

APRIL 5, 2015 – EASTER SUNDAY



John 20: 1-9

Masses for the week of April 6 – April 12, 2015

Morning Prayer in St. Joseph Chapel, 8:15am Mon - Fri

Monday, April 6

8:35am (chapel) Dorothy Donahue (Phil Donahue)

Tuesday, April 7

8:35am (chapel) Jason Doelp (Kosmin Family)

Wednesday, April 8

Rosary for the end of Abortion after morning Mass

8:35am (chapel) Christopher Toohey (Jackie Litzenberger)

Thursday, April 9

8:35am (chapel) Richard Rolle (Elsie McHale)

Friday, April 10

9:00am (church) Joseph Ranalli (Joseph Schneller)

Saturday, April 4

5:00pm (church) Grace Rossi (Phil & Mary Lou Crossley)

Sunday, April 12

8:00am (church) Elizabeth Petritsch (Loving Family)

10:30am (church) Parishioners' Intentions

Meetings for the week of April 6 – April 12, 2015

Mon. April 6: Light Weigh, 7pm – Parish Office

Knights of Columbus, 7:30pm – Marian Room

Tues. April 7: Evangelization Committee, 7:30pm – Marian Room

Thurs. April 9: Baptismal class, 6:30pm – Parish Office

Knights of Columbus, 7:30pm – Marian Room

Sat. April 11: Men of Faith, 8am –Marian Room



The Church Cleaning Team for the week of April 6th is Team #3:

Betty White, Janice Bebb,
Mary Kosmin, Phyllis Schmerbeck

Your parish thanks you!



Mass Collection
Sunday, March 29, 2015
Not Available at Press Time

Please remember in your prayers our parishioners who are sick, homebound, in the hospital, under hospice or residential care.



Susan Ackerman, Rose Marie Alex,
Lillian Appleman, Roger Bahnck,
Mary Balbirer, Elizabeth Bartolillo,
John & Loretta Bodisch, Emmalee
Bryan, Ann Burns, Libby Chapman,
Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell,
Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford,
Chrissy Davis, Joy Davis, Glen
DeKutosli, Larry & Joanne Diehl,

Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Josephine Fasano, Bernice Fees,
Charles Fees, Jr., Patricia Fite, Sarah Fleck, Nancy Fratrik, Mary
Gallo, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie &
Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Judy Green, Susan Gross, Mary
Halwski, Florence Hancharik, Steve Hancharik, Bill Hejnor,
Joyceann Heley, Eli Hinkie, Charles Houston, **Robert Huber**, Doris
Johnson, Martha Juchnowicz, Kathleen Kershaw, Kimberly Koch,
Georgine Kocher, Anthony Kondracki, Deanna Kovner, Barbara
Kuehnle, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, Charles Lutcavage, Julia
Maher, Loretta Malloy, Eileen McCarty, Adelaide McElderry,
Bridget Julia McHugh, Michelle McNevin, Anne McNichol,
Florence Middleton, Joseph Moore, Jennie Moreno, Nancy
Moreno, Wanda Muth, Frances Nowicki, Helen Patzek-Charlton,
Ryan Phillips, Nicholas Powell, Gladys Proca, Marianne Przyuski,
Don Raman, Mike Ramos, Rachael Rice, Gregory Rickert, Joseph
Ripp, Valerie Roberts, Sandy Romaszewski, Sam Rothman,
Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Jean
Scattergood, Lana Schell, Herbert Scheuermann, Mario Sciacca,
Joe Shuman, Gail Silveira, Carolyn Stahley, Shane Stroup,
Michael Suder, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas,
Maddie Tomaszewski, Douglas & Frank Toner, Barbara Vogan,
Diane Wesoski, Tamara Widmer, Ed Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder.



Edward Armstrong, Jr.,
Fionna M. Boyle, Derek
Brosius, Christopher
Brune, Kyle Crossland,
Casey de Lauretis,
Steehly de Lauretis,
Michael Froeder, A.J.
Giovino, Aaron Given,
Bob Hankinson, Victor
Hormilla, James Kidd,
Stephen Lindmeier,
Jason Litschauer, Cory

Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes,
Craig Russell, Nicholas Spangler-Loch, Don Valdez, Justin Walsh.

