

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



Mass Intentions

HOLY SATURDAY, April 23

7:30pm Solemn Vigil of Easter

EASTER SUNDAY, April 24

8:00am Robert Frankel

Requested by family

10:00am Frank Madden

Requested by family

12:00NN Joan Kazounis

Requested by family

Monday, April 25

7:00am Sonny & Betty Goodwin

Req. by daughter Kathy Cawley

Tuesday, April 26

7:00am Timothy E. McNulty

Requested by Kevin and Kelli

Wednesday, April 27

7am Edward, Ellen & Marion Flynn

Req. by Fred & Arlene Robinson

Thursday, April 28

7:00am Benjamin Chester

Req. by Ted & Denise Carlson

Friday, April 29

7:00am William Brennan

Requested by Carole Potter

Saturday, April 30

5:30pm Susan Marie Hogan

Requested by family

Divine Mercy Sunday, May 1

8:00am Special Intention for
Marian Servants of Divine Mercy

10:00am Florence Tambini &
Ginny Olson

Requested by Joan Cavanaugh

12:00NN Mavis Phelan

Requested by Kelli R. McNulty



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, April 24

10:00am Christopher Cannon

Requested by family

Saturday, April 30

10:00am Mass for John Paul II

Divine Mercy Sunday, May 1

10:00am Al Marchand

Req. by Gerri and Al Marsocci



For Your Information

PARISH SUPPORT

Parish Support for April 17th was Budget—\$9,300; Operation Rice Bowl / Catholic Relief Services—\$5,094. This weekend's second offering is the Easter offering which will go toward our Catholic Charity Fund goal. Thank you for your continued generosity!

SANCTUARY LAMPS at St. Francis Church and St. Romuald Chapel burn in memory of all deceased Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy and suffering souls from our Cenacle Group.

FOOD OF THE MONTH

Your donations of spaghetti sauce, juice, peanut butter, jelly, cans of chili, baked beans and rolls of paper towels may be dropped off at the entrance of the church or chapel.

We thank you in advance for your continued generosity to those who are less fortunate.

THE CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

Where we stand to date: Received: \$73,850; Goal: \$104,000

As always, thank you for your generosity.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ENDOWMENT FUND

Next weekend, Andrea Krupp, the Director of the Catholic Foundation with the Diocese of Providence, will share a word with the parish family about the St. Francis of Assisi Endowment Fund. There will also be an insert in the Sunday bulletin pertaining to this matter.

DISCOUNT CARDS

Youth Ministry Discount Cards are still available for purchase through the Religious Education Office (792-8684), the parish office (783-4411) or our young adults who will be attending the Steubenville East Youth Conference this summer. For a cost of \$10, you receive various savings from 16 local businesses throughout the year. The card is valid through May 15, 2012. Please help support our Youth Ministry!

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEENS!!!

Steubenville East Youth Conference 2011 is set for July 22-24 at URI. We still have 14 spots available for high school students (this includes incoming freshmen). Paperwork and a \$75 deposit to secure a spot are due to the religious education office by April 30th. Don't delay! You'll miss out on a powerful weekend of dynamic talks, awesome music and engaging worship with 2000 Catholic teens. Any questions call Jacqui Bertrand at 782-3505 or the Rel. Ed. Office at 792-8684.

"BRING FLOWERS OF THE RAREST" - MAY CROWNING

On Sunday, May 8, at the 10:00AM Mass at Saint Francis, we will celebrate a traditional "May Crowning." May is traditionally celebrated as a month of special devotion to Our Blessed Mother. The Church has always encouraged veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the practice of crowning images of Our Lady appears as early as the fifth century. The crowning of an image of Mary reflects an interior desire to be devoted to her as Queen of Heaven. The images we use in our worship should aid us in lifting up our minds and hearts to those whom they portray. Parish children who will have received their First Holy Communion the day before will assist with the crowning. ***Please join us on Sunday, May 8 at the 10:00AM Mass for this special celebration of devotion to Our Lady!***

APRIL 24, 2011

WITHOUT SUNDAY WE CANNOT LIVE!

Without Sunday we cannot live! Wow, is that a powerful statement! It was proclaimed hundreds of years ago. Yes, in the ancient city of Abitene, a Roman province, there were followers of Jesus, early Christians. In the year 303 a persecution broke out. The Roman Emperor ordered that sacred texts and holy scriptures of the Lord were to be burned, basilicas torn down, and the celebration of holy rites were to be prohibited. Disobeying the emperor's orders, a group of 49 Christians gathered weekly to offer Mass on Sunday morning. Taken by surprise at one of their Sunday celebrations, they were arrested and taken to Carthage to be interrogated.

When the judge asked them why they had disobeyed the command of the emperor, one brave disciple of Jesus answered for the group: **"Without Sunday we cannot live!"** In other words, those Christians believed what we believe today: On Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus! Each Sunday, we call to mind this very Resurrection Day! Easter isn't celebrated only once a year! But better than that, Sunday is the **Lord's Day**, the day to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Eucharist. Without the Eucharist, we cannot hope to live a Christian life, and, in fact, we cannot live any life! Life is Christ! Christ comes to us in the Eucharist! The Eucharist is our Food of Life!

The spokesman continued in his bold explanation of faith to the judge: **"Don't you know that it is the Sunday Eucharist which makes the Christian and the Christian makes the Sunday Eucharist, so that one cannot subsist without the other, and vice versa?"**

Let's pray for each other, that we may remain strong in our commitment to God, to the Risen Jesus, and to the Church, which is inseparable from him! May the Holy Spirit empower us to remain strong and steadfast in our faith, proclaiming with our lips and testifying with our lives: **without Sunday we cannot live!**



CONGRATULATIONS!

