

# St. Mary's of Parma, OH Monthly Newsletter

A MEMBER OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

**April 2016**

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## Why do we...at Easter!

As Easter 2016 has come and continues to be celebrated, I wanted to answer a question posed to me on Easter Sunday as well as offer some ruminations on this most important holiday of our church year.

Our question answered this month is relative to our season and celebration: why do we process around the church the way we do for Easter Sunday?

It is as timeless as anything else in the church—On Easter Morning, the Celebrant reveals to the congregation the empty tomb, blesses it, prays and chants. After gloryifying God, the processional hymn “Come Rejoice, The Lord is Risen!/Wesoly nam dzis dzien nastal” is intoned and we’re off!

The intricacies of the Easter Procession lie in what is processed and how the procession takes place.

In a parish, the 3 symbols of the Resurrection are assigned at the



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beginning of the liturgy. The first is the Crucifix “draped with a red stole to signify the eternal priesthood of Christ. The stole should be crossed as for the priesthood or left to hang full (as seen below) as in the full priesthood of the bishopric.” (PNCC Hymnal, 2011).



The second is the statue of the Resurrected Christ. As Catholics, our statuary is a great source of devotion and meaning. Most parishes have during Good Friday and Holy Saturday a tomb on display, featuring the statue of a reposed (dead) Christ. The Statue of the Resurrected Christ carried in procession and prominently put on display in the Sanctuary shows quite visually Jesus overcoming death.



### Why Do We? (continued)



The third is the Paschal Candle. The Paschal Candle is blessed and lit on Holy Saturday in the service of New Fire. This candle represents not only the light of Christ coming into the world, but the Light that overcomes darkness forever.

Now, why do we loop around the church three times, stopping at

four corners? The three times around the church show the presence of the holy number of 3—representing the members of the Trinity, Christ overcoming the denial of St. Peter, overcoming the three temptations of Satan, and more. However, the main reason that the procession circles clockwise around the church is to show the passage of time, the three days that Jesus was in the tomb, the three days it took until Jesus overcame sin and death.

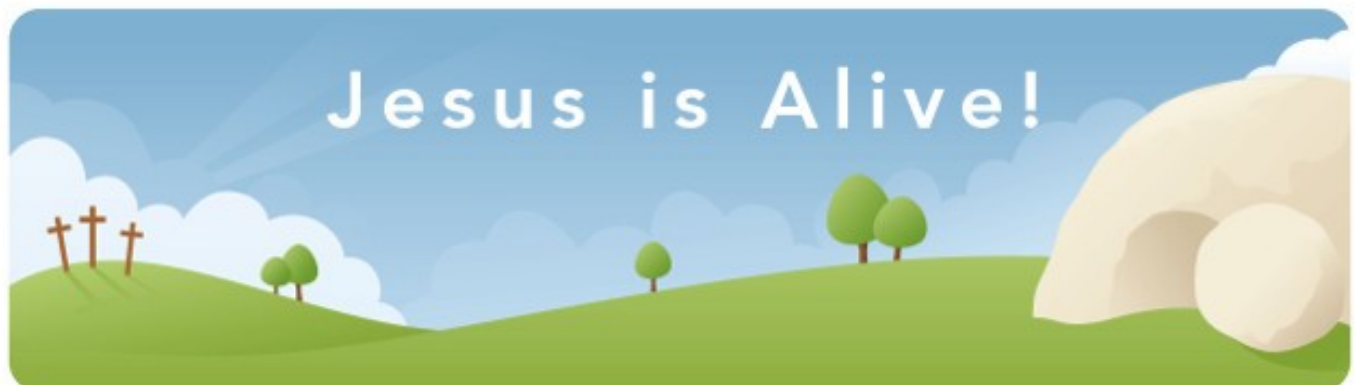
The four stops at the four corners recall a portion of the Holy Saturday liturgy, as well as many portions of ancient scripture. During the Blessing of Holy Water, the celebrant prays: “For this reason, creature of water, I bless You by the living God, by the true God, by the holy God, by that God who in the beginning separated you from the land by His Word, whose Spirit moved over you.” He then sprinkles the water in 4 directions, representing the four corners of the earth. In processing the Easter Sacrament to the four corners of the church, we also process Jesus Christ to each end of the world, showing our belief in the Resurrection.

Finally—the bells and the music must be addressed. If one were to attend Holy Thursday Mass, the Gloria would stick out, as it is...well...a “super-sized” Gloria, with every bell and joyful noise made that can be done in the church. And at the moment of the Gloria’s completion? Silence. No



more bells, no more instruments or organ until the beginning of the Easter Procession. So when you see one of your little altar boys or girls struggling to ring the bells with such vigor on Easter morning, they couldn’t be struggling for a more joyous reason. That is why we do what we do at Easter!

