



Second Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2007

Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever.

- Revelation 1:18 a

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CLASSES: Classes for Pre-School through Grade 8 resume this morning April 15th at the regular time.

CONFIRMATION: We *WELCOME* our Bishop Michael Saltarelli to St. Joseph on the Brandywine this week-end. Our Bishop will celebrate Liturgy and administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to eighteen Candidates at 12 Noon on Sunday, April 15. The candidates to be confirmed are: Madeleine Audet, Victoria Blackhurst, Hunter Bouchard, Alexander Brehm, Elizabeth Connolly, Evan DeDominicis, Kevin Gimlett, Tyler Hobbs, Madelyne Lynam, Meghan Lyons, Louise Makowski, Rebecca Murray, Vincent Russomagno, Robert Shearer, Kathryn Sommers, Erik Weidner, Mary Sophia Williams, William Zantzing. Due to a conflict of dates Olivia Walker will be confirmed with the Confirmation Class at St. Ann Church on Wednesday, April 25th.

We *CONGRATULATE* these young people and pray that their journey in faith may find them growing closer to Jesus and open to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. We pray for their Parents and Sponsors that they may continue to guide their children as they live and practice their Faith.

FIRST COMMUNICANTS: Our Children in the First Communion Class will have a *MINI RETREAT/JESUS DAY* on Saturday, April 28th from 9:00am. to 12 Noon in St. Joseph Family Center. ALL children must attend this morning of Prayer, Church Tour, Instruction, Activities. Parents are reminded to continue to guide their children through the First Eucharist Book which parents received a few months ago. Parents interest and guidance in the religious instruction of the child is *MOST IMPORTANT*.

Parish Council Nominations

Please return your nomination to the boxes located in the back of church. There are three vacant seats (three-year term.) The nominating committee is listed on the ballot form. You may speak with them directly or with Msgr. Reberman to serve or suggest a name of a fellow parishioner who could be approached for Council Membership.

Have you been Confirmed? Confirmation is one of the three (Baptism and Eucharist being the others) initiation Sacraments. When an adult joins the church he/she receive all three sacraments at the Easter Vigil. For infants who are baptized, Confirmation is received in the Roman Rite as a teenager. If you missed receiving Confirmation as a teenager now you have the chance to complete your initiation into the church. Many people don't realize that a Catholic who has not been confirmed cannot serve as a godparent. Bishop Saltarelli will be administering the Sacrament of Confirmation to adults on the Feast of Pentecost,

May 27, 2007. If you are interested contact Deacon Ed Lynch during the day at 655-2599 or in the evening at 654-7471. His email address is felynch@wlnglaw.com.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Mercy—Love's Other Name

A few years ago, Pope John Paul II declared that today would be known, not only as the Second Sunday of Easter, but also as Divine Mercy Sunday. Mercy is probably the most needed thing on the face of this earth. If we had mercy on one another and on this earth that we live on, things would look so much differently. We would live in peace with one another, wars would by and large cease to exist, our planet would not be struggling for survival, aids victims and victims of poverty would not have to wake up each day with despair in their hearts.

If we are honest with ourselves, we will probably discover that mercy is also one of *our* greatest needs. Isn't it true that we are often the ones who are hardest on ourselves? We can't escape from ourselves, so we are the first to see how stupid and sinful we are, and we are also the first to punish ourselves for being that way. We call ourselves names, compare ourselves to others who almost always look better than we do—sometimes we even give up on ourselves.

Both nations and individuals need to hear the cry for mercy that rises from the earth each day. Today we are asked to remember that God is a God of Mercy, unending, all-forgiving, complete and total mercy. As we allow ourselves to be totally immersed in the mercy of God, we will come to experience the forgiveness we so deeply need. And once forgiven, it will be so much easier to bring forgiveness and mercy to others. How could we possibly withhold mercy and forgiveness from others once we ourselves feel its power in our lives?

As we bring mercy to others, we will experience the mercy, the Divine Mercy, that our loving God wishes us to receive with open and grateful hearts.

