
St. John is a Stewardship Parish

March 31, 2013

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Saturday, April 6, 2013

4:00 – Daniel Glover – 4th Anniversary

Sunday, April 7, 2013

9:30 – Felice Rondeau – 10th Anniversary

11:30 – Parishioners of St. John

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

9:00 – Dorothy Walsh -- Memorial

Important Dates

Fri. 4/5 – Fundraiser for Meaghan O'Brien—7 PM at the Commercial Club in E.B. -- \$20 donation

Sat. 4/6 – FIRST PENANCE & 2nd Gr. Retreat – 10:30

Sat. 4/6 – Last CCD Class

Sun – Thurs – 4/7-4/11 – Last CCD Classes

Weds. 4/24 – Confirmation Rehearsal – 7 PM

Thurs. 4/25 – Confirmation Rehearsal – 7 PM

Fri. 4/26 – Confirmation – 6:30 PM

Sat. 4/27 – Confirmation – 10 AM

Sun. 4/28 – PPC Mtg – following 11:30 Mass

Our Shared Treasure

Sunday, March 24, 2013

Weekly Offertory: \$7348.50

Grand Annual: \$799

Thank you for your continued generosity.

GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION

As of this weekend, 159 families/individuals have contributed \$33,320 towards our parish goal of \$50,000. At this point in time last year, the parish had raised \$47,000 toward our goal of \$50,000. So as you can see, we have a way to go. The Finance Council has suggested that each working person/family contribute \$250 towards this important financial campaign. The council is well aware that some individuals will be unable to make a contribution of \$250 but some others will be able to make a larger contribution and many have already done so. Please know that whatever you are able to contribute will be gratefully received.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pam Adornato, Nira Porciello, Jackie Hennebury, Billy Brown, Debra Vass, Meaghan O'Brien, Judy Potts, Debbie Sperre, Ellen Hansen, Niko Westhaver, Christopher Berlo, Penny Walsh, John Gray, Juan Botta.

Catholic Appeal is here!

Your support of the 2013 Catholic Appeal helps countless people of all ages and backgrounds through 50 ministries of the Archdiocese of Boston. Thank you to all who pledged their support of the 2013 Catholic Appeal at Mass. To date our parish has contributed \$5,310 to this year's appeal. If you have not yet participated in the Appeal, you can make your pledge by completing one of the forms available at the back of the church or by contacting St. John Parish by calling 508-378-4207. You may also pledge your support to the parish campaign at www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org.

CLERGY BENEFIT

Every year, the diocesan-wide Easter collection is for our active and senior diocesan priests. Your gift to the Clergy Funds has a significant impact on our ability to help keep the promises we make as Catholics to provide for the health, well being, and retirement needs of the 645 priest who have devoted their lives to serving us and our Church. This Easter, remember the priests who have been there for you, and consider honoring them through this special collection. All are welcome to make a gift online at www.clergyfunds.org or use the in-pew envelopes provided. Thank you in advance for your generous and prayerful support of the well being of our priests.



*From
Fr. Wally
Fr. Don
Deacon Joe
& the
Staff*

A special Thank You to Allan Comeau, a former resident of East Bridgewater, who donated a special family crucifix to our parish. This crucifix will be used in the Good Friday liturgy and find its new home in the chapel. This is a beautiful example of loving generosity and inspiration provided by the Holy Spirit.

Don't forget that On-Line Giving is still available! Need help setting it up, call the Rectory.



WORKSHOP ON VISITING THE SICK

Starting Thursday, April 18, and running for six weeks (Apr 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, & 23), a workshop on *Pastoral Care to the sick and the Homebound* will be offered at the **Pastoral Center, Braintree from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**. Sr. Paula Tinlin, SND, a certified chaplain from Caritas Carney Hospital, will teach the course. The workshop will include a review of communication skills, the basics of pastoral visitation, key illness issues, spiritual needs and concerns, grief, loss, and dying, and care giving issues. Eucharistic minister, pastoral visitors, parish nurses and others are encouraged to attend. Fee \$40. Registration information is available in the Parish Office or call 617-746-5843. Pre-registration is required by April 11.

Happy Easter to everyone, and thank you for your help with cash and food donations for our food pantry. We would also like to thank the Kiwanis Club for their contributions to the pantry after their annual Pancake Breakfast last Sunday. It was amazing! We also need to thank our local Public Library for the food drive they conducted for our pantry. We are lucky to live in such a caring community. Because of everyone's help, we were able to provide forty families with a ham Easter dinner with all the fixings. Words cannot express the appreciation and joy we all feel when we all work together to help others. Thank you!!



Dear Friends,

They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

Thus, Peter and the other disciples were greeted on the first Easter day. Mary Magdalene's announcement opens the question to you and me as well. Do I know where they have laid Jesus? How do I find him on this Easter day?

Peter and John ran to the tomb, but all they found was an empty space and empty wrappings. Later that evening, they were to find where he was: not laid in another tomb, but alive in their midst. Moments after they left the tomb, Mary found where Jesus was; he was alive, and she fell at his feet in worship. That afternoon two disciples on their way to the village of Emmaus found where he was: not dead, but walking along the road, explaining the scripture to them, and present to them in the breaking of the bread. A week later, Thomas finds him again in the midst of the disciples, alive and still bearing the scars of his passionate love for the human race. But can you and I tell today where he is to be found?

Recall that in the encounter Mary Magdalene had with Jesus, she did not recognize him. The disciples on the road to Emmaus did not recognize him, and other resurrection accounts indicate a similar problem.

The disciples had to learn to look for him in forms other than human flesh in which they had known him. He is risen, he has changed.

It is that process of discovering Jesus in their midst in new ways which occupied the disciples for the remainder of

their lives. Their discoveries are the substance of the New Testament writing. Jesus did not depart but remained present. The body of Christ was found in new and different forms. And, at first, was not recognized.

I think that it is often the case that Christians seem to proclaim a Christ who has vanished and left no traces behind. We appear to be proclaiming nothing more than a historical event, which happened once upon a time. If we communicate a faith about something that happened long ago, a man who lives in times past, such a faith is no more than belief in a historical record.

The original Christians experienced Jesus in their midst. They ate and drank with him. They talked with him. But you and I are often left with the impression that for us today there is not a direct encounter with the risen Lord. We sing, "Jesus Christ is risen today," but really mean, "Jesus Christ was risen once upon a time." We call upon people to place their faith in Jesus, by which we mean that the bible's story is true. But where has Jesus gone?

My friends, Jesus has not left. He has remained. If he cannot be found, it is the people who have left. Easter is a time to remind ourselves that Jesus is inviting us all, no matter what our religious practice is, to come home.

Come home to where you will meet him in "the breaking of the bread," the Eucharist. Come home to where you will meet Jesus in his word as we read and share the Holy Scripture. Come home to where you will meet him in his body, the church.

Yes, they have taken the Lord's body from the tomb. Where have they laid it? They have laid it in the midst of the world, in the midst of this city, in the midst of this gathering we sing

That Jesus Christ is risen today because we see the risen Christ all around us, in the eyes and faces of those sitting beside us, in the newly baptized, in the bread and wine of the altar, and in the people we encounter in each moment of our lives.

Christ is risen indeed. His body walks the earth today, healing, teaching, feeding, suffering, dying and rising. You and I and the entire human race are the living answer to the question Mary Magdalene posed that first Easter. The Lord is taken from his tomb and placed in the center of this world.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

God Bless,
Fr. Wally

