



St. Paul Catholic Church and Missions

Iglesia Católica San Pablo y Misiones

4178 Highway 441 South, Douglas, Georgia 31535

Parish Office Phone: 912-384-3560

In case of extreme emergency only call: 912-278-1567

Church email: saintpaul@windstream.net

Parish Website: www.stpaulmissions.org

Confessions: Every Saturday from 5:00-6:00 at St. Paul, or by appointment

St. William Catholic Church

807 S. Merrimac Dr., Fitzgerald

Holy Family Catholic Church

126 Holy Family Rd., Willacoochee

Administration □ Administración

Pastor: Rev. Paul O'Connell

Deacon Ron Milkas

Church Secretary: Janet Benton

April 1 – April 7

Easter Monday: Office closed

Tuesday: Mass-12:00pm

Adoration: 11:00-noon, Rosary-11:30am

Wednesday: Mass-12:00pm

Adoration: 11:00-noon, Rosary-11:30am

Thursday: Mass-12:00pm

Adoration: 11:00-noon, Rosary-11:30am

Friday within the Octave of Easter: No Mass

Saturday: Confessions-5:00pm

Sunday:

8:00am - English, Holy Family

9:30am - English, St. Paul

12:00pm - Misa Español, St. Paul

5:00pm – English/Español, St. William

¡ Felices Pascuas a Nuestra Familia Parroquial!



Happy Easter to Our Parish Family!

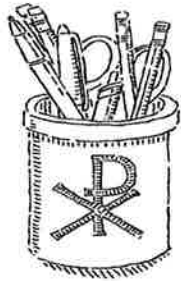
“The Church is a Field Hospital at the scene of a Battle.”

--His Holiness, Pope Francis

Our Mission Statement
Declaración de Misión

“La Iglesia es un hospital de campaña en el escenario de una batalla.”

--Su Santidad, el Papa Francisco



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*

Reflection— *Easter life is now.*

Easter Sunday is a day of faith, of joy and rejoicing. The resurrection of Christ is the cornerstone of our faith and the most extraordinary happening in human history. For Christians there is not a day that compares with Easter. This is truly the day of the Lord. All our Hopes and happiness come from what happened on the first Easter morning. It is a dream come true. By God's power, the stone was rolled back, the grave was opened, and the tomb was found to be empty. Jesus Christ had risen triumphant from the dead. Nothing could ever be the same again because the pattern of human life was no longer limited by the cycle of birth to death in this world. Pain, despair, and misery were pushed into second place as a whole new future, full of the hope and happiness of eternal life, was opened up for us beyond the grave. Heaven and earth rejoiced in celebrating Christ's victory over death for mankind. God had made his love for us absolutely clear.

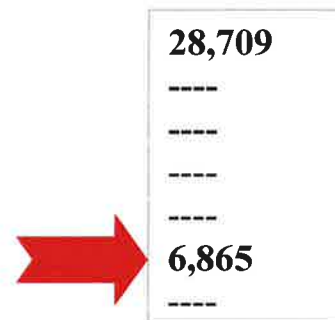
The Gospel captures the excitement of the disciples on that first Easter morning. It gives us a glimpse into their new found happiness as they hurried to spread the Good News. Their hearts were full of the joyful awareness of being God's people. The joy of the apostles on Easter morning is meant to be our joy, too. A whole new dimension should enter our lives for we also have been given this bright promise of everlasting life. Easter life is about the joy of the rebirth in the Spirit of God and we don't have to wait until the next life before enjoying it. Easter life is now. We rejoice as we realize that we are not walking the pathway of life alone. Christ is with us every inch of the journey as our Savior, our Redeemer, and our Healer. He is there assisting us, encouraging us, and strengthening us for every task in life.

Easter is all about newness of life in Christ. The risen life of Christ is ours for the taking. The power of loving with the very love of God is within us, and we can fearlessly stake our lives on it. Every one of us is entrusted with the message of the Good News of God's love. Today's feast provides presents us with the challenge of spreading the light and the life of the Risen Christ. Are we alive in Christ with the Risen Christ firmly rooted in our hearts and actions, or are we still living in a selfish manner? Easter has no spiritual significance for us if Christ has emptied his tomb and we still lie in death in our own. If we are truly the people of God, then those who are searching for meaning in life will discover from us that Christ is the way home.