Fr. Jason





### A few thoughts from your parish chair

As the saying goes... April showers bring May flowers. Do you think they meant rain showers or snow showers? We certainly can't complain about the weather we had this past winter so we must be tolerant of what has fallen and what is yet to be in the next couple days! As we look ahead to planting our gardens here's one that can grow regardless of the weather!

#### Garden of Daily Living

Plant three rows of peas:

- Peace of mind
- Peace of heart
- Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

- Squash gossip
- Squash indifference
- Squash grumbling
- Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of Lettuce:

- Lettuce be faithful
- Lettuce be kind
- Lettuce be patient
- Lettuce really love one another

No garden is without turnips:

- Turnip for meetings
- Turnip for service
- Turnip to help one another

To conclude your garden you must have thyme:

- Thyme for each other
- Thyme for family
- Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love.  
There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

Back by popular demand (well one person asked) Share your recipes. Feel free to send them to me.

#### Chicken Spedini Rolls

By Johnny Ciao

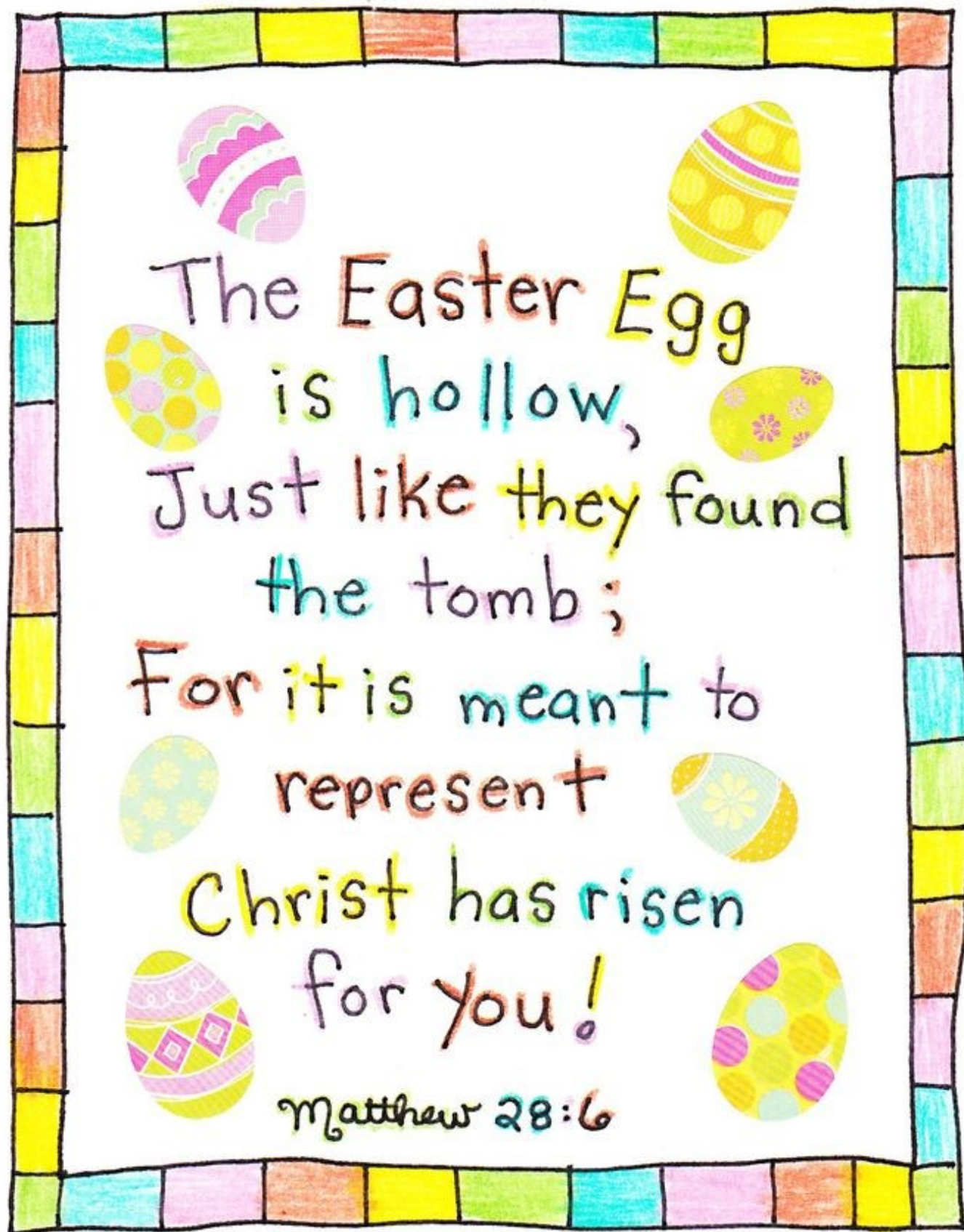
- 1/2 lb. thinly sliced chicken breasts
- Bunch of Italian fresh parsley (finely chopped)
- 1 egg
- 1/8 c. pine nuts (optional)
- 1/4 c. unseasoned bread crumbs
- 1 c. chopped fresh spinach
- 1/8 c. Parmesan or Romano cheese (grated)
- 1/2 c. of tomato puree
- Olive oil

