

## TODAY'S READINGS

**T**hey did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead. (John 20:9)

What a humble statement! Here is John, the beloved apostle, admitting that he hadn't yet grasped the truth that Jesus would rise from the dead. And not only John but Peter and the other apostles doubted that possibility. Even Mary Magdalene, who saw the empty tomb, supposed that someone had stolen Jesus' body (John 20:2).

Now, Jesus had told his apostles that this would happen (Matthew 16:21). They saw him raise other people from death (Luke 7:11-17; John 11:38-44). They believed in Jesus. They trusted him. They even confessed him as the Son of God. But as you might imagine, the idea of a resurrection is not the easiest thing to believe!

All that changed, however, when they found themselves face-to-face with the risen Lord. Actually seeing Jesus alive convinced them. It filled them with faith and gave them the boldness they needed to build the church.

So here we are celebrating Easter two thousand years later. Unlike the apostles, most of us have not seen Jesus. We have to trust in him based on the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, the proclamation of the church, and the teachings that we find in Scripture. But we do have one thing that the apostles didn't have: the witness of their lives! We have the stories of how fully they devoted themselves to Jesus. We have the accounts of their sacrifices for the church, the persecutions they endured, and even the martyrdom that many of them suffered. Would they really go through all of this just to keep a "myth" alive? Not likely!

Today, as we celebrate Easter, let's listen to the witness of the apostles. They met Jesus, and they found new boldness and courage to believe. Surely, if it happened for them, it can happen for us!

*"All praise to you, Lord Jesus, for your resurrection! Help me to believe in you more each day."*

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, Easter 2012, Vol. 31, Number 5: Used with permission.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

<b>Sunday 8th</b>	Acts 10:34,37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9 <i>The Resurrection of the Lord</i>
<b>Monday 9th</b>	Acts 2:14,22-33 / Mt 28:8-15
<b>Tuesday 10th</b>	Acts 2:36-41 / Jn 20:11-18
<b>Wednesday 11th</b>	Acts 3:1-10 / Lk 24:13-35
<b>Thursday 12th</b>	Acts 3:11-26 / Lk 24:35-48
<b>Friday 13th</b>	Acts 4:1-12 / Jn 21:1-14
<b>Saturday 14th</b>	Acts 4:13-21 / Mk 16:9-15
<b>Sunday 15th</b>	Acts 4:34,32-35 / 1 Jn 5:1-6 / Jn 20:19-31 <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>

## LAS LECTURAS DE HOY

**¡A**leluya! ¡Cristo ha resucitado!  
¡Verdaderamente ha resucitado! Hoy el alma del cristiano rebosa de gran energía y de luz refulgente ante la magnífica proclamación del Pregón Pascual que resuena en todo el mundo:

Exulten los coros de los ángeles, exulten las jerarquías del cielo, por la victoria del Rey tan poderoso, que las trompetas anuncien la salvación. Goce también la tierra, inundada de tanta claridad y que, radiante con el fulgor del rey eterno, se sienta libre de las tinieblas que cubrían el orbe eterno "Así, el Hombre sereno, que había salido de aquella aurora radiante resplandeció con un esplendor tan inmenso que no pudo expresarse con palabras humanas, y se encumbró hasta las alturas más elevadas de inestimable gloria, donde permaneció refulgente en la plenitud de la creatividad fructífera y en una fragancia maravillosa. El Hombre sereno que salió de la aurora brillante resplandece hoy con un fulgor más deslumbrante de lo que puede expresar el lenguaje humano" (Visión de Santa Hildegarda Bingen).

La Resurrección es prueba fehaciente de la divinidad de Nuestro Señor: "Esta es la gran verdad que llena de contenido nuestra fe, Jesús, que murió en la cruz, ha triunfado sobre la muerte, el poder de las tinieblas, el dolor y la angustia: en Él, lo encontramos todo: fuera de Él, nuestra vida queda vacía" (San Josemaría Escrivá, "Es Cristo que pasa").

La Resurrección de Jesucristo es la gran luz que ilumina a todo el mundo: "Yo soy la luz" (Juan 8,12). La luz refulgente de Cristo resucitado se derrama a través de la Iglesia sobre toda la tierra.