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring two Easter Egg hunts, one after the 9:30 Easter Sunday Mass and one after the 12:00 Easter Sunday Mass. Parents, please accompany your children for the fun.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL



St. Paul's goal this year for the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) is \$28,709. As of 3-21-24, \$6,865 has been pledged by St. Paul, putting us at 24% of our goal, with 7% participation. If you haven't made your pledge to the ACA, please consider doing so this week. Thank you!



EASTER
La Pascua de Resurrección

Reflexión—La vida pascual es ahora.

El Domingo de Pascua es un día de fe, de alegría y regocijo. La resurrección de Cristo es la piedra angular de nuestra fe y el acontecimiento más extraordinario en la historia de la humanidad. Para los cristianos no hay día que se compare con la Pascua. Este es verdaderamente el día del Señor. Todo nuestro Esperanzas y alegrías surgen de lo ocurrido la primera mañana de Pascua. Es un sueño hecho realidad. Por el poder de Dios, se quitó la piedra, se abrió la tumba y se encontró que estaba vacía. Jesucristo había resucitado triunfante de entre los muertos. Nada podría volver a ser igual porque el patrón de vida humana ya no estaba limitado por el ciclo del nacimiento a la muerte en este mundo. El dolor, la desesperación y la miseria pasaron a un segundo plano cuando se nos abrió un futuro completamente nuevo, lleno de esperanza y felicidad de la vida eterna, más allá de la tumba. El cielo y la tierra se regocijaron al celebrar la victoria de Cristo sobre la muerte para la humanidad. Dios había dejado absolutamente claro su amor por nosotros.

El Evangelio capta la emoción de los discípulos en esa primera mañana de Pascua. Nos da una idea de su nueva felicidad mientras se apresuraban a difundir la Buena Nueva. Sus corazones estaban llenos de la gozosa conciencia de ser pueblo de Dios. El gozo de los apóstoles en la mañana de Pascua debe ser también nuestro gozo. Una dimensión completamente nueva debería entrar en nuestras vidas porque a nosotros también se nos ha dado esta brillante promesa de vida eterna. La vida pascual se trata del gozo del renacimiento en el Espíritu de Dios y no tenemos que esperar hasta la próxima vida para disfrutarla. La vida de Pascua es ahora. Nos regocijamos al darnos cuenta de que no

estamos caminando solos por el camino de la vida. Cristo está con nosotros en cada centímetro del viaje como nuestro Salvador, nuestro Redentor y nuestro Sanador. Él está allí ayudándonos, animándonos y fortaleciéndonos para cada tarea de la vida.

La Pascua tiene que ver con la novedad de la vida en Cristo. La vida resucitada de Cristo es nuestra para que la tomemos. El poder de amar con el mismo amor de Dios está dentro de nosotros y podemos arriesgar nuestra vida sin temor a ello. A cada uno de nosotros se nos ha confiado el mensaje de la Buena Nueva del amor de Go. La fiesta de hoy nos plantea el desafío de difundir la luz y la vida de Cristo Resucitado. ¿Estamos vivos en Cristo con Cristo Resucitado firmemente arraigado en nuestros corazones y acciones, o seguimos viviendo de manera egoísta? La Pascua no tiene significado espiritual para nosotros si Cristo ha vaciado su tumba y nosotros todavía morimos en la nuestra. Si somos verdaderamente el pueblo de Dios, entonces aquellos que buscan sentido a la vida descubrirán en nosotros que Cristo es el camino a casa.



Los Caballeros están patrocinando dos búsquedas de huevos de Pascua: una después de la Misa del Domingo de Pascua de las 9:30 y otra después de la Misa de las 12:00. Padres, acompañen a sus hijos en la diversión.

