



April 1, 2018

Easter (B)

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8

Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

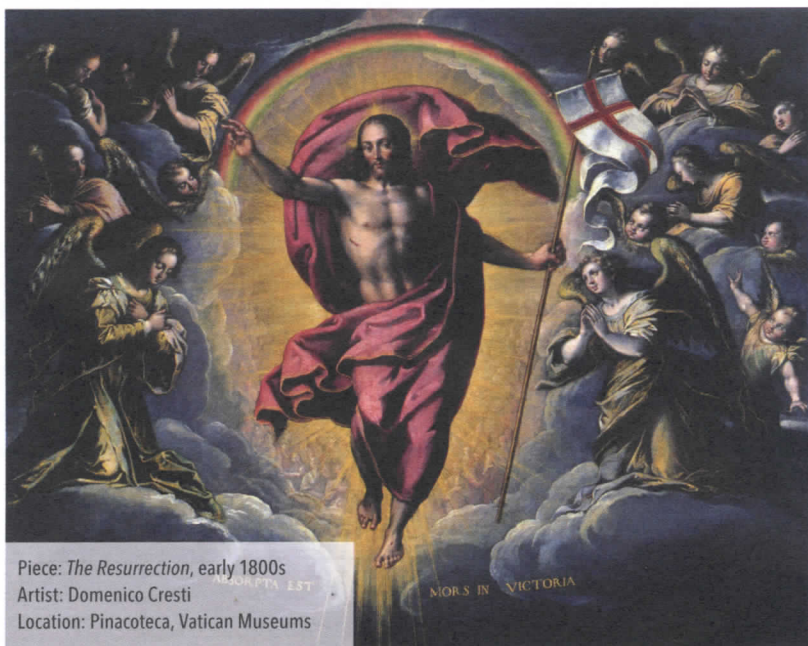
Victory!

Fr. Lorenzo Ricci, SJ, placed this painting in the chapel commemorating the spot outside Rome where Ignatius had a vision confirming his desire to ask the pope to found the Jesuit order. It's significant because Fr. Lorenzo enthroned this painting as a symbolic act just before the order was suppressed throughout the Portuguese and Spanish Empires. It was one of their darkest hours.

We all have dark moments in our histories. It seems death will swallow us; that God has abandoned us, and there is no solution. The darkness in the painting suggests just that—the world of darkness and despair without the light of Christ. The soldiers sleep, the cold world waits below, and a once-strong trunk is dry and sapped of vigor.

Above, the beautiful Christ figure is surrounded in light, while he hoists the victory standard: the blood-red cross of martyrdom set upon the pure white of resurrection. He, like a new Moses, is leading them into the promised land of eternal life.

These contrasting scenes of darkness and light are the message of the painting and of the resurrection itself. Peter, John, and Mary Magdalene had locked themselves at home, engulfed in darkness, fear, and sadness. The next morning they arrive to the tomb only to find it open and the body of their beloved



Piece: *The Resurrection*, early 1800s
Artist: Domenico Cresti
Location: Pinacoteca, Vatican Museums

Savior gone. Victory was being won even as they slept.

Entrust your ways to the Lord and he will act. God is at work winning your salvation! Do not let hope be vanquished! Hold on. Trust in him. Victory is right around the corner!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Do I trust in Christ's power, which I cannot see, more than the problems that I can see?

Do I believe God is a good Father and only permits that which leads to greater glory for both of us?

Think of what is above, not what is on earth.

Colossians 3:2

HAPPY EASTER!

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak

Pastor: Rev. George Thirumangalam CMI

Mailing address: 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

Email: cyclone.marak@gmail.com **Website:** marakchurch.org

Masses: Cyclone: Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, Thurs & Friday: 7AM

Marak: Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 5:30PM

The Sacraments:

Baptism: On Sundays after Mass. Please contact the pastor for scheduling a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St. Joseph, Cyclone or Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

Confessions: Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

Marriage: Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

April 1, 2018—EASTER SUNDAY



The tomb was empty. In the early morning darkness of that first Easter, there was only confusion for Mary Magdalene and the other disciples. But as the daylight spread, they saw the dawning of a new creation. At first they didn't understand the Scripture, today's Gospel tells us. We don't know which precise Scripture texts they were supposed to understand. Perhaps it was the sign of Johan, who rose from the belly of the great fish after three days. Or maybe Hosea's prophecy of Israel's restoration from exile. Perhaps it was the psalmist who rejoiced that God had not abandoned him to the nether world. Whichever Scripture it was, as the disciples bent down into the tomb they saw and they believed. What did they see? Burial shrouds in an empty tomb. The stone removed from the tomb. Seven times in nine verses we hear that word—"tomb." What did they believe? That God had done what Jesus said He would do—raised Him up on the third day. What they saw and believed, they bore witness to, as today's First Reading tells us. Peter's speech is a summary of the gospels—from Jesus' baptism in the Jordan to His hanging on a tree, to His rising from the dead. We are children of the apostles, born into the new world of their witness. Our lives are now "hidden with Christ in God," as today's Epistle says. Like them we gather in the morning on the first day of the week to celebrate the Eucharist, the feast of the empty tomb. We rejoice that the stones have been rolled away from our tombs, too. Each of us can shout, as we do in today's Psalm: "I shall not die, but live." They saw and believed. And we await the day they promised would come—when we, too, "will appear with Him in glory."



