

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR EASTER WEEK

Our commitment to daily prayer using the weekday Mass readings as our guide

MONDAY 4/1

Acts 2:14, 22-32
Matthew 28:8-15

TUESDAY 4/2

Acts 2:36-41
John 20:11-18

WEDNESDAY 4/3

Acts 3:1-10
Luke 24:13-35

THURSDAY 4/4

Acts 3:11-26
Luke 24:35-48

FRIDAY 4/5

Acts 4:1-12
John 21:1-14

SATURDAY 4/6

Acts 4:13-21
Mark 16:9-15

Solemnities, Feasts, & Memorials of the Week

Each day of Easter Week is considered a solemnity of Easter and is celebrated as such.

7:00 AM WEEKDAY WORSHIP SERVICES in the MAMMOTH RECTORY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass
Walk right in and come up the stairs. Stay after for coffee and fellowship.					

CONCERT

Saint Joseph Church in Mammoth Lakes is happy to host The Eastern Sierra Choir (Stephanie Everson, Director) and Chamber Orchestra (Brian Schuldt, Director), in their presentation of a free spring concert featuring *Requiem Dreams* for choir and Beethoven's spirited *8th Symphony* next Saturday night at 7:30 PM right after the 6 o'clock Saturday Vigil. Come to celebrate the Eucharist and stay to enjoy the concert.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

By offering married couples the beautiful experience of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, the Catholic Church is affirming and supporting you in your chosen vocation – marriage. Take advantage of this great gift to enhance your relationship and enjoy a love-filled weekend away together. The next weekend dates are May 17 - 19 in Reno, and June 7 - 9 in Sacramento. Early registration is highly recommended.

For more information visit our website at: <http://www.sacramentowwme.org> or contact Barry & Julia Reynolds at applications@sacramentowwme.org or 866-825-2046.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

This Friday is the First Friday of the month. As is our custom, we will celebrate First Friday devotions, Holy Mass followed by Exposition, Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Joseph Church, Mammoth, beginning at 7 o'clock in the evening..

PRAYERS

Our prayers are requested for Bonnie Zwart, Mark & Mary Anne Bewsher, Tina Quan, James Zvetina, Pat Glynn, Bobbie Engstrom, Raquel Rodriguez, Bob Tomko, Jr., Virginia Reyes, Elizabeth Cauzza, Kay Reilly, Mary Jo Ferreir, Julie Rogers, Josefina Flores, Glenn Inouye, Peter Mariniello, Consuelo Mendoza Aeyon, Brian Venneman, Gary Boyd, John Wallis, Jill Morstad, and for the repose of the souls of Eric Zwart (Bonnie's grandson) and Teddy Engstrom (Ted & Bobbie's son).