LLAMADO CATÓLICO ANUAL

La meta de St. Paul este año para la Campaña Católica Anual (ACA) es \$28,709. Al 21/03/24, St. Paul ha prometido \$6,865, lo que nos coloca al 24% de nuestra meta, con una participación del 7%. Si no ha hecho su compromiso con la ACA, considere hacerlo esta semana. ¡Gracias!

FVI
~FOR YOUR INFORMATION~

**Special Collection -
Retired Priests – Easter Sunday**



RAFFLE TICKETS - The Knights are selling raffle tickets (proceeds for Knights' state charities). The tickets are \$5.00 each or a book of 5 for \$20. Winners receive cash prizes!

AN ACCOUNT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP

St. Paul

FY Offertory Budget	\$275,000.00
Received to date	216,271.70
Received 3-24-24	5,105.00
FY Bldg FundBudget	\$144,000.00
Received to date	30,738.74
Received 3-24-24	265.00

Offertory: St. William
Sunday (3-24-24): \$496.00

Offertory: Holy Family
Sunday (3-24-24): \$402.00

PLEASE REMEMBER:

No Food to be eaten in classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, Day Chapel or Main Church—food may only be eaten in the Social Hall.

No hay Comida Para comer en las aulas, los pasillos, los baños, la capilla diurna y la iglesia principal. ¡La comida solo se puede comer en el salón social!

CAPÍTULO PARA LA PROTECCIÓN DE NIÑOS

Visite la página Web de la diócesis para leer el código: www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection o 888-357-5330.

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

Visit website: www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection
Or call 888-357-5330 to report knowledge of abuse.

OUR WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR ARMED
FORCES**

Jose Bardomiano, Brenda Contreras, Sgt. Blake Downs (N. Carolina), MSgt. Emmanuel Gamboa (New Mexico), Kristopher Lentz, April M. Martin (Japan), Michael Martinez, CW3 Jeb S. McKinnon (USA), Martin Rios, Candise R. Rolerson (Wichita Falls, TX), Juan Vargas, Erick Vilches, Octavio Rodriguez, Rolando Chavez.

Pray for us that we may be healed.

Francesco Abbondanza, Liza Agullo, Tullis Allen, Jaedon Arvidson, Brenda Atkinson, James Bookhardt, Ann Branch, Logan Brimmond, Mary Brown, Ernestine Bryant, Steve Bueneing, Ricardo Jose Camarillo, Cindy Carter, Amber Carver, Lee Ann Cash, Toby Cash, Calvin & Gail Carver, Jack Chaney, Rory Chaney, Bill Cummings, Dan Curte, Isabel Espinoza, Jerry Feltman, Eloise Ferguson, Demarcus Fields, Fr. Daniel Firman, Donna Friant, Antonio Guerrero, Michael & Michelle Gilliard, Denise Goyette, Amy Paulk Grist, Judy Hackett, Michael Hackett, Robert Hackett, Judy Hattaway, Katrina Havelock, Mary Hayes, Gilbert Hernandez, Jamie Hersey, Debra Heveder, Elaine Hinson, June Houston, Braylynn Hughes, Matthew Humphrey, George Irving, Bill Jacob, Oscar Kirkland, Amanda Knight, Christy Knight, Ann Koch, Stacy Lewis, Tommy Lindsey, Andrew Lott, Roxanne Maini, Aldo Meza, Deacon Ron Milkas, Barbara Miller, Dale Moon, Rachele Navarro, Elaine Newhart, Irene Nolan, Marilyn Perkins, Terry Oates, Bobby O'Neal, D. J. O'Neal, Trisha Pape, Violet Pappy, Karen Paulk, John Pfefferle,
Lou Pierce, Mike Pierce, Cubias Perez, Robin Pierce, Michael Pozzanghera, Dane Pranke, Kenny Purvis, Nicole Rigdon, Johan Saavedra, Tony Scaccia, Betty Spears, Stephanie Stone, Gene Thewes, Caitlin Thurman, Denver Thurman, Pablino Tinajero, Summer Van Hook, Egdal Gonzalez Vazquez, Marissa Vickers, Gene Waldron, Charles Westman, Kathy White, Melissa Williams, Carmen Willis, Warren Winters, A.D. Young, Mary Young

Live streaming every weekend



Please join us for live streaming of all weekend masses and ones of special occasions. Live streaming can watched on FaceBook (St Paul Catholic Church) page and our website page, stpaulmissions.org All masses are archived on our website for viewing anytime.