Divine Mercy devotions in New Castle County, April 15th, St. Hedwigs @ 2 p.m., St. John the Beloved @ 3p.m. Devotions consists of recitation of the chaplet and mass.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL



“Tending the Flock”

Next weekend, our parish will conduct the 2007 Annual Catholic Appeal. It is at this time each year when Bishop Saltarelli appeals to us on behalf of the Diocese of Wilmington to support the works of the Church within the Diocese. Funds from the Appeal help provide pastoral, charitable, and educational programs and ministries to tens of thousands of people in our 13-county Diocese. As parishioners of St. Joseph on the Brandywine, we are proud to be part of the Church of Wilmington. As members, it is important that we reach out and serve others by sharing our resources. Just as we are one in the body of Christ, we must remember that we are one with the other parishes and with our Diocese. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers us the opportunity to work together to care for the Church by sharing the gifts God has granted us.

Our parish Appeal target is \$252,100. Your financial support will assist us in reaching that goal. Once we reach our goal, a portion of the money collected above our target will be returned to the parish for our own ministerial needs.

Please look for the special Annual Catholic Appeal insert in this coming week's edition of the Dialog. The insert provides important information about the campaign and the use of campaign funds.

Please give prayerful and thoughtful consideration to your resources and the needs of those served by the Annual Catholic Appeal. Kindly decide ahead of time the contribution that you wish to make this year, and come to Church next weekend prepared to complete your pledge card.

PRAYER & REFLECTION FOR WOMEN

The Diocesan Women's Commission invites you to an Afternoon of Prayer & Reflection led by Sr. Mercedes Rojo, OSF from the Franciscan Spiritual Center on Sat., April 28th (Christ Our King Church Hall, Wilmington.) Starts at 11:30 a.m. followed by a presentation on “Nurturing an Open and Compassionate Heart.” Cost (a free-will offering.) The weekend Mass is at 4 p.m. in the Church. Call PAMELA NASH at (302) 366-1018 or Sr. Margaret Cunniffe at (302) 573-3124 by Thursday, April 26.

STAINED GLASS RESTORATION

As we mentioned earlier, our stained glass windows are leaking, and are in need of restoration. We have settled on a studio to do this; the project, as we're sure you've noticed, began on Thursday, March 12 with the removal of every other window. When these are restored and replaced, the other half will be done. The entire project is estimated to take 10-12 weeks.

Mass Intentions †

Saturday (April 14)

8:00 p.m. Francis Kelleher by Cathy & Gene Kelleher

Sunday (April 15)

7:30 a.m. Novena

9:00 a.m. Parishioners

10:30 a.m. Mary R. Cilia by St. Joseph's Choir

Monday (April 16)

7:00 a.m. Taylor W. Hanavan by family

12:05 p.m. Anna L. B. Wolfe by Lisa & David Beatson

Tuesday (April 17)

7:00 a.m. Living & Deceased members of Laffey/McHugh families

12:05 p.m. Mary Francis Cochran by John & Cindi Clare

Wednesday (April 18)

7:00 a.m. Cazenove Seitz by Margaret Seitz

12:05 p.m. Richard & Jeffrey Reese by family

Thursday (April 19)

7:30 p.m. Paul & Frances Leahy req. by the family of James S. Grant, Jr.

12:05 p.m. Gilbert Gonzales by Vanessa Gonzalez

Friday (April 20)

7:00 a.m. Jacqueline McClaren by M/M Michael Maney

12:05 p.m. Special intentions by Theresa P. Setting

Saturday (April 21)

8:00 a.m. David O. Beatson from Lisa & David Beatson

5:00 p.m. Rita Kearns by family

A Little Praise Works Magic

We offer special thanks to all those who made Holy Week and Easter such a prayerful experience for our community here at St. Joseph's. We are grateful for the beautiful music provided by the Youth and Adult Choirs, their Director, Mary Ellen Schaubert, the cantors and the many musicians who accompanied them. We appreciate the participation of the various liturgical ministers, altar servers, lectors, special ministers of the Eucharist and ushers. We also thank those who participated in providing such a beautiful and prayerful environment in the church and family center for our celebration. We offer a special thank you to Michael Marinelli, Director, Liturgy & Music and John Kojro, Liturgy Chair who make worship at St. Joseph's throughout the year such an enriching experience.