



4th Sunday of Easter

April 17, 2016 A.D.

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

Vatican Basilica

Holy Saturday, 26 March 2016

(Part 2 of 2)

...We see and will continue to see problems both within and without. They will always be there. But tonight it is important to shed the light of the Risen Lord upon our problems, and in a certain sense, to “evangelize” them. To evangelize our problems. Let us not allow darkness and fear to distract us and control us; we must cry out to them: the Lord “is not here, but has risen!” (v. 6). He is our greatest joy; he is always at our side and will never let us down.

This is the foundation of our hope, which is not mere optimism, nor a psychological attitude or desire to be courageous. Christian hope is a gift that God gives us if we come out of ourselves and open our hearts to him. This hope does not disappoint us because the Holy Spirit has been poured into our hearts (cf. *Rom 5:5*). The Paraclete does not make everything look appealing. He does not remove evil with a magic wand. But he pours into us the vitality of life, which is not the absence of problems, but the certainty of being loved and always forgiven by Christ, who for us has conquered sin, conquered death and conquered fear. Today is the celebration of our hope, the celebration of this truth: nothing and no one will ever be able to separate us from his love (cf. *Rom 8:39*).

The Lord is alive and wants to be sought among the living. After having found him, each person is sent out by him to announce the Easter message, to *awaken and resurrect hope* in hearts burdened by sadness, in those who struggle to find meaning in life. There is so necessary today. However, we must not proclaim ourselves. Rather, as *joyful servants of hope*, we must announce the Risen One by our lives and by our love; otherwise we will be only an international organization full of followers and good rules, yet incapable of offering the hope for which the world longs.

How can we strengthen our hope? The liturgy of this night offers some guidance. It teaches us to remember the works of God. The readings describe God’s faithfulness, the history of his love towards us. The living word of God is able to involve us in this history of love, nourishing our hope and renewing our joy. The Gospel also reminds us of this: in order to kindle hope in the hearts of the women, the angel tells them: “Remember what [Jesus] told you” (v. 6). Remember the words of Jesus, remember all that he has done in our lives. Let us not forget his words and his works, otherwise we will lose hope and become “hopeless” Christians. Let us instead remember the Lord, his goodness and his life-giving words which have touched us. Let us remember them and make them ours, to be sentinels of the morning who know how to help others see the signs of the Risen Lord.

Dear brothers and sisters, Christ is risen! And we have the possibility of opening our hearts and receiving his gift of hope. Let us open our hearts to hope and go forth. May the memory of his works and his words be the bright star which directs our steps in the ways of faith towards that Easter that will have no end.

ANNUAL MINISTRY APPEAL

Thank you to all those who helped us reach our goal. We would like to wrap up pledge season. If you would still like to donate or pledge, please do so in the next couple of weeks. Envelopes are available in the hall & pews.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Would you like to make friends and be a part of some rewarding activities in the parish? All ladies are welcome and invited to the Women's Society meetings which are held in the class room on the second Monday of the month, Sept. through June at 10 a.m.



HAVE A GREEN THUMB?



We have plenty people who can provide flowers &/or plants for the beautification of the altar & vestibule, but there is need of a couple of people who would be willing to water and maintain them on regular basis. If interested, please call Carolyn at 225-aaaa.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection on Sun., Apr. 24, for the Catholic Home Missions and the Black & Indian Missions.

LIVE THE GOSPEL!

USHERS NEEDED

Ushers are needed for the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday and at the 9 a.m. Mass Sunday. If you can help, please call Dinah at 995-aaaa.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED

Please consider serving as a Eucharistic Minister. EMs are needed for the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday. If you can help, please call Judy at 995-aaaa.

FAITH SHARING

Evangelization is a big word that simply means: "handing on the faith." In the past we relied on priests and religious to do this. The New Evangelization encourages lay people to reach out to non-practicing Catholics. Please feel free to invite a friend or family member to one of the Faith Sharing meetings on Fridays at 10 a.m. or Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Please call Gary & Bonnie at 927-aaaa for more info.