St Paul Catholic Church and Missions

4178 US HWY 441 S
Douglas, GA 31535

Pray every day this Easter season

Join the Daily Miracles Challenge

What makes Hallow
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peace for the very first time."



**Daily Gospel,
Rosary, & Examen**

All the classic Catholic prayers,
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meditations, homilies,
reflections, and Bible studies



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Curated meditations on topics
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discernment, plus prayers for all
ages to pray together as a family



**Bible Stories &
Sleep Content**

Close your day with an Examen,
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from guests like Fr. Mike
Schmitz, Matt Fradd, Emily
Wilson, and more



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Easter

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

EASTER, the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, is the oldest and most solemn feast of the liturgical year.

THE RESURRECTION is recorded in the Gospels and proclaimed in the New Testament, particularly by St. Paul, who wrote that without the Resurrection, "your faith has been in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:14).

DISCIPLES WHO KNEW JESUS was dead and where he was buried went to his tomb, but found it empty, and were told: "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised" (Luke 24:5-6). Later, St. Paul writes, the risen Jesus appeared to more than five hundred disciples (1 Corinthians 15:6).

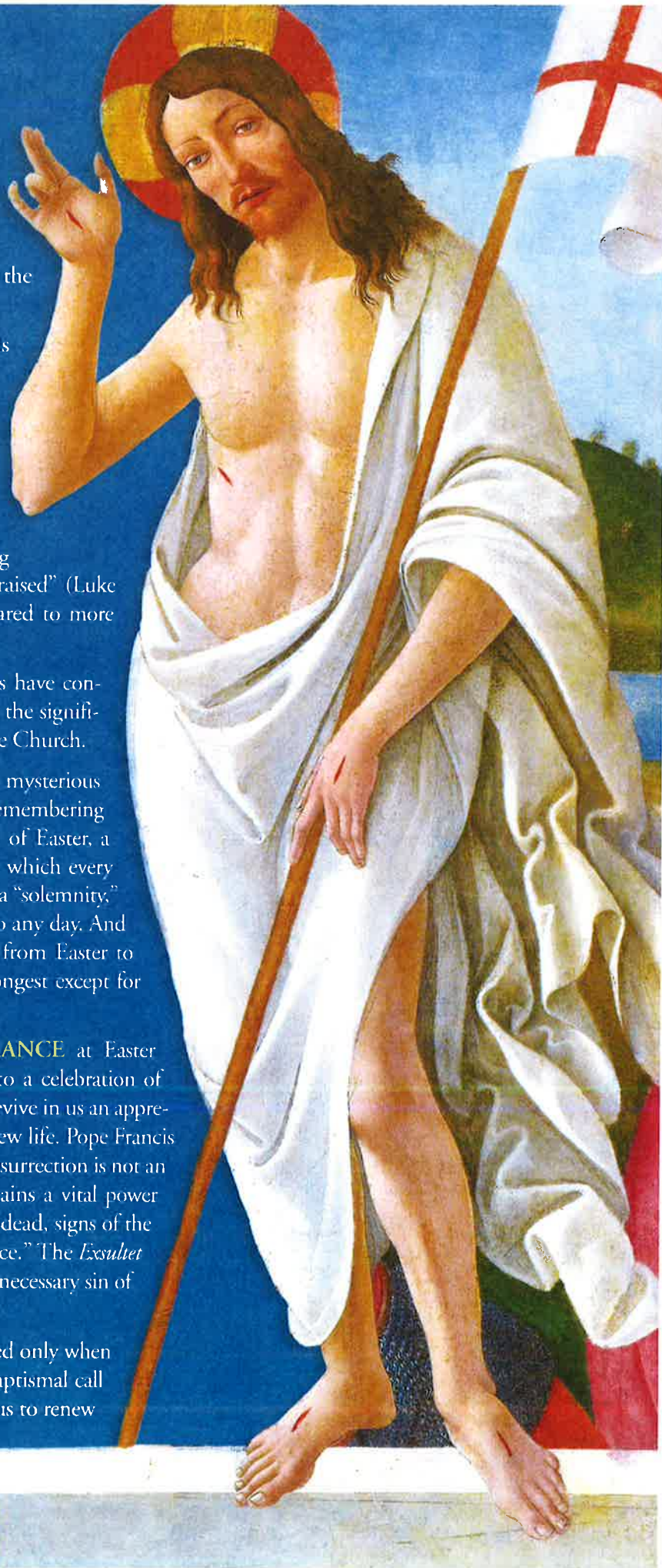
THROUGHOUT THE CENTURIES, Christians have continued to try to understand, appreciate and celebrate the significance of this most central experience for the life of the Church.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE RESURRECTION'S mysterious depths, the Church's liturgical cycles are based on remembering and celebrating Easter. Every Sunday is a memorial of Easter, a "little Easter." Easter is the only feast in which every day of its Octave (Eight Days) is itself a "solemnity," the highest ranking given to any day. And the 50-day Easter season, from Easter to Pentecost Sunday, is the longest except for Ordinary Time.