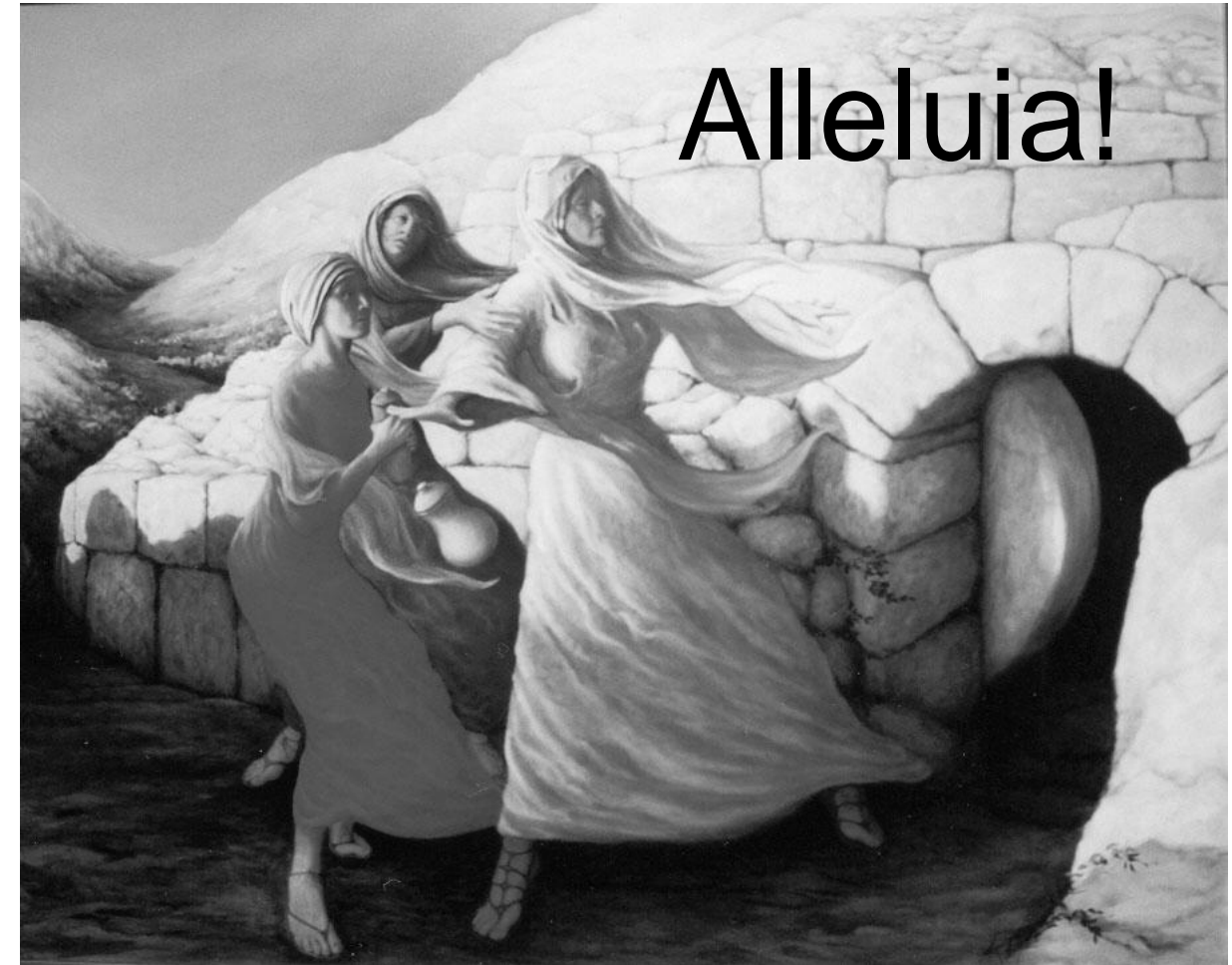


THE MONO COUNTY CATHOLIC

You must open the interior eyes of your soul on this light, on this heaven within you, a vast horizon stretching far beyond the realm of human activity, an unexplored country to the majority of human beings.
-Saint Vincent Ferrer

March 31, 2013

Easter Sunday



St. Joseph Parish, P.O. Box 372, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 - 760-934-6276
www.mammothcatholicchurch.org

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.

Peter's sermon to the "God-fearers" at Caesarea could be considered the first RCIA program. God-fearers were those Gentiles who believed in Jewish monotheism and who attended synagogue services, but didn't altogether embrace the religion completely. Cornelius, for instance, the main character opposite Peter in the story, was a Roman military officer, so it may not have been politically or socially expedient for him to become a Jew. That, and the initiation rite itself (circumcision) may have deterred him. (No wonder they were called God-fearers!) In other words, he felt the draw but recognized that his life and his inability or unwillingness to change so radically precluded membership in a religion that stressed righteousness and adherence to the religious law.

Enter the Holy Spirit. During the course of Peter's sermon, Cornelius and the whole gang are overcome by a spiritual awakening and are, in a moment, converted by

the power of the word. The evidence of their transformation is so compelling that Peter insists they all be baptized.

The death and resurrection of Christ clears the way for those who don't, won't, or can't measure up. No longer can people exclude themselves because they're not worthy. It is the forgiveness of sins that makes everyone acceptable and leads St. Paul to exclaim in Romans 8:34, "Who will condemn us?"

