

Saint Anthony of Padua Parish

With the Eucharist at the centre, we are a community desiring to be saints, sent out to love like Jesus and proclaim Him in every circumstance.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD - EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 21, 2019

Our Reasons For Joy

Happy Easter, brothers and sisters! And a special welcome to all of our guests!

God calls us to joy, but I'm aware that I'm not always that joyful. My level of joy can be erratic during the week: I'm up and down. In my prayer, I've asked, "Lord, what's going on? Why am I so up and down? I wish I had Your joy." How about you?

Our Lord, the night before He died, said, in reference to His upcoming death and Resurrection, "Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you" (Jn 16:20-22).

St. Bede says something very interesting about this, and very consoling. He says that, when we're on earth, it's going to be hard: We're on a journey, and not yet in heaven, and so there's all sorts of difficulties and sorrows (Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture, John, 11-21). So, it's normal if we have difficulties and aren't always joyful. But St. Bede also points out that, when we see Jesus again, our sorrow is turned to joy.

Today's Responsorial Psalm says, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad" (Ps 118:24). So, here are three reasons why Jesus' Resurrection gives us a joy that no one can take from us. [...]

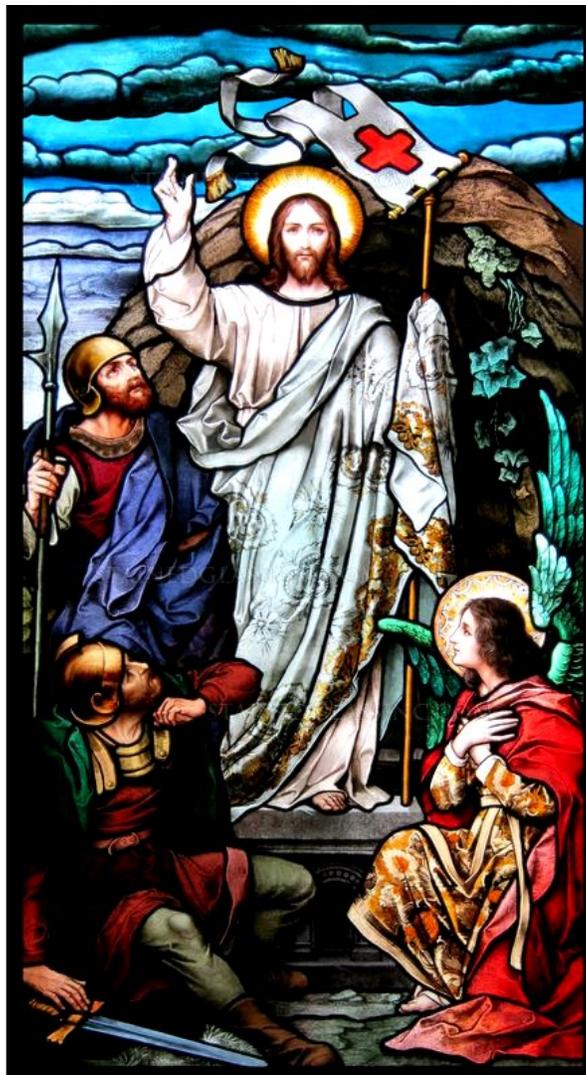
The first reason for joy is that all of Jesus' promises are true! The Catechism says that the Resurrection proves all of His promises (Cf. CCC 651). Jesus made many claims, like that He could forgive sins (Mk 2:10), give eternal life (Jn 10:28), heal the sick (Lk 18:42), and, even that He would rise again (Mt 17:22; Mk 8:31; Lk 9:22). The easiest way to discredit Him would be to kill Him. If He's wrong on the Resurrection, then He's lost all credibility; it would have been for Him the nail in the coffin. But He was right about the Resurrection. He's the only person who has ever been resurrected. And, if

someone rose from the dead like Lazarus, they died again. (And, if you ever want me to explain the evidence for the Resurrection, just let me know, because there are answers to the objections.)

