

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 23, 2017

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

— John 20:29b

A SEASON OF JOY

"They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers" (Acts 2:42). This first line of today's first reading sets the tone as this fifty-day celebration of Easter opens before us. Today we listen to the teachings of three apostles—Luke, Peter, and John—who remind us that even though we have not seen Christ, we nonetheless are filled with joy as we place our belief in his saving death and resurrection. Each week during the Easter season we will gather as a community of faith to find strength and support from our God and from one another. Each week we will gather to break bread and offer the great prayer of thanksgiving, actions that will manifest the very presence of the risen Christ in our midst. Let us be open to the wonders of this season of joy.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$6,249.00	\$4,655.00
Number of Families contributing	178	154
Total Pledge for 2017	\$175,815.00	\$188,514.00
Pledged to Date (16 Weeks)	\$52,920.00	\$57,208.00
Received to Date	\$56,865.20	\$49,587.20
Envelopes Outstanding	(\$3,945.00)	\$7,620.80

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$284.00	\$5,346.00

Twenty-nine ladies made a contribution last week.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

2017 Parish Goal	
Amount Received to Date	\$5,086.41
Amount Outstanding	

Four people made a B.A.A. contribution last week.

HALL RENOVATION FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$210.00	\$5,201.00

Six people made a Hall Fund contribution last week.

PARKING LOT totaled \$3.00.

20 **CHILDREN** contributed \$122.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$79.00.

SHRINES IN THE HOLY LAND totaled \$522.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 8:00 P.M. Mass was 420, and Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass was 250.

SPECIAL COLLECTION The second collection this week will be for *Catholic Home Missions*. Please be generous.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*"But rather seek ye the kingdom of God;
and all these things shall be added unto you."*

—LUKE 12:31

A shabbily dressed transient recently dropped dead on a street in a Midwestern city. When his body was removed to the morgue it was discovered he had thirteen hundred dollars pinned to his underwear. Further investigation revealed he was a printer who had lived as a recluse without friends or family, hoarding all he could get. He was buried by the state and the government got his money.

This true but magic story reminds us that men often place values on wrong things. The dead recluse had scrambled values. If he had sought to be a helper of humanity rather than withdrawing from life, his story would have had a far different conclusion.

Jesus often spoke about the dangers of materialism. He daily pointed to the tragedy of lives lost and souls damned because men have misplaced values. His clarion call was for man to seek first the kingdom of God. In our society of plenty we tend to get wrapped up with "things", forgetting the weightier matters of life. Oh, that we might deeply absorb Christ's message and meaning when He states, "The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment."

*Father, help us keep our values centered on eternal matters,
only on those things which really matter.*

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Travis and Brooke in thanks to the Blessed Mother for Tye and Rich receiving their First Holy Communion and for their sister Hart;
2. the Family of Shirley Suedle Carroll in loving memory of her on the 12th Anniversary of her death;
3. Mary Boo and Courtney in loving memory of John F. Carroll on the 1st Anniversary of his death;
4. a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

ST. EDWARD EASTER EGG HUNT organized by the Youth Group was a grand success. Congratulations to Jimmy Chalkston Carroll who found the Golden Egg.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION First Holy Communion went very well. We congratulate the First Communicants and a big thank you to the teachers who prepared them to receive Jesus.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA will be held this Sunday, April 23rd at 3:00 P.M. The Church will be opened at 2:00 P.M.

BLESSING FOR THE MEN The Blessing for the men who will be leaving for the Summer will be held this Sunday, April 23rd at 8:00 P.M. in the Church.

PEARL OF THE DAY

*If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have,
that money cannot buy.*

MASTER'S TABLE The Youth Group is scheduled to prepare and serve a hot meal to their guests at the Master's Table in Augusta on Thursday, May 4th. If you would like to participate in this God rewarding opportunity, please contact Jack's Mary Rita.

THANK YOU to a member for a \$100 donation in thanks to the Baby Jesus and Blessed Mother; to a member for donation in honor of St. Gerard a member for donation in honor of St. Expedite; and a three member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

BIBLE GUIDE

What is the Pentateuch?

The Pentateuch is the name given to the First Five books of the bible: Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy. They narrate the primitive history of humankind and the actual history of God's chosen people and His laws.

JOKE OF THE WEEK A husband and his wife had a bitter argument. As they were driving to attend a family wedding in a distant city, both were nursing hurt feelings in defensive silence. But, then the silence was broken. Pointing to a donkey standing in a pasture out bedside the road, the husband asked, "Relative of yours?" The wife quickly replied, "By marriage!"

THINK IT OUT

- No matter how *beautiful* and *handsome* you are just remember **Baboons** and **Gorillas** also attract tourists. **Stop Boasting.**
- No matter how *big* and *strong* you are, you will not *carry yourself* to your Grave. **Be Humble.**

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Divine Mercy Sunday
Tuesday: St. Mark
Friday: St. Peter Chanel
St. Louis Grignion de Montfort
Saturday: St. Catherine of Siena

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: In honor of Pope Francis, Pope Benedict, St. John Paul for a special intention.
Tuesday: In loving memory of John F. Carroll on the 1st Anniversary of his death.
Wednesday: In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.
Thursday: In thanks for Asher Carroll on his 2nd Birthday.
Friday: In thanks for Eddie Owen Riley on his 10th Birthday.

THE EYES OF GOD

*God's eyes are always watching, they are never far away;
His ears are always open, to hear us when we pray.*

*His hands are thus extended, to lift us should we fall;
His voice will give an answer, if upon Him we will call.*

*His heart is always broken, when we turn away from Him;
Yet, He is more than anxious to send light when life looks dim.*

*His feet will walk before us, leaving footprints we can see;
His love will wrap around us, and His grace will set us free.*

READERS

Sat. Apr. 22nd, 4:00 P.M. Karen & Christina	Sun. Apr. 22nd, 7:00 P.M. Jay & Apple's Carolyn
Sun. Apr. 23rd, 10:00 A.M.	Mary Cat & Jimmy Joseph
Sat. Apr. 29th, 4:00 P.M. Apple's Christina & Dayna	Sat. Apr. 29th, 7:00 P.M. Jay & Apple's Carolyn
Sun. Apr. 30th, 10:00 A.M.	Theresa Maria & Jimmy Joseph

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	Dominique
Tuesday	Erin
Wednesday	Christina
Thursday	Dayna
Friday	Miranda

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M. Front Front Left Left Cup Front Right Right Cup Sick	Apr. 22nd Bridget Ann Rose Marie Catherine Ann Rose Melissa Ann T. Bunk's Ann
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Sunday 10:00 A.M.

Apr. 23rd Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie	April 30th Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie
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EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	Mary Cat
Tuesday	Pete Man's Nora
Wednesday	Ann T.
Thursday	Rose Marie
Friday	Bridget Ann

BEST RELATIONSHIP

The best relationship is not the one that brings together perfect people, but when each individual learns to live with the imperfections of others and can admire the other person's good qualities.

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

LORD I NEED YOU

***Lord I need You when the sun is shining bright.
I need You in the coming dark of night.
I need You when my body is ill.
Yet when all is well I need You still.
I need You Lord less I should stray.
I need You to keep me going the right way.
When winds of fear sweep over my soul,
I need You Lord to take control.
And when at last my life is gone,
I need You Lord to take me home.***