de Paul: \$275.00; Vigil Lights: \$27.55; Development and Peace: \$325.00; Holy Land: \$260.00; Easter Collection: \$260.00; Clergy Support: \$280.00; **Grand Total: \$3,777.55.**

**THANK YOU** for your generosity and support.

**Rejoice! He is Risen:** The theme of today's Mass includes both proclamation and witness. In the First Reading, we see Peter speaking after the baptism of Cornelius and his family, the first Gentile Christians. He is speaking about his own experience and sharing that experience with the listening crowds. For the true disciple of Jesus, there is a close and indivisible relationship between experiencing and proclaiming. Because of Peter's experience of knowing with utter conviction that Jesus, who died on the Cross, is now alive, he is so filled with the joy of it that he simply must share that joy with others –so that it can be theirs, too. We find a similar theme in both of the Second Readings and the Gospel. Paul, a dedicated Pharisee persecuted Christians because he saw in them a dangerous deviation from the Jewish Law and Jewish traditions. Then he, too, had that sudden experience when the Risen Jesus revealed himself. That experience, as we know, brought about a total change in Paul's life. Easter calls for a radical conversion, a radical purging on our part but also of sharing that experience and joy with as many people as possible. It is something we must do also. Not to share our Easter joy and what it means to us is to leave Easter only half celebrated. For the true Christian, in fact, every day is an Easter Day lived joyfully in the close company of the Risen Lord.

**AN EVENING WITH DEANTHA EDMUNDS:** The Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall has extended the early bird price for the Deantha Edmunds concert taking place on April 19 at Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica. This will be an evening of beautiful music that you don't want to miss. Until Monday, March 25th you can purchase the \$35 Premium General Admission ticket for just \$28, a 20% savings. Go to [IRFconcert.eventbrite.ca](http://IRFconcert.eventbrite.ca) for details and to buy your tickets or you can contact Ruth at 613-933 -1138, ext. 22 or [ruth.tyolarose@ottawacornwall.ca](mailto:ruth.tyolarose@ottawacornwall.ca). The proceeds of the concert are to benefit the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund.

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE:** The message of Easter is for all mankind ... not just the nice, the pretty, the kind or smart. God loves the drug dealer on the street just as much as the Sunday school teacher. And He has the same amount of love for the murderer in jail as He does for you. His love is unconditional, and He gives it to us this Easter, and throughout the year. We must live as forgiven people, moving past our mistakes to shine with God's light. And just as important, we need to be ready to forgive others for their sins against us. God's love is for you and me, embracing us, forgiving us, and loving us no matter what.

**Sunday Morning Smile:** After being away from the Church for some time a fellow enters the confessional box. Inside, there is a fully equipped bar, cigars and chocolates. He hears the priest come in: "Father, forgive me for it's been a very long time since I've been to confession and I must admit that the confessional box is much more inviting than it used to be". The priest replies, "Get out. You're on my side".

**EASTER PRAYER:** Make us an Easter people, Lord, rejoicing, renewed, resurrected. May the wonder of Easter morning colour every dawn we see. Teach us to cherish each day as a gift from you, as you roll away the stone of yesterday's sin and let us begin anew. Show us that, just like Jesus, our lives can be extraordinary if we trust in you. Give us this gift of eternal Easter Lord, that Your Church may be the gospel message you intended. Amen.

**2024 REGISTRATION PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION IS NOW OPEN.**

Parents who wish to have their child(ren) prepare for any of these Sacraments are asked to visit the parish office to pick up a registration form after Mass or call the parish. Please note the following dates and times. You Must contact the parish office to register for sacramental dates listed.

The Sacrament of First holy Communion will be held Sunday, June 2, on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi – The most Holy body and Blood of Christ at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. The Sacrament of Confirmation for all our parish schools and this parish community will held on Tuesday, May 14, on the Feast of St. Matthias at 7:00 p.m. with the Most Reverend Yvan Mathieu, Our new Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar General, Ottawa – Cornwall Diocese.

Confirmation for Adults Catholic will be held on Sunday, May 19, on the Solemnity of Pentecost, 2:30 p.m. at Notre Dame Cathedral with his grace Marcel Damphousse, Archbishop of Ottawa – Cornwall Diocese.

