He is Risen!

Easter Sunday | April 12, 2020
Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church | San Francisco, California
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Worship Hours
Monday - Saturday: Daily Mass 8:00AM
Saturday: Vigil Mass 5:00PM
Reconciliation 3:45PM - 4:30PM
Sunday: Mass 8:00AM, 10:00AM and 6:30PM
Holy Days: 8:00AM and 7:00PM
Thanksgiving & New Years Day: 10AM

Due to “Shelter in Place”, Masses will be celebrated by Fr. Matt and livestreamed on Facebook:
facebook.com/mhrsf

Daily Readings: April 13 - 19
◊ Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33, Mt. 28:8-15
◊ Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41, Jn. 20:11-18
◊ Friday: Acts 4:1-12, Jn. 21:1-14
◊ Saturday: Acts 4:13-21, Mk. 16:9-5
◊ Sunday: Acts 2:42-47, 1Pt. 1:3-9, Jn. 20:19-31

Fr. Matt’s Message
Shattering the darkness, the great Paschal candle is lit, five wax nails are embedded, and it becomes the symbol of the crucified Christ. As the Paschal Mystery is clearly and joyfully announced from the very beginning of the Easter Vigil liturgy, it is in the light of the Paschal candle that the liturgy unfolds. After keeping our vigil, we enter into the light of the Risen Son on Easter morning. Easter Sunday crowns the Triduum celebration and begins a new season within the liturgical year.

We could have never imagined some 40 or so days ago when, on Ash Wednesday we were marked with ashes and entered into the season of Lent that our journey to Easter Sunday would lead us to a place where we still feel, so heavily, the weight of the Cross. Our Lenten journey has given us an unexpected and unimagined experience of the “Way of the Cross.” These past weeks of social distancing, of isolation, of worry and anxiety, even fear, have given us all pause. This is very much our time of waiting, of doing all the right things to stay healthy, doing all we can to protect our health and the health of those around us. This is certainly, in our Christian experience, a cross we did not ask for, but a cross we all must carry. And we do know that this too shall pass. We look forward to that day when we will more fully celebrate Christ’s Resurrection when we can gather, embrace one another, and be close again.

These days of isolation and distancing have been challenging for us all. We are making the best of it. I love the ways that you have been sharing of how you are filling the days and doing all you can do to stay healthy, holy, and happy. But I know it isn’t always easy. I will confess that I have not been sleeping as well as usual. I remember and each night try to pray the prayer of Saint Pope John XXIII. Having done what he could during the working hours of the day, it’s said he ended each day with a simple, eight-word prayer: “It’s your Church God, I’m going to bed.” And it helps.

From our Easter morning reading, “On the first day of the week, Mary Magdala went to the tomb, early in the morning ... “ (John 20:1-9). Maybe Mary couldn’t sleep, but for very different reasons. Mary’s unrest came from the grief and sadness in her heart. It was early in the morning, just before dawn, when Mary goes as a seeker, needing closure and proof of what seems unbelievable – Jesus is dead? How can it be?

In her grief Mary longs to see her Lord.... Just as we feel when someone we love has died. We have that sense of unreality and disbelief, “I just can’t believe they are really gone.” But today we are reminded that Jesus and all of our loved ones are still alive! Yes, we will see them again! It is like a dream that we almost can’t believe. One of the prayers we say at a Funeral Mass says, “Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed, not ended, and when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven” (Eucharistic Prayer Preface I For the Dead – The hope of the resurrection in Christ).

Thank you for your amazing support in these trying times!
Continued:

Mary went to the tomb, looking for the dead. Through the miracle of Easter Mary finds the living Lord. But better yet, the living Lord finds her. Because, no matter where we are at - maybe we are grieving, disillusioned, cynical, filled with grief, fear, worries, regrets, guilt or shame, God never stops calling us. God never loses sight of us. God never stops seeking us. When we get lost, it can actually be good to be still, to stop for a moment, and wait to be found. Even though we might lose our way, but God never loses us.

For most of us, as we gather on this Easter Sunday as family—this year we gather in ways we had not planned or expected. We might come together through the marvels of technology and we see images and faces on a screen. But no matter how we do it, it is good to re-tell the stories of faith, to gather around and share a sacred meal, “in memory of Him, the one who loves us and saves us.”

“Receive the light of Christ!” Christ is our life. Christ is our light. No matter how dark and cold the tomb, we know the light of Christ will dispel any darkness we may encounter.

Mary said, “I have seen the Lord.” Let us hold these words of life close to our own hearts as we celebrate with joy these Easter days. And may the Lord whom we have seen, shine from our eyes, to light the whole world with love!

I am grateful for each one of you and the joy you bring into my life. I long for the days when we can be physically together again. For now, we will love and support one another as best we can for our safe, physical distance as we remain spiritually connected and close.

Thank you for the ways you continue to share the Good News of God’s and proclaim God’s inclusive love! Thank you for the ways you let your light shine.

Easter blessings of joy, light, love and peace,
Fr. Matt

Please let us know if we can help and support you in any way. Our Most Holy Redeemer St. Vincent DePaul conference is at the ready if you need some support or assistance. We have applied for and received funding from the Archdiocese to assist with grocery shopping if that would help. These are challenging days but we will get through them together. Let me or someone on our parish staff know how we can be of assistance. Be safe and be well.

"By necessity, our spaces may have been reduced to the walls of our house, but you must have a larger heart, where the other can always find your availability and welcoming."
— Pope Francis March 19th, 2020
Mass Intentions
Our Mass celebrants will remember the following intentions during the celebration of the Eucharist:

**Sunday, April 12**
10am William McGrath †
Julio Villena (L)

**Monday, April 13**
8am William Oakes †

**Tuesday, April 14**
8am Jayel Bennet Divinagracia (L)

**Wednesday, April 15**
8am Wednesday Night Suppers

**Thursday, April 16**
8am Geraldine Walke †

**Friday, April 17**
8am Giuseppe & Angelina Fazio †

**Saturday, April 18**
8am Joe Nieto †

Contact the Parish Office at 415-863-6259 to have Mass celebrated for a special intention or sponsor the weekend altar flowers.

Prayer Requests
Jerry Anderson, Robyn Anderson, Jesusa Ayala, Keri Barrett, Beatrix Bell, David Bloom, Mylene Bombon, Florinda Brewster, Junior Briones, Sally Cahur, Jim Cathcart, Regan Chapman, Margaret Cittadino, Kelly & Valentino Close, Daisey Coleman, Fr. Brian Costello, Fr. Harry Cronin, Joshua Daigle, Alice Jane Davenport, Maria Diamond, Joyce Doran, Tom Farmer, Keith Fitzpatrick, Susan Griffiths, Les Hribar, Jr., Joanna Kennedy, Warren Lubich, Catherine De Lucchi, Bernie Maddox, Sebastian MacLean, Fr. Andrew Metcalfe, David Miller, Roy Miller, Tom Norris, Bill Osuna, Nancy Otchy, Chris Polen, Aida Reyes, Richard Ryan, Tim Ryan, James Schultz, John Schwobeda, Michael Shriver, Joey Solano, Christopher Sumner, Randy Tichenal, Christine Lane Tracy, Nala Vaughn, Kimberly Vigil, Joseph Vouglas, Bob Webster, Ryan Zuniga, †Lucio Gonzalez †and †Ladinia Peregrino

MHR Parish Registration
- New parishioner?
- Birthday, Anniversary, sacraments, milestones?
- Notices and announcements?
- Have you moved?
- Did we miss your birthday? We are sorry if we did. Let us know when your birthday was, by updating your information with the Parish Office
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Closed Holidays
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