

April 15, 2018

Third Sunday of Easter

# 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

May 5, 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: May 8, 2018

## God

The grand and dramatic story of God comes into focus in today's readings. The passages from Acts and from the Gospel of Luke describe how Jesus' disciples began to understand how Jesus fits into the larger narrative of God, Israel, humanity, and all of creation. In the Gospel, Jesus interprets the scriptures for his followers. He shows how his seemingly shameful death was the fulfillment of God's promises. Jesus shows how his life, death, and resurrection are the surprising turning point of the scripture story. We, the Church today, find ourselves in the middle of this story. We first look back, to recall God's overflowing and steadfast love, beginning from Creation, through Christ, until today. We then look forward to the fulfillment, already launched by Jesus, of the Reign of God. With this perspective, we play our part in the drama, joining God to bring God's work to completion.

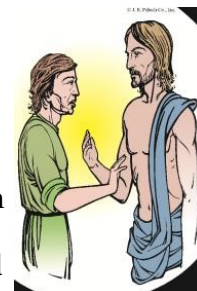


## THE SURPRISE MESSIAH

After the crucifixion of Jesus, his disciples were in despair. Not only had they seen their master's horrible death, their own lives were now at risk, for the crucifixion suggested to them that Jesus was not the awaited Messiah after all. The Messiah had been envisioned as somehow coming in power, liberating Israel from foreign domination and signaling God's long-awaited return to dwell again with Israel. The Crucifixion suggested to them the possibility of God's rejection of Jesus, or Jesus' failure to achieve God's purposes. This is partly why the disciples were amazed when Jesus appeared. God had vindicated Jesus by raising him. The Resurrection revealed that God's promises were actually fulfilled, precisely through this death. Through the cross, God had indeed liberated the people from sin and death. God had truly returned, in Jesus and then later in the presence and activity of the Holy Spirit. The dominion of sin and death had been broken. The Resurrection was the first display of the new kingdom of God, in Jesus.

## NOT FOR HEAVEN ONLY

In the Gospel passage, Jesus specifically emphasizes his bodily presence. He invites the disciples to touch him, and he eats some fish in front of them. He makes it clear that he is not a ghost and did not shed his physicality or his humanity when he was raised. The disciples began to understand Jesus in a new way. Christians later articulated this as Jesus' bodily resurrection. The resurrected Jesus, both human and divine, reigns both in heaven and on earth. So when Jesus sent his disciples, and today sends all of us, to proclaim God's kingdom, he never means "for heaven only." God aims to renew, not reject, human bodies, human culture, and the created universe. God's project for us is here and now, within all the limitations and messiness of daily life. We are called to care for each other, for the earth, and for all God's beloved creation.



**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS**

There are many ways in which religious communities are organized. Some have a central authority in a congregation, and others have a "rule" that is shared by all the members but are a kind of federation of independent houses. Sometimes, congregations with distinct histories and ministries decide to merge. Several years ago, one of the largest mergers on record took place. Seven independent congregations of Dominican women religious, most in the Midwest, are now one new congregation enfolding more than seven hundred members spanning thirty-six states. The oldest of the founding groups, the so-called "Kentucky Dominicans," began as a frontier community in 1822. Other communities have European roots. To get to this historic moment, the sisters spent many years in conversation, and approved the new structure by a two-thirds majority vote. This was then ratified by the Holy See. The merger allows the sisters to pool their resources to be more effective in ministry. They are living the Paschal Mystery, experiencing Christ's dying and rising in an inspiring way. -Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



**Sacraments**  
**First Communions**  
 May 6, 2018  
 10 Am or 11:30 AM



**Conformations**  
 May 27, 2018  
 11 AM Bilingual

**Egg Hunt**  
 Mrs. Becky surprised her *Baby Cubs* with an egg hunt.



**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.



**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.



*Blessed*

**April 8, 2018 Collections**

<b>Regular Collection</b>	<b>\$1626.90</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$3621.00</b>
<b>Bishop Annual Appeal</b>	<b>\$415.00</b>

**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