Thank you for serving & protecting our freedom!

Gospel Reflections

A Letter from Our Pastor, Father Simi

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



**On the first day of the week,
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the
morning,
while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed
from the tomb.
(John 20:1)**

What do we mean when we say happy Easter to one another? Is it mainly about a bunny, eggs, daffodils and such? These things have come to take center stage more and more in our celebration of Easter, a sign that perhaps we have lost sight of the real significance of Easter.

As God's children, we who have been journeying through this past Lenten season now enter into an even deeper part of the mystery that is God. We learn something explosive about Him: His wrath. The resurrection is God's anger towards the suffering and death of His Son.

Like Mary of Magdala and the disciples, you and I approach the mystery of the empty tomb with confusion and perplexity. We do not know what to really make of it. In our minds and our very mortal way of thinking, death is final and nothing can change that; not Jesus, not anyone.

So like Mary of Magdala, we conclude that someone may have just removed His body and laid it somewhere else. "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." (John 20:2)

Our understanding of death as something that cannot be removed and the separation that results from it as something so final and irreparable is hereby shattered by the wrath of God. The finality of death as symbolized by the stone that seals the tomb is today removed by a force much stronger than death.

The violence with which our Lord Jesus was tortured and killed, the loneliness that He endured from being abandoned by His very own disciples and His creatures, the absence of the feeling of His Father's abiding presence as He hung upon the cross is today met with the violence of God's wrath: the resurrection.

Death is killed this day with such a violent power that shakes all of creation to its core, to its depths, to its foundations. Our Father's wrath is our Father's love for His Son on whom we had inflicted the pain of our sin, the loneliness of our separations and relationships broken by death.

On this day, our Father's wrath for Satan and his angels is revealed in the raising of His Son from the grip of death, from the grip of sin and disobedience, from the grip of darkness and of eternal loneliness and isolation.

God's wrath is measured not by the violent shaking of the earth, nor the falling of the sky nor the flooding of the planet, nor scorching of our cities. Rather, God's wrath is here and for now felt by the turning of our hearts, the conversion of our minds and the lifting up of our bodies and souls to Him, through His Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

God's wrath is finally revealed in the reconciliation of all souls to Christ, and through Christ, the setting free of all souls from the tyranny of sin and of death itself. No longer will we have to be consigned to an eternal death that separates us from one another and from our Father in utter isolation and loneliness forever.

While we may equate God's wrath with the violent destruction of lives in death, we see today how so much more forceful and powerful is His wrath. For death is easy to inflict on another. Try destroying selfishness, pride, sin and death. Try restoring broken relationships that are severed by death. This requires infinite power.

This the wrath of God alone can achieve. This is the day our Lord shows forth His infinite power, His eternal wrath: He destroys death itself in the raising of His Son!

Happy Easter everyone!!!

God bless you all -

Fr. Simi.



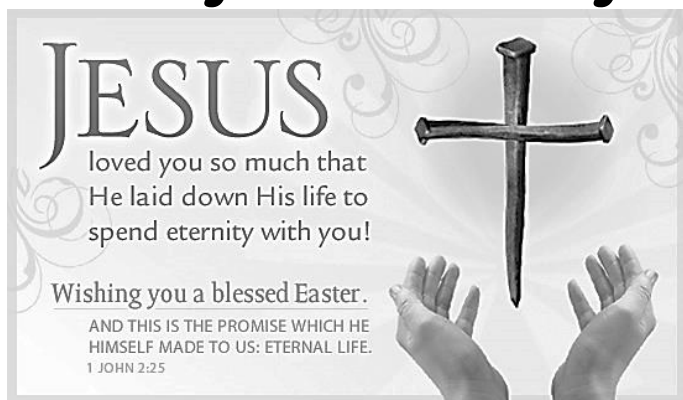
WMOF CATECHESIS: APRIL

All Love Bears Fruit "Love is our mission" for everyone – not just those who are married. Catholic marriage is a beautiful sacrament, but it is not necessary for a fully human life. In any society, many will