A very special congratulations is due to those who received the sacraments of initiation at last night's Easter Vigil! Jacob Earl Michael Mount & Harlee Elizabeth Nordstrom were reborn through water and the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Baptism. Jacob Mount, Harlee Nordstrom and Adam James Ethier received Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion. And Sarah Cottrell,

Adam Ethier, Allison Loisselle, Jacob Mount, Harlee Nordstrom, Jebediah Matthew Nicholas Stroble, Andrea D. (Whaley) Sumner, Joseph Michael Tarasevich and Paul Edward Tarasevich received the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation! May they realize that their journey with Christ and the Church is not at an end; it is only just beginning! We welcome these newest members of our parish family and of the Body of Christ with great joy! Be assured of our prayers for you! And many thanks to Deacon Paul Iacono who worked throughout the entire year with our RCIA candidates, preparing them to receive these sacraments. An outstanding teacher and devoted disciple, Deacon Paul has been a blessing to our candidates and to our entire parish family! Thank you!

EASTER



Religious Education

Next Sunday, May 1st will be our last Sunday class for the year.

Wednesday, April 27th Readers for First Communion will practice their readings starting at 4:00pm in the church.



This Week

Tuesday, April 26

7:30am Finance Council Mtg (rectory)

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, April 27

4-5:30pm First Communion Readers practice before microphone (church)

Thursday, April 28

6:00pm Conf. II—Reconciliation

7:00pm Confirmation Rehearsal (HBH)

7-8:30pm Divine Mercy Cenacle at Saint Romuald Chapel

Friday, April 29

7:00pm CONFIRMATION with Bishop Robert C. Evans

Don't forget to check out our NEW parish website:

<http://stfranciswakefield.com>

IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH: THE EASTER SEASON

Easter Sunday and the eight days following it (the "Octave" of Easter) are celebrated as one, continuous Easter day! Each day of Easter week is treated liturgically as though it were Easter Sunday itself! This ancient practice of the Church points to the centrality of the celebration



Year of Liturgical and Spiritual Renewal

of Easter as the high-point of the liturgical year. And beyond that, the Easter Season itself stretches over seven whole weeks! The Church calls us to repent for five weeks of Lent but to rejoice in Christ's resurrection for seven! The soulful "alleluia" which we have fasted from is now revived. Even the church building which has remained bare during our sojourn in the desert of Lent is now bursting with color and life! In her celebration of Compline (Night Prayer), the Church requires the singing of the "Regina Caeli," to our Blessed Mother, a prayer which could become your own during this Easter Season:

"Queen of heaven rejoice, alleluia! For he whom you did merit to bear, alleluia! Has risen as he promised, alleluia! Pray for us to God, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia! For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia! Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen."

A SPECIAL DAY OF PRAYER IN HONOR OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

On May 1, Pope Benedict will "beatify" Pope John Paul II. This means that the Church, in light of a confirmed miracle due to his intercession, will officially recognize his heroic sanctity and his worthiness for veneration and imitation. From May 1 on, Pope John Paul will be known as "Blessed John Paul II" and his feast day will be observed on October 22 each year. The entire world witnessed his long suffering, and his willingness to walk the way of Jesus crucified. When he died, the world indeed lost a father. On **Saturday, April 30**, our parish will host a special day of prayer to mark this momentous occasion. A special Mass will be celebrated at 10:00AM in Saint Romuald's Chapel. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will follow throughout the entire day. The day will be punctuated with special reflections and prayers at 1PM, 3PM, and 5PM. A reflection and simple reposition will conclude the day of prayer at 7PM. Please consider joining us!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

In the 1930's a special devotion began to spread through the Church. A young polish nun, now Saint, Faustina Kowalska, was visited by Jesus who instructed her to spread the message of his "Divine Mercy."



The message is simple: God loves us no matter how great our sins are. This doesn't mean that he overlooks our sin, but he wants us to realize that his mercy is infinitely greater than us! Jesus instructed that an image be commissioned with Himself at the center, and two rays emanating from his Sacred Heart, one white ray (symbolizing the cleansing power of baptism) and one red ray (symbolizing the blood Jesus shed on the cross to save us from our sins). At the bottom of this image, Jesus instructed that the words, "Jesus, I Trust in You" be prominently displayed. Trust in Jesus' mercy and love is at the heart of this beautiful devotion.

Furthermore, Jesus instructed that the Second Sunday of Easter be celebrated as "Divine Mercy Sunday." In our own century, Pope John Paul II extended the celebration of this special feast to the Universal Church. Observing Divine Mercy Sunday means going to Mass and Confession on that day, and praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a simple yet powerful prayer, prayed with ordinary rosary beads.

We will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, which falls this year on **May 1**, at St. Romuald Chapel.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 1:00PM, followed by Confessions. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed at 3:00PM (materials will be provided). The afternoon will conclude with a special Celebration of Mass at 3:30PM.

Please come and experience the healing power of Jesus' mercy, and tell others! Bring a friend!



The sun was shining for our Easter Egg Hunt last Saturday and over 30 children enjoyed an Easter story before heading outside to collect the candy filled eggs that filled the yard at Father Greenan Parish Center.

Thank you to all who donated plastic eggs and candy and to our Confirmation students who gave of their time to fill and "hide" over 600 eggs.