Mix egg, bread crumbs, cheese, parsley, pine nuts and spinach together. Place portion of mixture on each chicken breast and roll it closed (can hold together with toothpick if desired). Place chicken rolls in baking dish and drizzle with olive oil and tomato puree.

Bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes and enjoy!

**Lesson on Forgiveness...** "Forgive your enemies" was the topic of the reverend's sermon on this particular Sunday morning. At the close of his rather long message, he asked how many were willing to forgive their enemies. About half of his congregation raised their hands. Not satisfied, he preached for another twenty minutes and repeated the question. This time a few more lifted their hands. Still unsatisfied he lectured another fifteen minutes and repeated the question. Now, all raised their hands except one elderly lady in the back row. "Miz Jones, aren't you willing to forgive your enemies?" the pastor inquired. "I don't have any" was her answer. "Miz Jones, that's very unusual. How old are you?" "Ninety-three." "Miz Jones, please come down front and tell this congregation how a person can live ninety-three years and not have an enemy in the world." The sweet little lady tottered down the aisle, very slowly turned around, and announced, "It's easy. I just outlived 'em all!"

*elaine p. ploskonka*





### Various Announcements

#### Happy Easter

The Easter Season begins with the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday and lasts 50 days, until the day of Pentecost, this year May 15. The length of the celebration reminds us of the importance of this season and the importance of the Resurrection event in the story of our salvation.

Please keep your Easter spirit strong over these next few weeks, as we remain standing throughout the Canon/Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass, as we add extra "alleluias" throughout the liturgy, and as our lilies and Easter decorations stand out in our church proper.

#### Thank You!!!

Many "thank you's" are in order regarding this Lenten Season: to all who kept vigil over the hours prescribed by the church to watch over the Blessed Sacrament from the

hours covering Holy Thursday to Holy Saturday, to all who purchased kielbasa, pierogi, a fish dinner, or baked goods at the Palm Sunday bake sale. Thanks to all who attended any of the Lenten liturgies-Stations of the Cross, Bitter Lamentations, Holy Week services, etc. We'll do it again next year!

#### Sunday, April 17

There will only be one Holy Mass at 10am. Afterwards, we invite everyone to bring a covered dish to share at our famous potluck luncheons. This will also be our Parish Easter Dinner, where the Pastor and Parish Committee Chair will share blessed eggs with all. Please make note of the schedule change and potluck luncheon.

#### Polish Fest 2016

As announced previously, our Polish-Fest is scheduled to take place this July 7-10. It will follow some of the same format as last year, with

enough tweaks and advertising to have a greater community impact. Keep your eyes here for more info in the future.

#### The PNU

Can Help You Use Your Tax Refund Wisely—insurance policies, Endowments, and annuities are some of the things the PNU can offer to help you and your family grow financially. Contact your PNU Branch Secretary or call the Home Office at 1- 800-724-6352 for more information on ways you can use your tax refund wisely, or see Mr. Mike Wisniewski at Coffee Hour after 9am Mass one day.

#### Parade Day!

The parade for Polish Constitution Day takes place on Sunday, May 1st. St. Mary's will be marching in the parade. If you are interested in marching with the group of our parishioners and friends, please see JoAnn Long or leave a message at the Parish Office.

### Fish Fry

Our Parish Fish Fry's returned in 2016 as a resounding success. They were held twice on Fridays during Lent— February 26 and March 11.

Led by event chairman George Ziefle, we served roughly 400 diners over the two nights to parishioners, friends, and guests. All enjoyed the nearly wait-free time and amount of food that was offered.





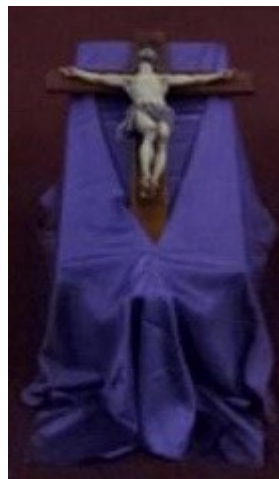




### Holy Week Liturgies

The liturgies of Holy Week are amongst the most beautiful and meaningful in the entire calendar. Unfortunately, as many of them take place during the work week, not as many people attend. Here

are some pictures from those liturgies, including a Children's Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, The Holy Saturday liturgy of New Fire and Water (note the immensely-intrigued young acolyte), and the blessing of Easter Baskets.



