

3rd Sunday of Easter - April 18, 2021

ST. MARY PARISH MASSES

Tues. April 20 - 7:00 p.m. Mildred Page Req'd by Dan Page

Wed. April 21 - 9:00 a.m. Kathleen Black Req'd by Stella McCabe

Thur. April 22 - 9:00 a.m. Martin Pronk Req'd by Ron & Marian Flanigan

Fri. April 23 - 9:00 a.m. Rita Tangney Req'd by Julie & Mike Goetz

Sat. April 24- 4:00 p.m. Loretta Caughlin Req'd by Elsie McAsey

Sun. April 25 - 9:00 a.m. The People of the Parish

LECTORS

Sat. April 24 - 4:00 p.m. Maxine Schmidt
Sun. April 25 - 9:00 a.m. Debra Ross

CONFESSION only by appointment, call Fr. Joe at : 519-323-1054 ext.7

ST. THOMAS, Harriston

Sat. April 24- 5:30 p.m. The People of the Parish

ST. PETER'S, Avton

Sun. April 25 - 11:00 a.m. Loretta & Jim Murray Req'd by Dot Bourgeois

Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15,17-19

Peter preaches that Jesus has been raised from the dead and calls upon the people to repent.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 4:2,4,7-8,9

A prayer seeking God's favor

Second Reading

1 John 2:1-5a

Those who know God keep his commandments.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:35-48

Jesus appears again to his disciples and shares a meal with them.

Background on the Gospel Reading

On the third Sunday of Easter, we continue to hear Gospel accounts of Jesus' appearances to his disciples following his Resurrection. Today's reading, taken from the Gospel of Luke, follows immediately after the report of Jesus' appearance to his disciples on the road to Emmaus. Consistently in the reports of Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances, Jesus greets his disciples with the words, "Peace be with you." This is a most appropriate greeting. The disciples have witnessed the death of someone they loved, and they now fear for their own lives as well. Peace is what they need more than anything else. Jesus often connects this greeting of peace with another gift—forgiveness. In today's Gospel, this connection is made in the final verses.

Even as they hear Jesus' greeting of peace, the disciples are startled and terrified. They are uncertain about what to make of the figure before them and, quite understandably, they mistake Jesus for a ghost. Yet the figure before them is not a ghost; Jesus invites them to experience his resurrected body with their senses, to look and to touch. The figure before them is flesh and bone, still bearing the marks of crucifixion. Although the disciples cannot forget his suffering and death, peace begins to take root in their hearts, as their fears turn to joy and amazement.

As further proof of his identity and of his resurrected body, Jesus eats with his disciples. The disciples have known Jesus best through the meals that he has shared with them. By eating with his disciples after his Resurrection, Jesus recalls all these meals, and most importantly, he recalls the Last Supper.

Luke's report of the Last Supper and the meals that Jesus shared after his Resurrection unveil for us the significance of the Eucharist. Having shared a meal with his disciples, Jesus now uncovers for them the significance of what was written about him in the Scriptures. So, too, our celebration of the Mass is an encounter with Jesus, through the Word and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. As Jesus commissions his disciples to be witnesses to what Scriptures foretold, our celebration of the Eucharist commissions us. Like the disciples, we are sent to announce the good news of Jesus' forgiveness of sins.

<https://www.loyolapress.com>



DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Mon- Rev. C. Tracey Tue- Rev. M. Morley
Wed - Jesuit Fathers (S.J.)
Thurs -Rev. G. Nowak,C.R. Fri.- Rev. I . Koziak ,S.A.C.
Sat - Rev. J. C.Galea

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

April 21- St. Anselm- theologian and philosopher

April 23- St. George and St. Adalbert

St. George was killed for his faith in Palestine at the beginning of the fourth century.

St. Adalbert is known as the Apostle to the Slavs and was martyred near Gdansk in 997.

April 24 - St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen- dynamic preacher. He is a patron saint of lawyers.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

To keep a lamp burning we have to keep putting oil in it. –St. Teresa of Calcutta

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer

Intention:

Prayer of the Month – April 2021

Lord Jesus Christ who are close to the suffering, we bring before you the desire that all people are treated [...]

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of illness.

O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with your gentle love, and grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden.

Dear God, we place our worries in your hands.

We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servant to health again.

Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us. Amen.

<https://www.livingwithchrist.ca>

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTHCARE HAMILTON announced the appointment of Dr. Lehana Thabane as the Vice-President of Research for the hospital, and the Scientific Director of The Research Institute of St. Joseph Healthcare Hamilton. The key role of the Institute is to facilitate and support the conduct of scientifically and ethically sound research, and to be a catalyst of scientific innovation. In pursuit of these goals, the Institute is guided by the values of Dignity, Respect, Service, Justice, Responsibility and Enquiry. Welcome to the St. Joseph's team!

THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF CANADA are meeting in Chapter these days to discern Congregational direction for the next four years and to elect new leadership for their community. Please pray for the Sisters who have done so much to assure Catholic Education and Catholic Health Care in our Diocese – and several dioceses in Ontario! We pray to the Lord!

BISHOP GERARD BERGIE, Bishop of Saint Catharines, was the featured speaker in this year's *JOURNEY THROUGH LENT* series, sponsored by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. His talks are still available on the CCCB website. 13,424 people accessed the eight YouTube presentations! It was a remarkable success. Congratulations to the Bishop. Thank you for your fine Lenten reflections!

CONGRATULATIONS TO REBECCA RATHBONE, Development and Peace Animator for Southwestern Ontario (which includes the Diocese of Hamilton)! She has accepted a position with *Caritas Internationalis*, as Officer Promoting Youth Leadership, one of the charity arms of the Vatican. She begins her new duties in May. When things are a bit safer, she will be relocating to Rome. We wish her well and thank her for the commitment she demonstrates to serve the "little one"!

FIREFIGHTERS IN FULL GEAR interrupted the singing of the *Exultet* during the Easter Vigil at St. Joseph Parish, Hamilton. They were responding to fire alarms that wailed in response to the Easter fire in the sanctuary that got out of control! Parishioners watched in horror until the fire was doused with a pitcher of tap water. The firefighters left when they were sure things were safe, leaving the cantor to complete the *Exultet* and parishioners to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord. In 43 years of presiding at the Easter Vigil, this was the first "out-of-control" Easter fire for Father Jim Link!