LITURGICAL EXUBERANCE at Easter is intended to draw us into a celebration of God's gift of salvation, to revive in us an appreciation of the promise of new life. Pope Francis reminds us that "Christ's resurrection is not an event of the past but contains a vital power

that has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force." The *Exsultet* at the Easter Vigil boldly declares: "O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam, which gained for us so great a Redeemer!"

AS IF TO REMIND US that our Easter joy is fulfilled only when we do our part, when we respond faithfully to our baptismal call to love God and others as ourselves, the Church asks us to renew our baptism promises to reject evil and to "serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church."



THE HISTORY OF EASTER

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection, the culmination of Christ's mission and the foundation of our faith. Easter is also the oldest Christian holiday, one that Pope Leo I regarded as the greatest feast of the liturgical year, a conviction that has since been widely embraced. As St. Paul wrote, "If Christ has not been raised, then your faith has been in vain" (1 Cor 15:14).

St. Bede suggests that word "Easter" could be related to *Estre*, an ancient goddess of spring. The more common term for Easter was the Latin *Pasch* or *Passover*. Easter was the *Festa Paschalia*, a name that is plural because Easter is not just a one-day event but includes seven more days of celebration (called the Easter octave). The name Easter is also related to the German word for east, *ostern*, where the sun rises. So the associations of light from the rising sun and the new life of spring naturally carry over to our celebration of new life through Christ.

The fixing of the date of Easter was complex and somewhat controversial. To the members of the early Church, every Sunday was regarded as a celebration of the resurrection. When it was determined to single out one day to highlight the feast, there was disagreement as to the proper date. Some Christians, including St. Irenaeus and St. Polycarp, felt it should coincide with the Jewish Passover, which was determined by the lunar calendar, while others preferred the Sunday celebration date that eventually prevailed when the Council of Nicaea in AD 325 determined that Easter is to be celebrated on the first Sunday following first full moon that occurs on or after the spring (vernal) equinox.

Alleluia

Terms of the Easter Season

Alleluia: From the Hebrew word meaning "Praise the Lord," *Alleluia* is a special acclamation of joy in the Easter Season.

Ascension: Originally celebrated on Thursday (40 days after Easter), now all U.S. dioceses except 6 celebrate it on the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

Easter: The first Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox, Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. The Church considers every Sunday in the year a commemoration of Easter.

Easter Duty: Having received First Communion, every Catholic in the United States must receive communion at least once a year during Easter time, defined in the U.S. as the period from the First Sunday of Lent to Trinity Sunday.

Easter Season: The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday.

Paschal Candle: A large decorated wax candle that is a symbol of the risen Savior, the light of the world. It is lit during Mass from the Easter Vigil to Ascension Thursday, and used thereafter in baptisms and funeral liturgies.

