

April 19th, 2020 Divine Mercy Sunday

An Ever-growing Eucharistic Community Boldly Serving Others Through Gods Love

so I send you." John 20:19-31

Sunday Mass can be viewed on our website: rescathroch.org

Church doors are opened from 7:00am - 7:00 pm daily. Stop in for prayer. Please respect the 6 feet distance between people.

Church library is located in the corner by the Conference Room. Plenty of good books available for checkout.



# Weekly Words from The Rock

Easter Quiz: Last week, I posed a question on Easter and now provide the answer.

Question: To have risen from the dead Jesus first had to be laid in a tomb. Whose tomb was Jesus laid in? A. Peter's tomb; B. Thomas' tomb; C. The tomb of Joseph of Arimathea; D. John's tomb Answer: C. The tomb of Joseph of Arimathea

Easter Season. One of the fundamental signs of Easter is water. At Easter, we renew our baptismal promises after which we are sprinkled with holy water. During the Easter Season, it is common to celebrate the Sprinkling Rite in place of the Penitential Rite. There is a lot to think about surrounding water. Thus, I would like to share an article entitled "The Waters of Baptism."

"Water is the principal symbol for baptism. John baptized Jesus with water in the Jordan River. Jesus and his disciples went into the region of Judea, where they baptized others with water (John 3:22-23). When Jesus died, water flowed from his pierced side (John 19:34), an outpouring of his grace through water. It is a rich symbol filled with spiritual meaning.

Water is rebirth. Jesus explained, "No one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit" (John 3:5). A person is born as a human being by the goodness of one's mother, and through the waters of baptism, a person is reborn as a spiritual being by the grace of God, and through this rebirth, the person is an adopted child of God.

Water is life. Water is essential for a plant to grow and bear fruit, and without water, a plant will wilt and die. The waters of baptism impart the life of Christ and enable Christians to grow spiritually and bear an abundant yield of good deeds in the vineyard of life.

Water is power. The swift current of a large river can generate an enormous amount of hydroelectric power. Similarly, the waters of baptism, convey the infinite power of God's amazing grace and energize a person to

live a dynamic and vibrant Christian life.

Water is salvation. Noah's family was saved from the raging waters of the great flood by the ark. A person is rescued in the waters of baptism from the tumult of sin that is swirling below, and is saved in the safety of the boat of the Church with Jesus as its captain. Jesus explained, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16a).

Water is cleansing. Water is used to wash soiled clothes or dirty dishes to get rid of the dirt and grime, so they will be sparkling clean. Similarly, the waters of baptism wash away the stains and impurities of sin so that the soul can be white as wool or freshly fallen snow.

Water is deliverance, liberation and freedom. The Israelites were enslaved in Egypt. They were liberated and received their freedom when God divided the sea and they passed through the waters, which were like a wall to their right and their left (Exodus 14:21-22). The waters of baptism are deliverance from slavery to sin, liberation from the forces of evil and offer freedom to live according to God's ways.

Water is death and resurrection. To fall into the water and be submerged for even a short amount of time can result in drowning and death. If a lifeguard is nearby, the rescuer can dive in, bring the victim out of the water and save his or her life. When a person is plunged into the waters of baptism, the person shares in the death of Jesus, and when the person comes up out of the water, the person is saved and shares in his resurrection (see Romans 6:3-5).

And finally, water is eternal life. When the Israelites came to the end of their exodus journey outside of Jericho, they passed through the waters of the Jordan River, which had halted upstream so that they could cross over safely into the Promised Land (Joshua 3:14:17). Those who pass through the waters of baptism are promised an eternal inheritance so that when their human life on earth ends, they will cross over safely to eternal life with God forever."(Article written by Father Michael Van Sloun, The Catholic Spirit, June 22, 2017, page 21).

God's blessings to you! Fr. Peter Schuster, Pastor

#### Divine Mercy Sunday April 19th



The Resurrection of Jesus was the most important event in the history of the world. When the Lord appeared in the 'Upper Room' to the apostles pointing out His wounds, it was to demonstrate He was the Crucified Christ, and to show He had resurrected from the dead. The final proof that He was God. He then bestowed on the apostles the power to forgive sins, which was in effect Divine Mercy coming into the world.

It was the beginning of the Church on earth. In 1931 He appeared as the same image in another room, this time the room of a young nun, again showing His wounds, emphasizing the power of those wounds as rays from a font of reconcilia-

tion and renewal, rays of love and mercy. This was Divine Mercy, His victory on the Cross, His resurrection, coming into to a very sinful world once again. A world that was about to plunge man into the depths of depravity in a horrific world war.