SECOND READING:

Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (Option A) Our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the feast...with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. (Option B)

Once sins are forgiven, it is no longer necessary or expedient to live a lie. Anyone who has ever raised children or taught in a classroom knows how hard it is to get a child to admit to wrongdoing. For that matter, what adult is going to readily confess doing something wrong if he or she faces punishment?

All humanity lives under a veil of denial, for "all have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) Since we exist for the purpose of being happy with God

forever, such deprivation is literally unthinkable. The human psyche therefore devises layers of denial that insulate a person from the awareness of his or her sins. A history of "fire and brimstone" preaching will solidify that insulation and ensconce the person in virtual oblivion.

Those who truly believe that they are forgiven, however, can stand confidently in the light of awareness and live lives of complete sincerity, unleavened by the need for falsehood or darkness to attenuate the truth. Yes, the truth is that we are sinners. None of us can measure up to the righteousness of God and we stand guilty before the judgment. But Jesus Christ, who was condemned and crucified, stands with us to share our fate. In him we are acquitted, and our transgressions are pardoned.

GOSPEL: John 20:1-9

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

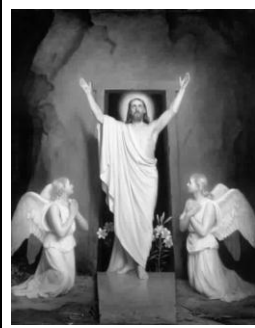
The wages of sin is death," St. Paul solemnly proclaims in Romans 6:23. God, in love and goodness, has shown creation the way that leads to life. "The

statutes of the LORD are true, all of them just," it says in Psalm 19:10. "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" the man asked Jesus in Luke 10:25-28. "What is written in the law?" Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." So, humanity is left with no doubt how it all works. But is humanity capable of fulfilling the law?

"No human being will be justified in the sight of God by observing the law," St. Paul writes in Romans 3:20. It is beyond the scope of human performance to be perfect, since we are made "little less than a god," (Psalm 8:6) and therefore a little less than perfect. But missing perfection is like missing a bus: it doesn't have to happen by much.

Since humanity cannot rise to God, then God must descend to humanity. That would be fine, except that humans die. So God had to descend totally into the universal human experience. That means God had to be conceived and born of a woman; God had to live, suffer, and die. God had to endure the disgrace of the cross, the consequences of human imperfection. God even had to be rejected, judged, and condemned. God had to even descend into hell.

The parabolic sweep of salvation wouldn't be complete, however, unless he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. Therefore Jesus had to rise. It is for us to see and believe, and to join him in the way that leads to our own resurrection and eternal life.



Cristo murió por nuestros pecados

"El misterio de la resurrección de Cristo es un acontecimiento real que tuvo manifestaciones históricamente comprobadas como lo atestigua el Nuevo Testamento. Ya san Pablo, hacia el año 56, puede escribir a los Corintios: 'Porque os transmití, en primer lugar, lo que a mi vez recibí: que Cristo murió por nuestros pecados, según las Escrituras; que fue sepultado y que resucitó al tercer día, según las Escrituras; que se apareció a Cefas y luego a los Doce'. El apóstol habla aquí de la tradición viva de la Resurrección que recibió después de su conversión a las puertas de Damasco" (*Catecismo* #639).

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Mammoth Lakes: St. Joseph Church –
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM
La Misa en Español: 5:30 PM
Lee Vining:
Our Savior of the Mountains
Mission -
Sunday Mass 10:00 AM
Bridgeport: Infant of Prague Mission -
Sunday Mass 12:00 Noon

CONFESSIONS
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at St. Joseph Church in Mammoth Lakes from 5:30 to 5:45 on Saturday afternoons, 7:30 to 7:45 on Sunday mornings, y en español a las tardes del domingo de 5:00 a 5:15; and upon request before mass at Our Savior of the Mountains mission in Lee Vining and Infant of Prague mission in Bridgeport. The "Act of Contrition" is available in the confession room.