Mass Readings for the Easter Season 2020

Easter Sunday: Acts 10:34, 37-43;

Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Colossians 3:1-4
or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-9

2nd Sunday: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24;
1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

3rd Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-11;
1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

4th Sunday: Acts 2:14, 36-41; Psalm 23:1-6;
1 Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10

5th Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19;
1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12

6th Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Psalm 66:1-7, 16, 20;
1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

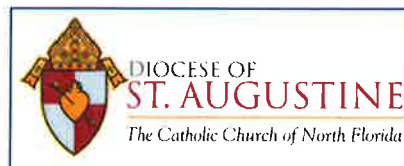
Ascension of the Lord: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9;
Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

7th Sunday: Acts 1:12-14; Psalm 27:1, 4, 7-8;
1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11

Pentecost: Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34;
1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

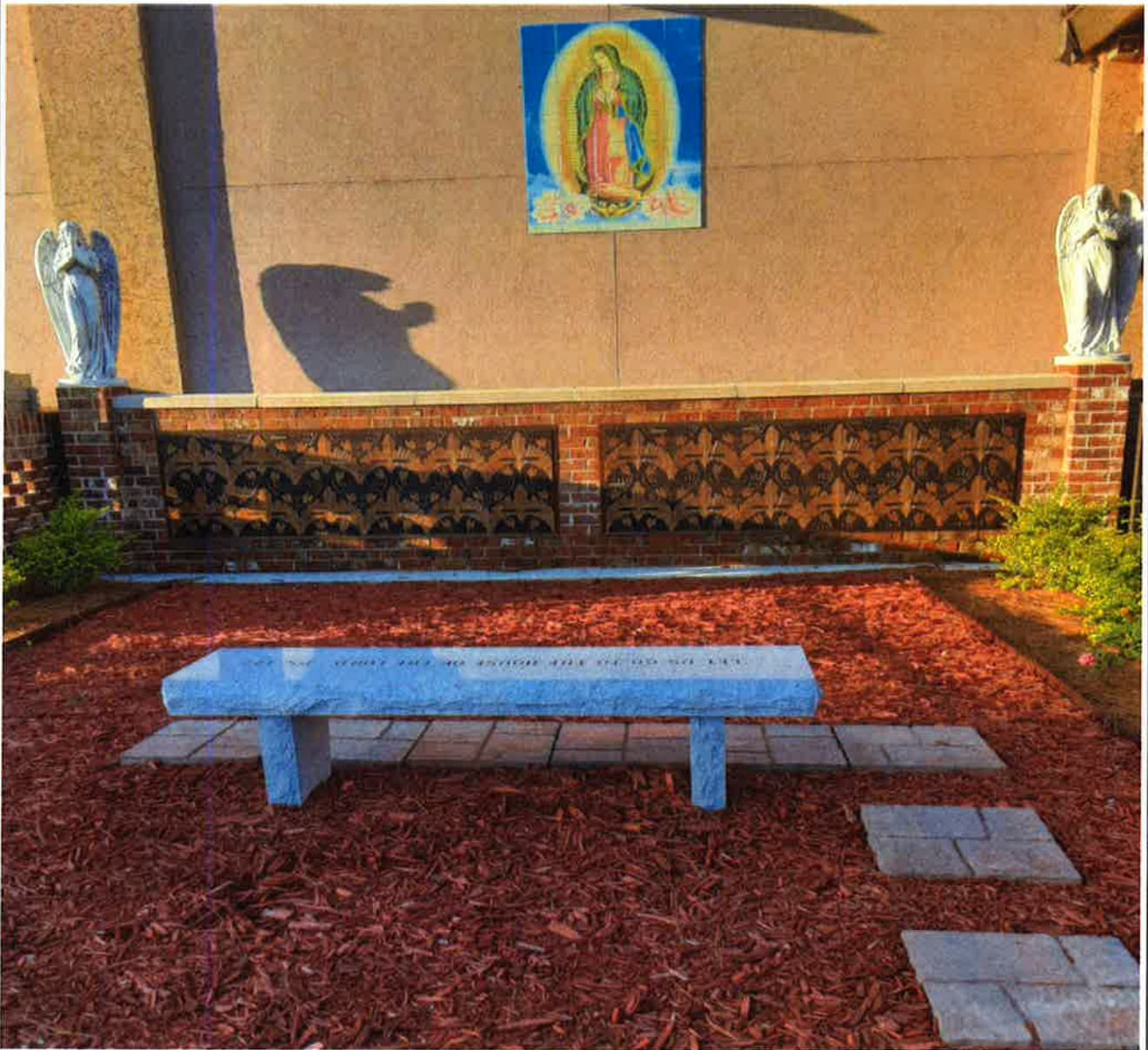
- Meet with the Priest is who is to perform the ceremony
- Bring Baptism and Confirmation certificates
- Must complete a pre-Cana (marriage) class either through the Diocese of Savannah, Arch-Diocese of Atlanta or the Diocese of St Augustine.
- Complete all necessary forms
- At least one of the witnesses **must be** Catholic.



