

Third Sunday of Easter – April 15, 2018

Resurrection Now!

We all want to **experience more deeply** the **newness** of life that Christ's resurrection promises us. But it's not something that happens **automatically**; we have to let **his grace penetrate** and transform us. At least 2 **things** are necessary for that to happen.

First, as St Peter stressed in the 1st Reading, we must "**repent, and be converted.**" Today's 2nd Reading **echoes** that: "... Whoever keeps his word [i.e., avoiding sin and being daily fed on his word], the love of God is truly perfected in him." If we want to put **fresh honey in a jar**, first we have to clean out **the smelly old leftovers** that we have been keeping there. The life of wisdom, courage, and joy that Christ brings us is the fresh honey, but to experience it, we have to **confess** our sins and **renounce** our selfish tendencies - not just once, but **constantly**.

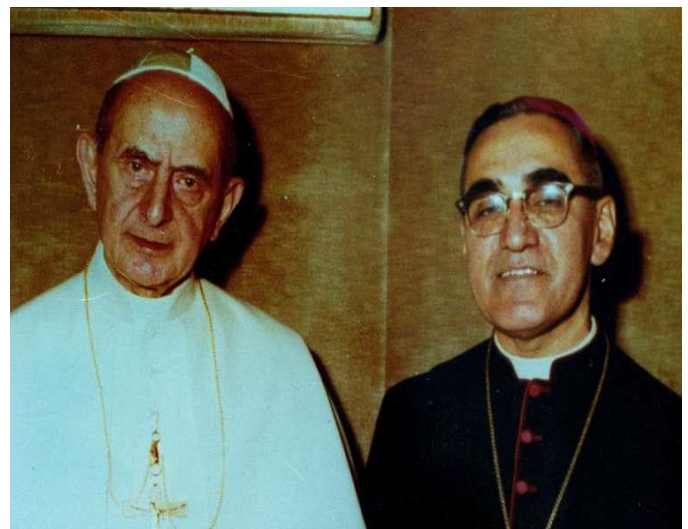
Therefore, the **sacrament of reconciliation/confession/penance** should be a regular part of all of our lives (once a year at a minimum by Church Law, frequent weekly or monthly is encouraged). 2nd: we need to give God **room to work** in our souls through **prayer times**. During **Lent** many of us spent more time in prayer, came to Mass more often, or made a point of reading good spiritual books. Those spiritual disciplines gave more **substance and strength** to our daily lives. It can be a temptation to **leave that behind** during the joyful Easter season. That's exactly what The Devil wants! He wants us to be back at **zero** again by the time the next Lent rolls around.

But The Father of Mercies wants us to **keep growing!** Masses are offered daily in the ADW and here at Nativity, Holy Hours almost weekly, and Bible Studies are offered as well. Throughout Washington the ADW offers lectures, meditation days, sacred concerts, and more. Please see how blessed we are! Take advantage of these as Gifts from God. In many US cities people have to drive an hour between parishes, there are no Catholic colleges or schools, and no religious orders. Please soak up the blessings we have here and also pray and offer up reparation for places where the Catholic truth and the Sacraments are not being celebrated.

In a few minutes the Risen Jesus will once again share with us his **new life**, his glorified, resurrected life, in the Eucharist by our worthy reception of Holy Communion. When he does, let's **thank** him for it, and let's ask him to help us **put it into action** this week. Thank you Lord for New Life each week!

Father Blake Evans, Pastor.

New Saints: Pope Francis has announced that he will Canonize two new saints: **Blessed Pope Paul VI**, beloved worldwide for his defense of Human Life, Marriage and the Family, and defending the Church's opposition to birth control and & artificial insemination as morally evil. He was also the Pope who implemented the changes of the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s and the new Mass which was initiated by Pope St. John the 23rd. **Also, beloved Bishop Oscar Romero, Martyr, of El Salvador** its 4th Archbishop of the capital of San Salvador will also be elevated to Sainthood. He spoke out against poverty, social injustice, assassinations, torture and forces that were destroying El Salvador in the 80s. Considered a "White Martyr" he was killed while celebrating holy mass in 1980 after he had consecrated the Precious Blood. He was not "killed for the faith" but for opposing crimes against humanity. Canonization is slated for October in Rome *All Saints pray for us!*





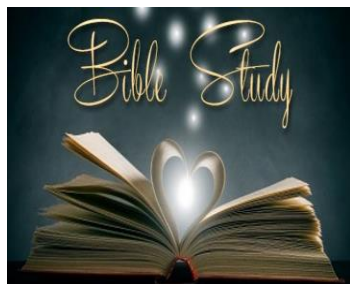
Mass Intentions

April 14- 21, 2018

Sat. 4/14	8:00pm	+Winnie Mandela
	5:30pm	Sick/Homebound Parishioners
Sun. 4/15	8:00am	Nativity Class of 1955 -56
	10:00am	People of the Parish
	1:00 pm	+Maria Ignacia Giron
Mon. 4/16	Noon	+All deceased Nativity Alumni
Tue. 4/17	Noon	+Fr. Bill Finch
Wed. 4/18	Noon	+Ralph Duffy
Thu. 4/19	Noon	+Carolyn Thee
Fri. 4/20	Noon	Edina & unborn child (healing)
Sat. 4/21	8:00pm	Rafaela C. Evans & Family
	5:300pm	Diana Faridzadeh & Family

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Ann Butler, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Maria Cruz, *Maurice & Flora Detiege *Isel Fitzgerald, *Dion A. Fortune, *Linda Foster, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, *Francis Howard, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Geraldine Jones, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Keneddy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Robert Myers. *Iris Newman, *D. Cynhia Peters, *Willie Poole, Jr., *James Pope, *Margaret Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Bonafacio Selayo *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Alice Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Donald Whiting, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta,



"Gospel according to Mark".

Mondays at 5:45 pm in the Music Room with Fr. Evans.

Bring your Bible and a catechism. St. Mark, pray for us!

ATTENDANCE REPORT

4/8/18

Attendance: 473 souls

Offerings & Tithes: \$7,588

Spanish Mass: \$500

Utility fund: \$90



Finance Spotlight: Regular giving and donations dropped significantly this Winter following Christmastime. Currently we are in a shortfall to cover our bills for the month ahead. For those who can offer a sacrificial or Thanksgiving Passover/Easter gift to thank the Lord your donation is greatly appreciated. Currently we are in need: we have a deficit of **\$24,063** to meet our obligations. Thank you for your help!

Upcoming projects: Fixing our A/C in the balcony, a new compressor is needed which is estimated to cost \$28,000.

Welcome! Nativity has hired **David Brake from St. Joseph the Worker, LLC** who works with other parishes on accounting to help us with the Annual Report and more. He is familiar with all ADW software and comes highly recommended. welcome Mr. Drake!

Thank you for supporting the Cardinal's Appeal 2018! To date \$38,513 in pledges were received from **87** individuals/or families of our parish which has attendance of about 500 weekly. Our goal is \$65,541. If you have not given or pledged please go to appeal.adw.org online or place your donation in ANY collection mark your check or envelope as Cardinal's Appeal. Reminder: The Catholic Charities shelter on our campus, local college Chaplains, TV masses, and education of our seminarian Ebuka Mbnude and more are 100% funded through the Appeal. The funds do not operate Archdiocesan administration but is all for ministries.



Lectors Needed: Reverent, clear-voiced Readers of the Word are needed for daily Masses and Sunday Masses. To sign up and try out please contact Sandra Coles-Bell @ scolesbell@msn.com