BULLETIN & WEB ADVERTISING

If you have a business you may want to advertise on our parish bulletin &/or website. There are different options depending on whether or not you have your own website. Please contact the office for rates and details.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE (Apr. 23-24)

- Sat. 5 pm: (4th Sat.) Lectors: G. & B. Nelson
EMs: K. Hogan, S. Matarese, 1 more needed
Ushers: Karen & Tom Hogan
Server: Cindy Mazzacane
Cantor: _____
- Sun. 9 am: (4th Sun.) Lector: Kerry Friend
EMs: Anita Ayoob, Mary Pollock, Bill Planansky
Ushers: Kay Ash, Steve Semas
Server: Dick Mooney
Coffee: Steve Semas Hospitality: Carol Lowry
- Sun. 11 am: (4th Sun.) Lector: Joe Gonzalez
EMs: S. Piwowarski, S. Moriarty, L. Davis
Ushers: Joyan Svancara, Agnes Wade
Server: Phil Kiesewetter
Music: Terry & Judy Ann Cross
Hospitality: Joe & Maria Pascoal

MASS INTENTIONS (Apr. 16-24)

- Sat. †Manuel Goulart by Maria Goulart
- Sun. @ 9 St. Joseph's Parishioners
- Sun. @ 11 For the living & deceased members of St. Joseph's Women's Society
- Mon. †Robert L. Turgeon
by Larry & Marilyn Shuklian
- Tues. †Rose Swink by Vie Romanazzi
- Wed. †Mary & Frank Hlavaty by Frank Hlavaty
- Thurs. Georgia Lockett by Lynn & Cliff Garrison
- Fri. †Mary Fatooh
- Sat. †William Martin
- Sun. @ 9 St. Joseph's Parishioners
- Sun. @ 11 †Manuel Goulart by Maria Goulart
While every effort will be made to offer Mass for your special intention on the requested date, please understand that circumstances occasionally make this impossible. Mass Intention Envelopes are available in the church. For further information call the office at 995-3243.

Apr. 17, 2016



TOGETHER IN JESUS

Our next class in preparation for First Eucharist & First Reconciliation will be held Sun., Apr. 24. Just a friendly reminder that classes take place between the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Masses on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month. For more info., please call Kristi at 927-aaaa.



MAY CROWNING

All children and grandchildren and visiting children are invited to participate in the May Crowning on Sun., May 8, at the 9 a.m. Mass.

Next Sunday's Readings:
Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27;
Psalm 145:8-13;
Revelation 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35.

Let us Pray For the Sick: May our prayers be a comfort to those who are sick or chronically ill: Janet Brewster, Jessica Jones, Joey Pettit, Elizabeth Sigmund, Helen Franz, Sam Ayoob, Jim Cox, Helen Hull, Dinah Piwowarski, Sonia DeCicco, Tena Bettencourt, Glen Bennett, Lena Minetti, Innette Starkenburg, Joyce Thayer, Virginia Avalos, Scott Wilcox, Sean Owen, Tom Mee, the Murray Family, Diane Howard, Mary Stenbeck, Stefan LeRoy, Noemia Brazil, Colleen Costa, Mary Grace Tassone, Shalom Simon, Derek Yonekura, Jeannine Bennett, Frances Foutz, Noelia Souza, Trudy Minott, John Paul Hope, Gage Berry-Carney, Peggy Rudnick, the Aulbach Family, Ernie Gambellin, Mana Nelson, Bob Timone, Jeff Chames, Tina Tull, Angela Lazear, Sally Equinoia, Randy Briscoe, Zan Barr Anthony Avila, Michael Eckels, Peg Jung; Jim Smith, Elizabeth Porter, Taylen Hallett, Raul Gois, Carol Kramer, Gloria Rambaud, Mario Gois, Joanie George, Isaac Lindsey, Mark Sigmund, Ken Hermanson, Kelly Wade, Joe Nunes, Ben Work, James R. Greene, Sr., Larry Stayton, Elise Peltzer-Koehler, Aaron Demuth, & Anne Rindge.