He asked her to teach the world again of why he died on the Cross to give sinners another chance of obtaining God's Divine Mercy, and pardon their sins if they returned to living by God's commandments. He was also reminding man that His death on the Cross, Divine Mercy was for all mankind (And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, these I have to lead as well. They too will hear My voice, and then there will be one flock and one Shepherd. John 10:11-18)

The commandments of God are built into every human born, in the form of a conscience that was given them at birth, it is the spirit of God within them, if you deny your conscience, you deny God.

The image that appeared to the apostles was the resurrected Christ. The Resurrection was the start of the Christian Church. The image that appeared to Saint Faustina was the same image that started the Christian Church. His appearance to Saint Faustina as the same image was to renew the Church, to renew belief in the Cross, in the Resurrection, in mans salvation.

In the beginning he said "I have not come to call the righteous, but to call sinners to repentance". (Luke 5:32) For the same reason He appeared again on earth to Saint Faustina, to save sinners from eternal damnation. His message of Divine Mercy is a warning to mankind to exercise their conscience, come back to God and live by the Commandments.

Who are the sinners? - sinners are those who offend human nature, God's creation, and the dignity of man.

How to Recite The Chaplet of Divine Mercy: On your rosary Begin with: one Our Father; one Hail Mary; the Apostles Creed

On each of the Our Father Beads say the following words: "Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world".

On the 10 Hail Mary Beads say the following words: "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world".

In conclusion, after the five decades say three times: "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world". (divinemercy.org.)

#### **Parish News**

Our Sunday Mass can be viewed on our website www.rescathroch.org.

White Books: We have our Easter White books available to be picked up in the Gathering Space.

We will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation two times per week until we once again offer public Mass:

Wednesday evenings from 5:30 - 6:30 pm Saturday mornings from 10:00 - 11:00 am

Giving Tree - there is still a great need for food for our community. Please stop by the tree located in our Gathering Space and take a tag or two for specific food items; please drop off your food under the tree and place your tag back on a branch. Thank you for your generous support, the need is still very great in our community.

My Own Church - We have a new feature for you called "My Own Church". It gives you access to your family record at Resurrection to view your family information. You will be able to change your information, such as address, phone numbers, email addresses and view and print your financial contribution statements.

To access your family record, go to our website: rescathroch.org and on the home page, scroll down to My Own Church icon: click on it; enter a username and password; click on New User and complete steps 1-3 on the registration form; once completed, submit the registration. You will receive an email containing your login credentials (username and temporary password) to the email address you provided in the registration.

After you receive the email, login to your account. Check your spam or junk email folder if the email does not arrive within the day after you submit your request. Any questions or concerns, contact the office.

Office Hours: Our office is closed, but we are available to take phone calls and emails. If you need to leave a phone message, please use extension 100. If it is a medical emergency, please use extension 125#.

#### **Dedication Candles**

Apr 18th - Apr 25th

1. †Jim Mandery



### Check out these Catholic Resources

Relavant Radio - broadcast

•Radio station 97.0 am; •website: relevantradio.com

Dr. Scott Hahn: www.scotthahn.com

• Everything Catholic

Jason and Crystalina Evert: www.chastity.com

• Chastity, Dating, Sexuality, Morality

Tim Staples: www.timstaples.com or www.catholicanswersspeakers.com

• Everything Catholic, Bible, Protestantism, Apologetics

Trent Horn: www.trenthorn.com or www.catholicanswersspeakers.com

- Everything Catholic, Bible, Protestantism, Apologetics
- Abortion, Bioethics, LGBTQ+

Karlo Broussard: www.karlobroussard.com or www. catholicanswersspeakers.com

• Everything Catholic, Bible, Protestantism, Apologetics, Philosopy

Fr. Robert Spitzer, PhD: www.magiscenter.com/ meet-fr-spitzer/ or www.crediblecatholic.com (Credible Catholic is a really amazing resource that we should be using, IMHO)

 Everything Catholic, Bible, Proofs for Gods existence from Science and Philosophy

Bishop Robert Barron: www.wordonfire.org/bishop-robert-barron/

• Everything Catholic, Theology

Dr. Stacy A. Trasancos: www.stacytrasancos.com/ about-stacy-trasancos or www.catholicanswersspeakers.com

• Science, Theology

Steve Ray: www.catholicconvert.com

• Apologetics, Protestantism

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Monday				
20				
April				

Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8

"What is born of flesh is flesh and what is born of spirit is spirit."

### Tuesday 21

Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15

I"f I tell you about earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?"

### Wednesday 22

Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21

"For God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but so that through him the world might be saved."

## 23 April

Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36

"The Father loves the Son and has entrusted everything to his hands."

## Friday 24 April

Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15

"When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world."

## 25 April

1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 [2]/Mk 16:15-20

"Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned."

# 26 April

Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [11a]/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

"That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus."