**CHRIST THE LORD
IS RISEN TODAY!**

Ministries for Sunday, April 8

Rosary: Raymond Tomek

Ushers: REP

Offertory: REP

Eucharistic Minister: Judy Vaculin

Lector: REP

Altar Servers: REP

Sanctuary Light: March 26-April 1 - Stephanie Krumnow by Merlene Slavik

Prayer Chain...Continue to pray for all those in need of prayer especially for Dorothy Vaculin , Raymond Jochec, and Sharon Cartwell (friend of Bram Younts). Prayers are powerful and with God nothing shall be impossible.
Contact Ethel Marak—254-697-2565 or email—emmarak@juno.com to be put on the prayer chain.

MARAK MASSES—April 1-8, 2018

Date	Time	Intentions
Today— 4/1	10:15am	Cyril Vaculin by Julie McLerran
4/4— Wednesday	5:30pm	Bernard Kostroun by Arvell & Liz Jungmann
4/8 - Sunday	10:15am	Frances & Phillip Hubnik by Debbie Bush

CYCLONE MASSES— April 1-8, 2018

Date	Time	Intentions
Today – 4/1	8:15am	Mass for the Parish
4/3– Tuesday	7:00am	Denise Posvar by family
4/5—Thursday	7:00am	
4/6 - Friday	7:00am	Larry Posvar by Janet & David Kasner
4/7– Saturday Vigil	5:30pm	Randolph Green by family
4/8— Sunday	8:15am	Marvin Wilde by Joan Plumlee

3/25: Stewardship: -Regular Offering—\$1,398.00

Building Fund: \$20.00

Thank you for your generosity!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY—FATHER GEORGE:** St. Ann's Altar Society will be hosting cookies and water after Mass on April 8th in honor of Father George's birthday.
- **NOTE OF THANKS:** to St. Ann's Altar Society from the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament for the \$500.00 donation to help with damages during the past hurricane. See letter on bulletin board at the back of the church.
- **ALTAR SERVERS:** St. Ann's Altar Society presented each altar server a token for a Mini Blizzard to Dairy Queen. Special thanks to Dairy Queen for donating those tokens to our church. See letter on bulletin board at the back of the church.
- **THANK YOU:** A special thank you to Adolph & Dorothy Vansa for donating a computer desk for the REP office.

Bulletin Information: **MARAK:** Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - **CYCLONE:** Nancy Posvar (254-869-2511)

Bulletin deadline : Please call or e-mail info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!

Calendar

Monday

April 2

Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33

Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday

April 3

Octave of Easter

Acts 2:36-41

Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday

April 4

Octave of Easter

Acts 3:1-10

Lk 24:13-35

Thursday

April 5

Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11-26

Lk 24:35-48

Friday

April 6

Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12

Jn 21:1-14

Saturday

April 7

Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13-21

Mk 16:9-15

Sunday

April 8

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 4:32-35

1 Jn 5:1-6

Jn 20:19-31

Dear Padre,

I've just returned from a visit to the Holy Land.

When we visited the tomb of Jesus, we saw a simple marble slab in a small chapel. Is our faith based on an empty tomb?

I am happy to answer your question on this highest truth of our faith—the resurrection of Jesus. Our faith in the resurrection is not based on an empty tomb or a little marble slab. There are many explanations for an empty tomb, most which would not contribute to the belief in Jesus' resurrection.

Our faith in the resurrection rests not only on the physical reality of the empty tomb but, more importantly, on the eyewitness accounts of those who saw Jesus, talked to him, and walked with him after his resurrection.

There are many reports in the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles that chronicle the appearance of Jesus after the resurrection. Details vary, but one

constant is found in all the accounts: Those who saw the risen Lord had such a powerful experience that they couldn't keep it to themselves. They had to run and tell somebody.

Think of this as a Christian "big bang

theory." Jesus' followers had such a tremendous initial experience of the risen Lord that they could not hold it in. They told their friends, neighbors—anyone who would listen. Excitement spread to neighboring villages and hamlets, then to surrounding countries and cultures. Eventually, Christianity expanded, sometimes under great persecution, throughout the world. Could such endurance and dynamism result from only an empty tomb? No. Only an experience of the risen Jesus could bring this about.

Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

From *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*, © 2003 Liguori Publications

CHS PHOTO/ANMAR AWAD, REUTERS



A Word From Pope Francis

We Christians are all called to communicate this message of resurrection to those we meet, especially to those who suffer, to those who are alone, to those who find themselves in precarious conditions, to the sick, to refugees, to the marginalized.

—Regina Caeli, April 10, 2016



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