*"Amado Padre celestial, a Ti todo honor, gloria, alabanza y adoración porque, por tu inmensa misericordia y la sabiduría incomparable de tus designios divinos, tuviste a bien disponer desde la eternidad la salvación del género humano, que hoy recibimos por la gracia de la obediencia y fidelidad de tu santísimo Hijo Jesucristo, nuestro Señor, demostradas en su gloriosa Resurrección."*

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 31, Número 4: Cuaresma 2012.

## LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

<b>Domingo 8</b>	He 10:34.37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9 <i>Domingo de Pascua de la Resurrección del Señor</i>
<b>Lunes 9</b>	He 2:14,22-33 / Mt 28:8-15
<b>Martes 10</b>	He 2:36-41 / Jn 20:11-18
<b>Miércoles 11</b>	He 3:1-10 / Lc 24:13-35
<b>Jueves 12</b>	He 3:11-26 / Lc 24:35-48
<b>Viernes 13</b>	He 4:1-12 / Jn 21:1-14
<b>Sábado 14</b>	He 4:13-21 / Mc 16:9-15
<b>Domingo 15</b>	He 4:32-35 / 1 Jn 5:1-6 / Jn 20:19-31 <i>Domingo de la Divina Misericordia</i>





**Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
He is truly risen! Alleluia!  
Wishing you a joyful Easter! Rejoice!**



**EASTER HIGHLIGHTS**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to the newest members of our Catholic family! At the Easter Vigil, we welcomed 25 people into the Church. As a parish community, we are called to help them to deepen their relationship with God and with the Church. Please welcome them, and keep them in your prayers.

**Those who received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist:** Sarah Brunelle, Ashley Carter, Todd Chambers, Daniel Fogarty, Bethzi Martinez, Fabian Merida, Fabiola Portillo, Manuel Robles, Lauren Schultz, Lana Shawa, Ryan Walters, and Josef Wolfel

**Those who were received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church:** Adam Coogle, Richard Corretjer, Brian Darville, Charles Homans, Caroline Lee, Brian Lichter, Stephen Nagy, Katherine Ripley, and Elizabeth Shull  
**Baptized Catholics who completed the Sacraments of Initiation:** Tracy Huff, Rebecca Milfeld, Roberta Ohoi, and Samantha Warfield

**PRAYERS FOR OUR PILGRIMS**

On Easter Wednesday, *April 11*, fifteen parishioners and friends will leave from St. Matthew's on pilgrimage to Spain and Portugal, led by our own Msgr. Jameson. Their journey will include Madrid, Avila, Fatima, Salamanca, Santarem and Lisbon. Let us pray for their safe travels and their spiritual nourishment throughout their pilgrimage.  
*All-powerful God, you always show mercy toward those who love you and you are never far away for those who seek you. Remain with your servants on this holy pilgrimage and guide their way in accord with your will.  
Shelter them with your protection by day, give them the light of your grace by night, and, as their companion on the journey, bring them to their destination in safety.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

*Jesus Christ is divine mercy in person. (Pope Benedict XVI)*  
Join your parish family for Divine Mercy Devotions in the Cathedral next Sunday, *April 15* at 2pm (see the Divine Mercy Sunday flyer). Come for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament immediately following the 1pm Spanish Mass (approximately 2:15pm), praying of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (alternating in Spanish and English) at 3 pm, concluding with Benediction.

**CATHEDRAL CALENDAR**

**April 8 – April 15**

**SUNDAY—The Resurrection of the Lord**

The regular Sunday schedule of Masses is observed, and the Rectory is closed.

**Donald Cardinal Wuerl** celebrates the 10am Mass in English.

**MONDAY**—The Rectory offices are closed. The Cathedral opens at 7:30am and closes at 1pm. Masses are celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm. There are no confessions.

**TUESDAY**—The Parish Council meets at 6:45pm in the East Conference Room.

El Grupo de Oración en Español tendrá una hora de reflexión a las 7:00 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

**WEDNESDAY**—Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

**SATURDAY**—Fr. Hurley's Bible study on the Wisdom Books is held at 10am in the East Conference Room.

**SUNDAY—Divine Mercy Sunday**

The Jubilee Mass for those in consecrated life is celebrated at 10am in English by **Bishop Francisco González**.

Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar se reúnen a las 11 de la mañana.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration immediately following the 1pm Mass (approximately 2:15pm), and the **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** is prayed in English and Spanish at 3pm, concluding with Benediction.