be marginalized if marriage is seen as mandatory, as if one needs a sexual partner in order to be complete. Celibacy in the Church resists this misleading idea, insisting that life outside of marriage is also meant to be beautiful, social, and sacramental. Catholic celibacy and marriage have the same inner rationale, for in both cases, love commits us to service and joins us to the cross. A life of celibacy may be lay or ordained. Celibacy can be chosen, as in vowed religious life, or the result of being unable to marry, due to disability or circumstance. There are many ways of being celibate, each with important distinctions, but to be fruitful, they all require a similar internal motion of soul, an offering of our heart to the Lord. Wise, mature celibates and spouses practice many of the same spiritual skills. Celibacy and marriage both proclaim that sexual intimacy cannot be a temporary experiment or conditional audition. Both celibacy and marriage create solidarity between the sexes, rejecting sex in the context of what Pope Francis called the "throwaway culture." To create communities where unmarried men and women experience joy and live their mission is something Christians need to do for one another. These teachings have further implications for family and parish life – see chapter six in "Love Is Our Mission" for details. - Christopher C. Roberts, catechism editor

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Parish Religious Education Program



On the Easter Gospel we hear about how the disciples found the tomb empty three days after Jesus' death. We are also told that they do not yet understand the Scriptures or that Jesus had been raised from the dead. That understanding gradually unfolded for the disciples as they began to experience the risen Lord. Similarly, our understanding of Jesus' Resurrection unfolds for us throughout our lives. In the weeks ahead, we will hear how the first disciples moved from confusion, doubt, and skepticism to faith. Their experience can teach us how we too might receive this gift of faith from God.

Gather your family members and ask them to share what they know about the events that happened in the days after Jesus' crucifixion. Invite your family to imagine that they are among Jesus' first disciples. Read together today's Gospel, John 20:1-9. Reflect together on the Gospel with questions such as these: If you had been among the first disciples who heard that the stone had been removed from Jesus' tomb and that Jesus' body was no longer there, what would you think? What did Mary of Magdala, Simon Peter, and the disciple whom Jesus loved think had happened? Recall that this experience is the first indication Jesus' disciples have that he is risen. Throughout the Easter season, we will learn more about how the disciples came to believe that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

Pray together using today's psalm, Psalm 118: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."



EASTER BREAK - NO PREP CLASS
APRIL 6th & 7th

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist



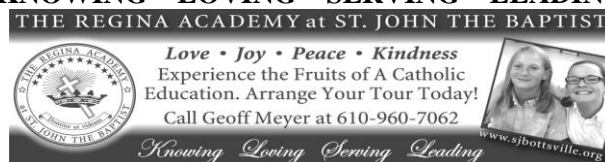
*Wishing all our parish families a
Happy Easter!
May God bless You.*

Easter Break: April 2nd – 7th

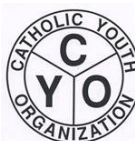
Wednesday, April 8th: 8:30am School Resumes

For Information and to Register please call the School Office at 610-847-5523.

KNOWING ~ LOVING ~ SERVING ~ LEADING



Visit us at www.sjbottsville.org



Registration forms can be obtained on our Parish website. Please contact Claire at cmgeib@aol.com with any questions.

Track, Volleyball & Softball



THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

will be at the

Regina Academy school gym on

Tuesday, April 7th

from 2pm – 7pm

Please contact Sylvia Holtznagle at 610-847-5647 for a scheduled appointment.

Thank you & God bless you

**FATIMA HOUSE
RETREAT CENTER,
Bedminster, PA**

Please join us in...

***Prayer for Vocations and
World Peace.***

Weekly Prayers

Mondays at 7pm in Our Lady's Chapel: Adoration,
Liturgy of the Hour, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday at 9:30 -10:30am in Our Lady's Chapel:
Liturgy of the Hour, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet

For additional information or directions, please call Joan Black
at 215-795-2947.



**Pope Francis said, "No ifs, ands or buts:
Christians must live Christ's way."**

Don't be *"halfway Christians,"* who accept Christ, but then start looking for excuses and stammering, "yes, but ..." when it is time to follow his way, Pope Francis said.