### Musical Musings from Joy

Music & Choral Director choirdirector@rescathroch.org

This Divine Mercy Sunday, I implore you to continue turning to Jesus in this time of struggle.

I cannot remember the last time, if ever, that I have gone this long without actually receiving the Eucharist. I hunger for Jesus as much as all of you.

However, I can't help but think of Thomas, especially with today's Gospel: "You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord; blessed are they who have not seen me, but still believe!" (John 20:29)

How true these words ring for us right now! We may not be receiving the physical Eucharist, but we are all participating in a Spiritual Communion these weeks. What have you done to continue showing Jesus how much you love Him? If you are an Adorer, are you still keeping your hour in a different way? If you are a liturgical or music minister, how are you still praying through your ministry alone? How is your family spending time together in prayer when not in Church on Sundays? Are you finding yourself closer to God amidst these uncertain times?

For me, it always goes back to the music. Even if you're not a singer yourself, I challenge you to listen to our playlists each week.

The number one comment I've received during this time is that everyone LOVES Fr. Schuster's Mass, but they are missing the music. Even if it's not "our way" of praying, there is still something so familiar about it.

Be still and keep the faith!

#### **Mass Intentions**

Private Daily Masses will be offered by Fr. Schuster/Fr. Shawn for the Mass interntion below

Mon.,	Apr. 20th	8:30 am	†Helen "Pat" Jerowski
Tues.,	Apr. 21st	8:30 am	Reparation of Sin
Wed.,	Apr. 22nd	8:30 am	†Michael Dougherty
Thurs.	Apr. 23rd	8:30 am	†Jerry Shanahan
Fri.,	Apr. 24th	8:30 am	†Lavina Meyer
Sat.,	Apr. 25th	8:00 pm	For the Parish
Sun.,	Apr. 26th	8:30 am	†Merle & Eunice Benning

Sun., Apr. 26th 8:30 am †Merle & Eunice Bei

10:30 am †Jean Jensen

#### **Community News**

The Women's Retreat on May 16 has been cancelled. We are currently working on a virtual retreat option and will make that available on around May 16.

St. James Coffee's Brew Ha Ha has been cancelled this year. To support the efforts of this non-profit Catholic coffee shop, please visit their Go Fund Me page https://www.gofundme.com/f/lets-brew-it-together - Fundraiser by Katherine Letellier: Let's "Brew" it together.

### 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Church of the Resurretion's Goal \$82,000:

As of April 13th:

Amount Received: \$42,764; Amount Pledged: \$10,709 Total Amount Received and Pledged: \$53,473 Difference -\$28,527

Thank you for your continued support for the Catholic Ministry Appeal. If you have not sent in your contribution or pledge, please stop by the kiosk in our Gathering Space to pick up an envelope and information regarding this Appeal.

#### **Faith Formation**

News from Stacey, Grades 1-5, Family Ministry, dre1to5fm@rescathroch.org

Virtues in Practice: April's virtue is forgiveness and our saint is Blessed Margaret of Castello.

When Margaret was about 16 years old, her parents took her to a distant shrine where people were sometimes miraculously cured. They left her in the church and told her to pray for a miracle.

When they returned at the end of the day and saw she had not been healed (she had been born blind, lame, and with a hunchback), they abandoned her and returned home. The church beggars found her, realized what had happened,

and began to condemn her parents. When Margaret recovered from her shock of being left behind and realized what they were saying, she told them to stop.

She would not allow anyone to speak poorly of her parents and said it was time she took care of herself. The beggars soon recognized that Margaret was very holy, and they told her she should be a religious. Margaret became a Dominican sister. Rather than being bitter about her difficulties, she forgave those who had hurt her, lived joyfully with the sisters, cared for the sick, and visited those in prison. By God's grace, she even worked miracles. After she died, a crippled child was cured at the place of her burial.



She was declared blessed in 1609. Blessed Margaret of Castello, help us not to hold grudges and to forgive those who offend us, even if they are not sorry. Amen. Blessed Margaret of Castello, pray for us.



News from Sheila, Birth-KG, Grades 6-12, Children and Youth Ministry, dresscm@rescathroch.org

Family Prayer: Lord Jesus, help us to remember the words of Thomas: "My Lord and my God," and to make them our own prayer. Help us to see you in the actions and words of the people we meet, so that day by day our belief in you will grow stronger.

#### Domestic Church:

Here is a rendition of our Palm Sunday Art and Environment display by Claudia Pelowski, age 10. My family and I came into the church to pray. Claudia expressed her faith through art. I encourage families, if comfortable, to come into the church to pray. The sanctuary is open from 7 am to 7pm. If you or a family member is inspired to share your faith through art, submit a picture of the drawing to: sheilap@rescathroch.org.

We would love to display your artwork! The whole family can practice prayer through art.