**DC HOLIDAY**

**EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR RESCHEDULING**

On DC Emancipation Day, Monday, *April 16*, the Rectory offices will be closed. The Cathedral will open at 7:30am and close at 1pm. Masses will be celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm. There will be no Confessions and no Eucharistic Holy Hour that evening. The Eucharistic Holy Hour is rescheduled to Monday, *April 23*.

## NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

### ¡FELICITACIONES!

¡Felicitamos a los nuevos miembros de nuestra familia católica! En la Vigilia Pascual, recibimos a 25 personas en la Iglesia. Como comunidad parroquial, estamos llamados a ayudarles a que profundicen en su relación con Dios y con la Iglesia. Démosles la bienvenida y manténganlos en sus oraciones.

**Aquellos que recibieron el Bautismo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación:** Sarah Brunelle, Ashley Carter, Todd Chambers, Daniel Fogarty, Bethzi Martinez, Fabian Merida, Fabiola Portillo, Manuel Robles, Lauren Schultz, Lana Shawa, Ryan Walters, and Josef Wolfel

**Aquellos que entraron en comunión total con la Iglesia Católica:** Adam Coogle, Richard Corretjer, Brian Darville, Charles Homans, Caroline Lee, Brian Lichter, Stephen Nagy, Katherine Ripley, and Elizabeth Shull

**Católicos bautizados, que completaron los Sacramentos de Iniciación:** Tracy Huff, Rebecca Milfeld, Roberta Ohoi, and Samantha Warfield

### ¡MUCHAS GRACIAS!

El comité de Justicia Social quiere agradecer a todos los que contribuyeron generosamente a la **Colecta de Pascua para el programa de "Adopte Una Familia."** Sus donaciones proveerán a muchas familias necesitadas con una comida abundante y sana en esta Pascua. Agradecemos a los voluntarios que ayudaron a recoger las tarjetas de regalo y donaciones y también a Janet y Gregg Glotnis y Fátima Aybar por su coordinación en esta colecta.

El comité también desearía agradecer a todos los que participaron este año en el **Programa de Cenas Simples de Cuaresma.** Gracias a todos los que se unieron a nosotros en oración, limosnas y compartiendo; incluyendo a las personas que nos hablaron de las diferentes caridades locales, y a los diferentes grupos y ministerios que prepararon y sirvieron las sopas tan deliciosas. También apreciamos al restaurante Bertucci por su donación de bollos de panes.

### CONFERENCIA CONJUNTA

#### RESPECTO A LA VIDA Y MINISTERIO SOCIAL

Acompañe a otros miembros de la parroquia el sábado **14 de abril** de 8:00 de la mañana a 4:00 de la tarde a la conferencia anual - "Fe en busca de entendimiento: construyendo una civilización de vida y amor" Auspiciado por el departamento de Caridades y Justicia de la Arquidiócesis y el departamento de Asuntos por la Vida, en el Centro Convocación de la Escuela Católica DeMatha. Voluntarios de ambos ministerios se unirán para rezar, aprender, y ayudarse el uno al otro a profundizar su entendimiento sobre la dignidad del ser humano y la enseñanza social católica. Registrarse en la Catedral de San Mateo de antemano por \$15 o en la puerta \$ 20. Se incluye almuerzo. Para más información, visite: <http://site.adw.org/conference-2012> o póngase en contacto con el Padre Evelio o Norma Canedo al 202-347-3215, o al [socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org).

### DOMINGO DE LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA



*Jesus Cristo es la misericordia divina en persona.* (Papa Benedicto XVI) Únase a su familia parroquial para la devoción de la Divina Misericordia en la Catedral, el próximo domingo **15 de abril** a las 2 de la tarde; también es el día de la beatificación de Juan Pablo II, quien declaró el Segundo Domingo de Pascua como Domingo de la Divina

Misericordia. Venga a la Exposición del Santísimo Sacramento inmediatamente después de la misa de la 1 en español (aproximadamente a la 2:15), a las 3 de la tarde recitación de la coronilla (alternando en español e ingles) concluyendo con la Bendición.