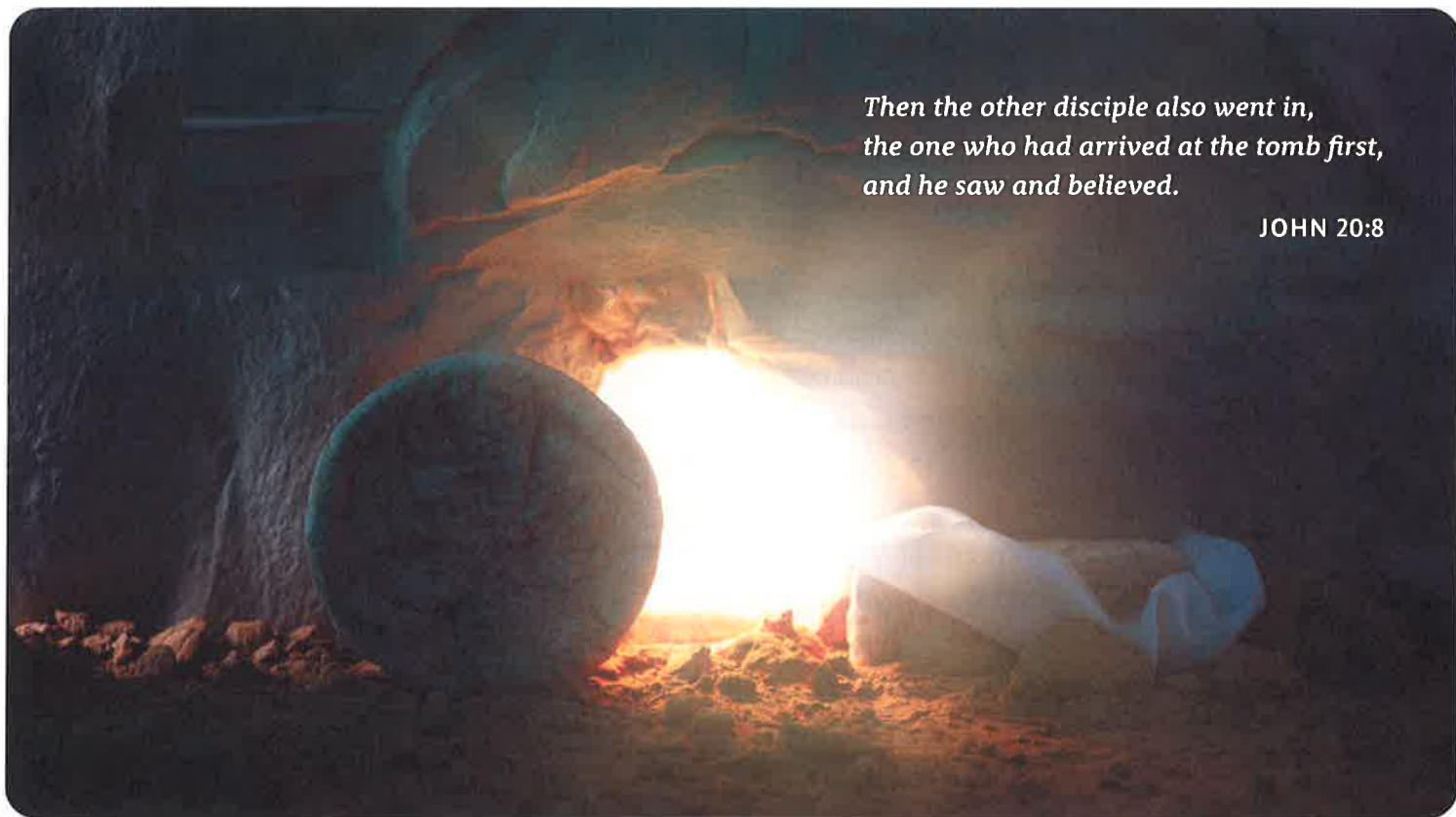
ST PAUL'S COLUMBARIUM



St Paul now offers a serene and sacred place for deceased loved ones.



“LET US GO TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD” P.S. 122



*Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.*

JOHN 20:8

Life without a Blankie

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

F aith can have the look of high dives and learning to ride a bike without training wheels and life without one's "blankie." All are confrontations with the specter of death asking us to have faith. From youth to old age, our lives seem to be laced with the loss of control, and unless we embrace such moments, not only will we never really grow up, neither will we ever become people of faith who live in the resurrection.

The Easter Gospels are about women and men who arrive at the tomb but hesitate going in; it is the home of death. Yet they become believers after they have entered that home of death and discover it to be abandoned. Over the years, I have become convinced that the only way to become a believer in the resurrection is to walk into the tomb yourself and there discover that where you thought death

was present now has been abandoned. That is the pattern of coming to faith.

Usually such moments do not have the look of faith. They tend to seem more akin to death than any promise of new life—like having to move to a new city or a new school, or abandoning an addiction, or confronting a problem through counseling, or aging, or grieving over lost love. They all can have the look of tombs yet they are also where we find the beginnings of new life. Risk it often enough and so discover new life, and we begin to believe in the reality of resurrection—Jesus' and ours. ●

Reflect

***Have you ever experienced life flowing
from what appeared to be a death?***

Dear Padre,

**Where did the idea of an Easter bunny come from?
What about the Easter egg?**



