

April 1, 2018

Easter Sunday

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church



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St. Anthony of Padua Catholic

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

8:45am-2:45pm

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Fredy Angel

Pastor

Deacon Ray Brown

Mass Schedule Sunday

English 10:00am

Spanish 12:30am

Classes 11:15am

Mon-Wed Service 12 PM

First Communions

May 6, 2018

Confirmations

May 27, 2018

Adoration

April 7, 2018 from 5pm to
midnight.

Rosary Ministry

Our Rosary makers meet
every 3rd Thursday of the
month at 11:30am. For more
information please contact

Kathy Giddens at
(229)482-2364

Knight of Columbus

Round table meeting 2nd
Tuesday of the month at 7pm.
Next: April 10, 2018

Alleluia

At Easter, the Church resumes singing Alleluia at Mass. Our Alleluia celebrates the central events of the Christian faith, and the central turning point of human history. The resurrection of Jesus first revealed the victory of Jesus on the cross. Jesus fulfilled God's promises to rescue Israel and all of humanity from the effects of sin and death. Easter reveals that God's new



Alleluia!
Christ
is
risen!

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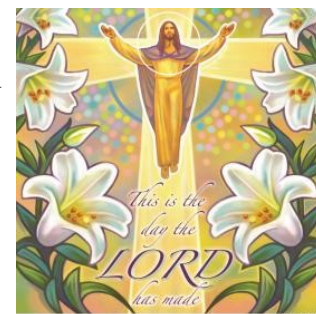
creation has now been launched, with Jesus' resurrected body as its first demonstration. This new creation will be completed upon Jesus' return, when heaven and earth are fully joined. Right now, in this new Reign of God in Jesus, the Holy Spirit empowers us to join God's project, to renew all of God's beloved creation. And Easter reminds us that wherever we are in life, in whatever difficulties or messes we find ourselves, God offers us a new beginning. Alleluia indeed!

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

Today's Gospel begins in darkness. Mary of Magdala comes to the tomb before dawn. She, then the two disciples, see the empty tomb, and are amazed and terrified. The passage stops before Jesus first appears, which allows us to pause and more fully notice their disorientation and confusion. John's Gospel has many images of the passage from darkness to light and from blindness to sight. When Jesus cured the blind man in John 9, and raised Lazarus in John 11, their transition to the light was gradual and difficult. The disciples, too, were often slow and resistant to understanding what Jesus was saying and doing, both before and after the Resurrection.

THE LIGHT OF EASTER

In the first reading, Peter boldly and clearly proclaims the good news of Jesus' resurrection. Here it's important to observe that Peter, in the verses just before his speech, was profoundly disoriented by a vision. The vision, contrary to assumptions from his heritage, suggested that the Holy Spirit is inviting Gentiles, without obstacles, into the Jesus community. It began to dawn on Peter that the gospel is for everyone, without exception. The barriers between peoples were being blown open by the Spirit. Peter began to see a new and brighter world. Most of us, most of the time, try hard to protect ourselves from being disoriented. Our traditions and past experiences keep us grounded and secure. However, often we grow in maturity and insight precisely because we are knocked off balance. God disrupts us enough to open us to what God wishes to teach us. We move from blindness to sight when we are first disoriented by the light, let go of the comfortable darkness, and open our eyes to new insight. As we begin the Easter season, the light of Easter is indeed bright. Easter reveals a world of opportunities to care for others and an abundance of grace to guide and sustain us.



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS

The Paschal Mystery is the key to our Christian faith: the dying and rising of Jesus that is the pattern of our life. In their first steps on the road of faith, the catechumens feel the cross of glory traced over their eyes, on their lips, across their shoulders, on their ears, over their heart, and on their feet. The mystery is that even death gives way to life for those who are held in the embrace of Jesus. Today, many new Christians arise from the waters of the font. Yet the font is not the destination of their journey. The goal is Pentecost, fifty days from now, and a lifetime of praise to the Father, in Christ, in the embrace of the Holy Spirit, for the sake of the world. "Neophyte," our ancient word for newly-baptized people, means "newly-planted" in Greek. If someone in your parish has just been baptized, welcome them today. The smiles on their faces and the light in the eyes is a foretaste of heaven. -Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



Youth Gathering

Our Youth Gathering was awesome we had an outstanding amount of visitors and were very blessed with all the help of our community.



St. Anthony of Padua Prayer Garden

Support us by ordering a memorial brick for our prayer garden. The cost is \$100 we do offer *payment plan*. To order a brick or if you have any question about our engraved bricks, please feel free to contact the Parish Office.



Thank You!

We would like to say thank you to everyone who donated drinks for the youth gathering. A special thanks to Leo, Lupe, Jonas, Julia, Joel and Mireya for donating our food.

Giving Sunday

Next Sunday April 8 is our Giving Sunday. Please Remember to bring Personal Hygiene Products to give to the needy. Our Second Collection will be for Priests Retirement.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7



Adult Faith Formation Classes

We will be meeting in the Church Conference Room at 11:30am on Sundays. It is open to any adults interested in learning about the Church and our Catholic Faith. For further information, contact our office or Mrs. Lukens at: **229-794-9140**.



Let us pray for the health of:

Fr. Marvin LeFrois, Nathan, Reyna Soto, Olivia Ursrey, Eva De Angel, Andrew & Mary Carrell Morrison.

For the Eternal rest of:

All Souls



Blessed

March 25, 2018 Collections

Regular Collection	\$1047.50
Building Fund	\$1733.00
Bishop Annual Appeal	\$215.00