### DÍA DE ORACIÓN Y SANACIÓN

Las mujeres que han tenido un aborto en sus vidas están invitadas a un día de Oración y Sanación el sábado **21 de abril.** Se va a sentir en un ambiente de paz y confianza para poder sanar de la vergüenza y otras emociones negativas que llegan después de un aborto. El lugar es confidencial se les dirá el día de su inscripción. Para más información puede llamar al Ministerio del Proyecto Raquel: 301-853-4565. Pregunte por Luz Menjivar. Recuerde que todos nuestros contactos son confidenciales [ProyectoRaquel@adw.org](mailto:ProyectoRaquel@adw.org).

### CLASES PARA LA CONFIRMACIÓN DE ADULTOS

Las personas adultas que deseen recibir el sacramento de la Confirmación el **27 de mayo**, día de Pentecostés, tienen que recibir unas clases que se ofrecerán los domingos 15, 22 y 29 de abril; 13 y 20 de mayo a las 9:00 de la mañana en el salón de conferencias del Oeste y tener la partida de bautismo vigente. Último día para inscribirse es el 8 de abril y deben venir a la rectoría.

### MISA ANUAL DE JUBILEO MATRIMONIAL

Donald Cardenal Wuerl estará presidiendo la misa anual para celebrar a las parejas que están conmemorando 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 o más años de matrimonio el domingo **3 de junio** a las 2:00 de la tarde, en la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción. Por favor llame a la Rectoría al 202-347-3215. Todas las parejas que desean participar tienen que estar inscritas el **12 de abril.**

## THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

### FAITH FORMATION

#### BECOMING CATHOLIC

Throughout the year, adults come forward seeking to learn about the Catholic faith. For those who are interested in learning about the Catholic faith or thinking about becoming Catholic, St. Matthew's offers Inquiry, a casual, ongoing conversation about the Catholic faith, once a month. Inquiry is the first step in the process of discerning one's commitment to full initiation in the Catholic Church. Inquiry meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the East Conference Room. A brief overview of the entire adult initiation process (RCIA), which begins formally in June each year, can be presented after Inquiry for those who are interested. The next Inquiry will be held Wednesday, *April 11*. For more information, contact Heather Kinney at [hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org).

#### REGISTER NOW FOR ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION!

You may still register for St. Matthew's five-week program for active adult Catholics who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Preparation sessions will be held on Thursdays, April 19, 26 and May 3, 10, and 17 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm with a retreat on Saturday, May 19. We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 27 (Memorial Day weekend). To register, pick up a registration packet in the Cathedral rectory, or download and print it on at [www.stmatthewscathedral.org](http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org). Questions? Contact Heather Kinney at [hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org).

#### BOOK CLUB: *BURST*

All are welcome to join the St. Matthew's Book Club on Monday, *April 30* when they will discuss *Burst* by Kevin Wells. Wells describes how a life-changing event caused him to turn to God for solace and comfort. This is a beautifully written spiritual memoir that offers comfort to others experiencing difficult times. They will meet in the East Conference Room at 6:45pm. Please contact Paul Zummo at [pzummo@gmail.com](mailto:pzummo@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

### NEWS & NOTES

#### BLESSING OF ENGAGED COUPLES

On Sunday, *May 6* Msgr. Jameson and other St. Matthew's clergy will confer a blessing of engaged couples at the 11:30am Mass. All couples who are scheduled to be married at the Cathedral or are receiving marriage preparation by a member of St. Matthew's clergy are invited to attend and receive the blessing. After the homily, the engaged couples present will be invited into the sanctuary for the blessing, and will return to their seats afterward. Couples planning to attend are asked to send an email to [Reply@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:Reply@stmatthewscathedral.org).

#### THANK YOU

The Social Justice Committee would like to thank everyone who generously contributed to the "**Adopt-A-Family**" **Easter Collection**. Your donations will provide many families in need with a bountiful and hearty meal this Easter. Thank you to the volunteers who assisted with collecting the gift cards and donations and to Janet and Gregg Glotnis and Fatima Aybar for coordinating the collection.

The Committee also would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's **Simple Lenten Meals Program**. Thanks to all who joined us in prayer, almsgiving, and in sharing, including the speakers from the local charity beneficiaries, and to the various parish groups and ministries for preparing and serving the delicious soups. We also appreciate Bertucci's Restaurant donation of dinner rolls.

#### NEEDED

A female parishioner seeks room and board in exchange for house sitting, companionship of the elderly, or tutoring. Contact: 323-600-4066 or [americanlawstudent@gmail.com](mailto:americanlawstudent@gmail.com).