All of Jesus' promises are true! So, it's important to know what Jesus promised, because He never promised an easy life or that there would be no suffering. Here are, what I call, the "Top Ten

List" of God's promises:

1. **Forgiveness:** "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 Jn 1:9).
2. **Hope:** "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:17).
3. **Fullness of life:** "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (Jn 10:10).
4. **Joy:** "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full" (Jn 15:11).
5. **Peace:** "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you" (Jn 14:27).
6. **Acceptance:** "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me" (Jn 6:37, NAB).
7. **Plan:** "I know the plans I have for you... plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jer 29:11).
8. **Needs met:** "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" (Mt 7:11).
9. **Love:** "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love" (Jn 15:9).
10. **Eternal life:** "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). [...]



The second reason comes from the perspective of the early Christians. The Scriptures say, when Jesus appeared, "The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord" (Jn 20:20; cf. Lk 24:41). Let's put ourselves in their shoes: "Our leader, teacher, best friend, and the person we believed was God has been killed—we've lost everything.

...continued inside

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Parish Registration

Our parish family warmly welcomes new parishioners. Please register by filling out a registration form located in the vestibule or the Parish Office. If you are registered and moving, please advise the parish office.

Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
 Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Weekdays	Masses	Confessions
Monday	8:15 am	8:00 to 8:10 am
Tuesday	7:30 pm	
Wednesday & Thursday	8:15 am	8:00 to 8:10 am
Friday	8:00 am	7:45 to 7:55 am
Saturday	9:00 am	9:45 am

Confession

Saturday afternoon 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm
 1st Saturday each month 9:45 am to 1:00 pm;
 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm;
 7:00 pm to 9:45 pm

Eucharistic Adoration enter at 1365 West 73rd Avenue
 Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm

First Saturday of each month: 9:30 am to 9:30 pm in the church during all-day confessions.

First Friday of each month: 8:45 am to 10:00 am in the church followed by **Benediction**.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Please call the parish office for more information on RCIA classes and other Sacraments.

Weekday Masses & Intentions

Day	Feast or Memorial	Missal Page	Intention
Mon., Apr. 22	<i>Solemnity</i> Easter Octave	263	Nena Sison †
Tues., Apr. 23	<i>Solemnity</i> Easter Octave	266	Anselmo Reyes †
Wed., Apr. 24	<i>Solemnity</i> Easter Octave	269	John Messere †
Thurs., Apr. 25	<i>Solemnity</i> Easter Octave	272	Aida & Marcelo Lescano †
Fri., Apr. 26	<i>Solemnity</i> Easter Octave	275	Andrew Ang †
Sat., Apr. 27	<i>Solemnity</i> Easter Octave	279	Aloysius Pillainayagam †

Prayers for the Sick At Holy Mass we remember the sick including: Nita Carvajal, Nung Chum, Isobel Clancy, Nick De Vos, Tamara Dixon, Elaine dos Remedios, Kathleen Francis, Teresa Gaio, Feli Hempl, Cecile Hernandez, Yvonne Kharoubeh, Molly Loui-Ying, Susan Panican, Huguette Piché, Barney Rousseau, Therese Rozario, Christina Sayo, Liliana Taylor, Fernando Tiago, Cynthia Wing, Theresa Yoshioka.

Do you feel called to be a Permanent Deacon?

Men between the ages of 35 and 60 interested in ordained ministry, along with their spouses, can learn more about the permanent diaconate at information sessions this April and May in Vancouver and Langley. To register, please visit <http://stmarkscollege.ca/news-events/events/permanent-diaconate-information-sessions> or email deacons@rcav.org.



Upcoming Homily Themes

April 27 & 28

Dealing with Shame

May 4 & 5

The Best Way to Apologize to Jesus & Our Parents

May 11 & 12

Should We Ever Give Up on People? In Some Ways, Yes.

May 18 & 19

How to Strengthen People's Souls



ANNOUNCEMENTS

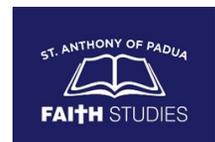
Welcome new parishioners! Thank you for joining our parish family – we're happy to have you! If you have any questions about St. Anthony's or would simply like to meet some fellow parishioners, please come by the **Welcome Booth** after any Sunday Mass. We would love to meet you!



Pro-life Workshop, next week, Friday, April 26 at 7:00 pm. Conversations about abortion can be challenging, not to mention awkward and uncomfortable. Join

Michael Roy and Irene DeSouza as they offer skills and training that will help us have compassionate and compelling conversations about abortion. This workshop will be held downstairs in the church hall. No need to register. All are welcome!