It's a case of "spiritual caprice" when Christians get grumpy and complain about the path being pointed out to them after God offers salvation all the time and in so many ways. Many times we say we are sick of the divine way. To not accept God's gift with his way -- this is sin, this is venom." How many Christians today "do we find dissatisfied in life, grumbling, they're not wanting God's way." These so-called "half-Christians" say, "Yes, it's true, God is good, but ...," the pope said. They do not go all the way "to open their hearts to God's salvation. They always try to put conditions on it: 'Yes, but this way. Yes, yes, I want to be saved, but by taking this path.' This is how the heart becomes poisoned" with venom, he said.

The venom "poisons our soul, it takes joy away from you, it doesn't let you go" and be free, he added.

But when Jesus was nailed to the cross, he took all that venom and sin upon himself, the pope said. "This lukewarm soul, this being half-Christian, 'Christians, yes, but ...,' this enthusiasm at the start of the journey with the Lord that then becomes dissatisfied, this is only healed when looking at the cross, looking at God who takes on our sins: my sin is there."

The pope asked people to look at "the serpent, the venom -- there, in the body of Christ -- the venom of all the sins of the world, and let us ask for the grace to accept difficult moments, to accept the divine way of salvation," to accept the wretched sustenance the people of Israel complained about and all the ways "the Lord is bringing me forward."

Pope Francis prayed that the liturgies of Holy Week -- the week leading up to today, Easter Sunday -- would "help us escape from this temptation of becoming *"Christians, yes, but."*

**Healing or Hoax?
New Age Energy Medicine & Alternatives**

The Catholic Life Institute is hosting New Age expert Susan Brinkmann, OCDS for a 2-hour seminar on New Age healing techniques and alternatives. Topics to be discussed include Reiki, Acupuncture, homeopathy, chiropractic, essential oils, muscle testing, supplements, etc. What does science say about these methods? Why do people believe they work? And what does the Church have to say about their use?

**Get the answers on Saturday, April 11 from 9-11 a.m.
at Fatima House in Bedminster.**

\$35 fee includes refreshments. Registration required.

Visit www.freeandfaithful.com or call/text 215-983-9701.

The KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS sponsored....



**Saturday, April 18, 2015
Regina Academy at St. John's School Gym.**

Doors open at 6pm - Post time of the races at 7pm.

Entrance to the event is \$5.00 which entitles you to unlimited hot food, snacks, desserts, soda, and coffee. B.Y.O.B. setups will be provided.

For more excitement you can purchase and name a horse for \$10.00. If your horse wins the race you win \$40.00.

For more information please contact Tom High at 610-847-2374 or any Knights of Columbus member.

**This event is for adults age 18 and older.
ABSOLUTELY NO CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 ADMITTED.**

**Myrtle Beach Trip 5 Days and 4 Nights, May 3 –7, 2015
\$750 per person. Call for a brochure.**

Make plans to enjoy a wonderful vacation in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

- Hotel suites with balcony and beach front view λ Visit Charlestown, SC
- Trip includes four breakfasts and four dinners
- Bus transportation and drivers gratuity included

For more information on these events sponsored by the 55+ Club, contact Pat Price at 215-300-2153, Pat Donnelly at 215-598-9763 or Jean Zielke at 215-794-1188.

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Early registration ends April 30th.
Have you registered yet????

Ways you can help...volunteer, Host a Family, Donate!

Visit www.worldmeeting.org today!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

April 11th & 12th, 2015
Divine Mercy Sunday

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday, 5:00pm	Darlene Bittenmaster Peg Glancey Cathy Leidtke Marion Wolf	Melissa Johnson	Johann Krug Brendan Krug Liam Reixinger	Amleto Pucci Elaine Jocelyn
Sunday, 8:00am	Patricia Ott Harry Reckner Weez Roney Joel Roney	Jonathan Ott	Maggie McArdle Grace McArdle Gavin Reshetar	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak
Sunday, 10:30am	Wendy DeGroot Mark Fetter Dolly Kovacs Donna Sciacca	Linda Russo	Angelina Day Maria Middleton Jack Pauly	Susan Middleton Karen Parash