#### REGISTER BY APRIL 12 FOR ANNUAL JUBILARIAN CELEBRATION

The celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years will be held Sunday, *June 3* at 2pm, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception with Cardinal Wuerl as celebrant. To register from St. Matthew's, call 202-587-5143 by *April 12*.

### FAITH IN ACTION

#### RESPECT LIFE & SOCIAL MINISTRY JOINT CONFERENCE

Join your fellow parishioners on Saturday, *April 14* from 8am to 4pm for the Annual Joint Conference, "Faith Seeking Understanding: Building a Civilization of Life and Love," hosted by the Archdiocesan Department for Charity and Justice and the Department of Life Issues, at DeMatha Catholic High School Convocation Center. Volunteers from both ministries will come together to pray, learn and support one another as we deepen our understanding of the dignity of the human person and Catholic social teaching. Register under St. Matthew's Cathedral in advance for \$15 or at the door for \$20. Lunch is included. For more information, visit: <http://site.adw.org/conference-2012> or contact Fr. Evelio or Norma Canedo at 202-347-3215 or [socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org).

**MASS INTENTIONS****Sunday, April 8**

7am – Judith Loth (living)  
 8:30am – Mr. & Mrs. Edward Dowd (living)  
 10am – Joseph & Carolyn Prucnal  
 11:30am – Margaret & Paul Kemp (living)  
 1pm – Josephine Klug Kuhn  
 5:30pm – Lauren & Joe Rogers (living)

**Monday, April 9**

8am – Paul Pham (living)  
 12:10pm – Dan Zuberbuhler & Family (living)

**Tuesday, April 10**

7am – Thanksgiving  
 8am – Chien Nguyen (living)  
 12:10 – Maria Aurora Frijas (living)  
 5:30pm – Rene Flores

**Wednesday, April 11**

7am – Nam Ho (living)  
 8am – Mrs. Alicia Estrada  
 12:10pm – Michael Butash  
 5:30pm – Barbara Addams

**Thursday, April 12**

7am – Thanksgiving  
 8am – Gloria T. Mora (living)  
 12:10pm – Maria Bundoc  
 5:30pm – John Medrano (living)

**Friday, April 13**

7am – Josephine Klug Kuhn  
 8am – Niles Cesar  
 12:10 – Oliver Burbano  
 5:30pm – Cosmo Femia

**Saturday, April 14**

8am – Thanksgiving  
 12:10pm – Graciela Urbina & Maria Rivera  
 5:30pm – Frantiska Lyskova & Family (living)

**Sunday, April 15**

7am – Tina Bork (living)  
 8:30am – Nadezda Kiley  
 10am – Mary Sonk  
 11:30am – Vincent Terreri & Family (living)  
 1pm – Francisco Angulo y Eloisa Zuluaga  
 5:30pm – John Leo Doherty

*To arrange a Mass intention, speak to our receptionist in the Rectory. There is no fee but an offering is customary. Intentions are reserved in advance so particular dates may be unavailable.*

**MARRIAGES**

Couples who are interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage at the Cathedral are encouraged to visit the parish website to review our guidelines for weddings. The next step is to call the Rectory at 202-347-3215 and ask for the priest of your choice or the priest on duty, who can speak to you about marriage preparation and the possibility of scheduling your wedding ceremony at the Cathedral. Couples are expected to contact us **at least nine (9) months in advance** of the date on which they hope to celebrate their wedding.

**BAPTISMS**

Parents who wish to have their child baptized at the Cathedral should contact the Baptismal Coordinator at the Rectory at 202-347-3215 x555. Parents are encouraged to make contact with us **at least six (6) months in advance** of a desired baptismal date, at which time they may ask for the priest of their choice to perform the Baptism. This early contact enables parents to be scheduled for the necessary sacramental formation session before the child's baptism and allows time for sponsors to obtain letters from their parish pastor.

**CATHEDRAL TOURS**

Visitors are invited to schedule a guided tour of the Cathedral or to do a self-guided tour using the color brochures available at the inside entrance to the Cathedral. Guided tours are given free of charge. Donations to the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle are always appreciated and may be given to your tour guide or our Rectory receptionist. To schedule a guided tour, contact us at [mhurley@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:mhurley@stmatthewscathedral.org) or 202-587-5143.



CONSIDER REMEMBERING  
 OUR CATHEDRAL  
 PARISH IN  
 YOUR WILL.