## "The Glory of the Resurrection"

## Our Prayer List

### April Days of Note



- 7<sup>th</sup> – Helen Wankowski
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Michael Oleniacz
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Karen Barnes
- 16<sup>th</sup> – John Michalczyk
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Sheri Ference
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Megan Kasperczyk
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Robert Mondok
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Julie Koehler
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Marilyn Burger
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Natalie Kasperczyk
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Nick Sivik



- 1<sup>st</sup> – Tom & Karen Bedocs
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Zbigniew & Elizabeth Staranowski

### Quick Announcements

Help is always needed for our monthly Food Ministry. On the first Wednesday of every month, a group of parishioners take the time out of their schedules to prepare a fresh, hot meal that is served from 4pm-6pm.

Our needs vary from month-to-month. Sometimes, we need help cooking the meal. Other times, it is the setting of the tables and preparation of the hall. Other times, serving and cleanup.

If you are at all interested in offering your time and ministry to this endeavor, please feel free to speak to Fr. Jason or to Dr. Jim Ploskonka. Thank you in advance!

No resurrection no life  
beyond the grave.  
No hope of Heaven  
for none would be saved.  
There would be no forgiveness  
for our sin  
and no hope for mankind  
to begin again.

Jesus bore our sins  
and took our stripes  
through Him we may  
have eternal life.  
The resurrection was part  
of God's plan  
to settle the sin debt  
for sinful man.

Had not our Lord  
hung on the cross  
we all would remain  
hopelessly lost.  
Mankind owed a debt  
we could not pay  
the shedding of blood  
was the only way.

The blood of animals,  
the spotless lambs  
did not suffice  
to redeem fallen man.  
It pleased God  
for Jesus to give His life  
so Jesus became  
our perfect sacrifice.

Just as winter always  
gives way to spring,  
nature is revived  
and birds begin to sing.  
Death gave way  
to life on resurrection day  
and God raised Jesus  
to show us the way.

If God can cause nature  
to bring new birth  
after a hard cold winter  
covers the earth.  
Then God can give a fresh start  
to fallen man  
by a new birth and a chance  
to start again.

Please pray for these St. Mary's parishioners:

Marlane Oleniacz	Barbara Baranowski
Bill & Joan Kastak	Anna Dawidziuk
Craig & Judy Atherton	John Spilka
Louise Cygan	Alison Jambor
Mary Ann Loschelder	Ralph & June Zaun
Marty Bengala	Amy Dreger
Floyd & Elaine Rzonca	Frank Dominik
John Kasperczyk	Chester & Helen Budney
Chester & Ann Warzala	Hilda Grabowski

Please pray for our family and friends:

Wanda Clark	Beth Chihill
Michael Cosevin	Helen Cummings
Laina Dachtal	Colby Howard
Jay Grabowsky	Pam Chesar
Cecelia Hall	Caroline Kunes
Mark & Kim Andreas	Thomas Lill
John & Anne Nemetz	Bea Miskow
Rose Neyman	Carol & Chuck Boesch
Joanie True	Daniel Rinella
Joanel Rollen	Veronica Babic
Fr. Tom Sheha	Fr. Sr. Gus Sicard
Gracie Pijor	Ben Soltesy
Don and Pam Tropiano	Linda Vect
Dennis and Sue Vect	Marcus Vaughn, Jr.
Bryson Dzuroff	Howard Dicken
Cherise Pacanovsky	Jane Hunter
Dennis Thome	The Finnie Family
Carlene Fliss	Jim Fliss Jr.
Duda Family	Fr. Sr. John Kraus
Nan Cramer	Bp. Stanley Bilinski
Bp. John Mack	David Vaden
Bp. John Swantek	Jeannie Bartko Muran
Johanna Markiewicz	Edna Samelson
Elsa Vogl de Gomez	Wanda Heffner
Kim Blaha	John Clark Sr.
Abby Sobolewski	Geri S.
Robert Winlock	Veronica Babic
Chris Minch	Nancy Jablonowski
Jason Dreger	George Pofok
Stephanie Milla	Rich Dombrowski

Those in nursing homes or assisted living:

Shirley Paulus                      Gene Mora  
Polly Gajda  
WE ALSO REMEMBER  
ALL ACTIVE & RETIRED CLERGY  
ALL SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN  
Bless them, O Lord.