Afternoon Tea on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12 for all the women of the parish. The Handmaids of the Lord are organizing this fun event. Come wearing your hats and fascinators! Cost is \$15 and \$10 for young ladies 7-15 years old. A limited number of tickets are for sale after all weekend Masses.



Faith Studies is back!

Note: Registration deadline is

Sunday, May 19. The 15th round of Faith Studies will start up again,

Tuesday nights from May 28 to July 2

at 6:15 pm and 8:15 pm. All five levels of studies will be offered: **Discovery, Source, Growth, Obedience and Commission.** NOTE: Limited spots are available in each of the levels. For more information or to register, call Angel José at the Parish Office, 604.266.6131 ext. 204 or email her at stanthonyfaithstudies@gmail.com.

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But now He's alive, raised from the dead. He's beaten death! He's defeated His enemy! Our Lord has won!" **The second reason for joy comes from knowing that our friend and Lord has won and defeated the enemy!** [...] In a much deeper, long-lasting way, Jesus' victory gave the early Christians so much joy that they changed the world.

Finally, the second reading says, "When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory" (Col 3:4). This means that, when there is the Resurrection of our bodies, our bodies will be like Jesus', that is, in a state of perfection (Cf. 1 Cor 15:42-44, Phil 3:21; CCC 645, 990, 999, 1017).

This is best explained with a story. I saw a beautiful interview of Michael Voris, who's known to some of us, and how his mother had severe bipolar disorder, depression, and OCD her whole life. These conditions dominated their entire home life. She was lovely, kind, and caring, but then there would be a Mr. Hyde to her. She'd walk around the mall and all of the sudden burst out crying. Each time before the family left the house, she'd check the door for over and over again to make sure it's locked, while her kids were standing there. At the end of her life, during her last conversation with Michael, she apologized once again for being, in her mind, a bad mother.

Consecration to Mary: Follow-up on Monday, April 29, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

If you have completed this program, please join us in the Lower Hall for refreshments, interesting discussion, a talk on Mary and the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. For more information or to register mb391906@gmail.com or by calling the Parish Office.



Learning to Pray:

Emphasis on the Mysteries of the Rosary, Saturday,

May 11, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. This mini-retreat will introduce a few key prayer methods such as lectio divina and Gospel contemplation to help us enter more deeply into the mysteries of the rosary and aid us in our prayer time in the chapel. Engage the scriptures, imagination, music, poetry, art, and the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Retreat Director Catherine M. Kelly, M.Div. is the Director of the Ignatian Spiritual Formation Program at St. Mark's College and Director of Retreats, Christian Life Community, and Spiritual Formation at St. Mark's Parish. She is an experienced spiritual director and international presenter. To register please email mb391906@gmail.com.

New Evangelization Summit (NES) May 4, 8:15 am to 4:30 pm at St. Anthony of Padua in the Lower Hall.

This Ottawa based conference will have 43 live streams across North America, and our parish is one of the host sites! This conference features speakers who provide inspiration, encouragement, training and resources on how we Catholics can effectively evangelize. The event is FREE but you must register. Visit stanthonyvan.com for a link to the registration form.



Then Michael starts crying: "To think that, in our faith, when we see the people that we love again, we'll see them perfect, where all of that is gone. I've actually joked with mom a few times in praying, 'Gosh, Mom, will I recognize you? You're not going to be standing there at the gate doing the 1-2-3 thing.' It is this glorious, glorious hope that all of the horrible effects of sins—that God wipes them away. And there we are, who we are supposed to be. It'd be lovely to see them both again, God willing."

The third reason for joy is that, in heaven, all of our sufferings will be wiped away. No more pain, mental illness, developmental disabilities, and most importantly, no more sin: people won't offend God and won't hurt each other!

The Resurrection is the centre of our faith! "If Christ has not been raised," St. Paul says, "then... your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15:14). But, He has been raised, and that's why we have three reasons for joy: **1) Jesus' promises are true; 2) Our Lord has conquered evil; 3) In heaven, all of our sufferings will be wiped away.**

Happy Easter!

- excerpt from Fr. Justin's homily, April 21, 2019

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