For more information,  
 please call  
 Msgr. Jameson.

**YOUNG ADULTS**

**C+YA AT ST. COLUMBA'S PRESCHOOL GARDEN – Saturday, April 14 – 9:30am to 12:30pm – St. Columba's (Tenleytown) – It's Spring, so it's time to get back in the garden! Join the young adults for a morning of service - no skills or equipment required. Contact Carolyn at [cwait.10@gmail.com](mailto:cwait.10@gmail.com) to sign up.**  
**C+YA SAVE THE DATE FOR SCAVENGER HUNT – Saturday, April 28** Stay tuned for more details on our second annual young adult scavenger hunt. Contact Fr. Regan at [kregan@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:kregan@stmatthewscathedral.org) for more information.

**GIFT ITEMS**

St. Matthew's is pleased to offer a 48-page souvenir book on our beautiful Cathedral church written by Richard Schmidt and Claudia Rousseau, with Joseph Carey, Nancy McKinley and Elizabeth Sullivan. It features the Cathedral's history, art and architecture vividly portrayed through photographs by local photographer, Neil Greentree.

Also available are sets of six note cards picturing the art of the Cathedral, boxed sets of ten Christmas cards featuring St. Matthew's Crèche, Christmas ornaments and several CD recordings of the Cathedral's *Schola Cantorum*.

Items may be purchased in the Rectory during office hours. Unless otherwise indicated in this bulletin, the Rectory is open Monday through Thursday from 9am until 8pm and Friday through Sunday from 9am until 4pm. You also may order items by contacting us at 202-347-3215 or [gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org). MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

## EXULTET – EASTER PROCLAMATION

This ancient hymn of praise and blessing is sung at the beginning of the Easter Vigil liturgy and takes its name from the first word of the hymn “exultet” from the Latin “ex saltare” (i.e. to leap for joy).

Its historic origins are difficult to pinpoint. Scholars suggest that its particular musical notation is indicative of chant that was composed perhaps as early as the 5<sup>th</sup> century, if not before. Others suggest that its origins may date earlier to the 4<sup>th</sup> century because both St. Ambrose of Milan and St. Augustine refer to it in relation to the Paschal Candle in use during their time. Extant missals used in the Gallican Church of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries contain manuscripts of the hymn. Some of these manuscripts were in the form of rolled parchment that were decorated with illuminations and the portraits of reigning sovereigns of the period.

This hymn is typically sung by the deacon. This occurs after the deacon has carried the candle lit by the bishop, leading the way for the procession of the faithful into the darkened church. There is some historical evidence that, in some churches, the deacon has sung it while lighting the Easter Candle, a rather taxing task. Now the rule is to sing it from the ambo next to where the lit Easter Candle is placed in the sanctuary.

Its format parallels what we know of as the Preface that begins the Eucharistic Prayer during Mass. The text asks for God’s blessing upon the Paschal (Easter) Candle. In that regard, it parallels the blessing of palms and the blessing of water in the baptismal font.

The words draw a connection between the Old and the New Testaments, the candle corresponding to the scriptural “pillar of fire.” One scholar describes its words as “language that rises to heights hard to find elsewhere in Christian literature. It outlines ancient church dogmas as through a portal drawing us into the warmth of deep mysticism, to a place where in the light of paradise even the sin of Adam is described as a ‘happy fault.’” One unusual aspect of the text is the two-fold mention of “the work of the bees,” referring to the fact that the candle is to be made from pure beeswax. Another oddity was the prayer’s closing reference to the reigning Holy Roman Emperor – a practice that ceased in 1870, but was not formally removed from the official text until 1955 when Pope Pius XII reformed the ritual of Holy Week.

Of course, the text we hear now is the vernacular English rather than the historic Latin. And the current translation reflects some slight modification resulting from the new translation of the Roman Missal.

**The Easter Proclamation can be viewed in the illuminated ritual book, located in front of the low ambo (pulpit). The complete text of the Easter Proclamation is on the reverse side of this insert.**

—Deacon Bartholomew Merella

## EXULTET – EASTER PROCLAMATION

Exult, let them exult, the host of heaven, exult, let angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!

Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.

Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice, arrayed with the lightning of his glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

Therefore, dearest friends, standing in the awesome glory of this holy night, invoke with me, I ask you, the mercy of God almighty, that he, who has been pleased to number me, though unworthy, among the Levites, may pour into me his light un-shadowed, that I may sing this candle perfect praises.

The Lord be with you. R/ And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts. R/ We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R/ It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart and with devoted service of our voice, to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten.

Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and, pouring out his own dear blood, wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness.

These, then, are the feasts of Passover, in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb, whose Blood anoints the door-posts of believers.

This is the night, when once you led our forebears, Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea. This is the night that with a pillar of fire banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night, when Christ broke the prison bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld. Our birth would have been no gain, had we not been redeemed.

O wonder of your humble care for us! O love, O charity beyond all telling, to ransom a slave you gave away your Son! O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the death of Christ! O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!

O truly blessed night, worthy alone to know the time and hour when Christ rose from the underworld!

This is the night of which it is written: the night shall be as bright as day, dazzling is the night for me, and full of gladness. The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty. On this night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants' hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from your most holy Church.

But now we know the praises of this pillar, which glowing fire ignites for God's honor, a fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light, for it is fed by melting wax, drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious.

O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human.

Therefore, O Lord, we pray you that this candle, hallowed to the honor of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven.

May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns for ever and ever. R/ Amen

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

*Jesus Christ is divine mercy in person. (Pope Benedict XVI)*



Join your parish family for Divine Mercy Devotions in the Cathedral on Sunday, **April 15**. Come for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament immediately following the 1pm Spanish Mass (approximately 2:15pm) and the praying of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (alternating in Spanish and English) at 3 pm, concluding with Benediction.

The Second Sunday of Easter is **Divine Mercy Sunday**, established by Pope John Paul II on the day that he canonized Sister Faustina Kowalska in Rome (April 30, 2000). The special devotion to the divine mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina. On the day of his election as Pope, Benedict XVI spoke about the devotion of Pope John Paul II to the divine mercy, saying: "We listen with joy to the proclamation of the year of mercy... *Jesus Christ is divine mercy in person: To find Christ means to find the mercy of God...* The day of vengeance and the year of favor coincide in the paschal mystery, in Christ, dead and risen. This is the vengeance of God: He himself, in the person of the Son, suffered for us. The more we are touched by the mercy of the Lord, the more we are in solidarity with his suffering, the more disposed we are to complete in our flesh 'what is lacking in Christ's afflictions' (Colossians 1:24)."

To learn more about Divine Mercy Sunday and the indulgences attached to devotions in honor of the divine mercy, visit <http://thedinemercy.org> or <http://www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/backgr.htm>.

In his Encyclical on the Mercy of God, *Dives in Misericordia* (Latin for "Rich in Mercy"), Pope John Paul II wrote: "Although God 'dwells in unapproachable light,' He speaks to man by means of the whole of the universe: 'Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made.' This indirect and imperfect knowledge, achieved by the intellect seeking God by means of creatures through the visible world, falls short of 'vision of the Father.' 'No one has ever seen God,' writes St. John, in order to stress the truth that 'the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.' This 'making known' reveals God in the most profound mystery of His being, one and three, surrounded by 'unapproachable light.' Nevertheless, through this 'making known' by Christ we know God above all in His relationship of love for man: in His 'philanthropy.' It is precisely here that 'His invisible nature' becomes in a special way 'visible,' incomparably more visible than through all the other 'things that have been made': it becomes visible in Christ and through Christ, through His actions and His words, and finally through His death on the cross and His resurrection." (Pope John Paul II, from *"Dives in Misericordia,"* November 30, 1980.)

The Faith Formation Committee presents:

**FIVE WEEKS ON THE WISDOM BOOKS**  
**OF THE OLD TESTAMENT**



*Time: 10:30 to 11:45am*

--- Consider staying for our 12:10pm Mass afterward. ---

*Dates: Saturdays, April 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 12*

*Place: East Conference Room*

*Facilitator: Father Jack Hurley*

*April 14 – Introduction & Proverbs*

*April 21 – Job*

*April 28 – Psalms*

*May 5 – Ecclesiastes & Song of Songs*

*May 12 – Sirach & Wisdom*

Please bring a Bible and your own morning beverage.

Homemade coffee cake will be provided.

**NO RSVP NECESSARY & NO COST TO ATTEND!**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Contact: Heather Kinney, Director of Faith Formation,  
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