SVITLANA MARTINOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Easter bunny is really a hare which, according to an Egyptian legend, is a symbol of the moon. Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs after the twenty-first day of March. Put this together, and we have an Easter bunny.

Early Christians gave new meaning to the Roman proverb *Omne vivum ex ovo*, which means, “All life comes from an egg.” A hatching chick represented the risen Christ emerging from the shell of a tomb on Easter morning. Consequently, eggs were prohibited during the Lenten fast and were reintroduced at the Easter meal and also shared as decorated gifts. In 1610, a prayer by Pope Paul V blessed the egg “that it may become a wholesome sustenance to Thy faithful servants, eating in thankfulness to Thee, on account of the Resurrection of Our Lord.”

In some parts of the world, children carry baskets and torches and sing Easter carols as they go from place to place. They are given brightly colored eggs to put in their baskets. In other places, eggs are carried to church and blessed by the priests. The eggs are taken home and placed in the center of the table as the main dish at the Easter feast. Visitors to the house during Easter week are offered this sacred food of the resurrection. Happy Easter! ♦

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6	April 7
<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>
Acts 2:14, 22-33	Acts 2:36-41	Acts 3:1-10	Acts 3:11-26	Acts 4:1-12	Acts 4:13-21	<i>(Sunday of Divine Mercy)</i>
Mt 28:8-15	Jn 20:11-18	Lk 24:13-35	Lk 24:35-48	Jn 21:1-14	Mk 16:9-15	Acts 4:32-35
						1 Jn 5:1-6
						Jn 20:19-31

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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

In the light of the Risen Lord, our sufferings are now transfigured. Where there was death, now there is life. Where there was mourning, now there is consolation. In embracing the cross, Jesus bestowed meaning on our sufferings and now we pray that the benefits of that healing will spread throughout the world.

URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE, ROME, APRIL 4, 2021



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