



**2nd Sunday of Easter
(Divine Mercy Sunday)
April 24, 2022**

Once I was dead,
but now I am alive
forever and ever.

Revelation 1:18a

DIFFICULTY, SURVIVAL, AND GLORY

In Revelation, John the Evangelist tells us what we can expect as followers of the risen Jesus: distress, endurance, and a kingdom. Although we are only eight days into our fifty-day Easter feasting, we cannot ignore the distress weighing down our daily lives. Jesus' resurrection does not erase individual suffering, but his glorious triumph over death cultivates endurance in our hearts. We remember that Jesus did not spare himself, and we ask for the strength to endure as he did. Imitating Christ helps us grow as members of God's royal family. As beloved citizens of the Kingdom of God, we recognize our kinship with all people. Peter demonstrates his care for others as he heals multitudes of broken, suffering people. In the Gospel, Thomas accepts his own spiritual healing when Jesus helps him to believe. In times of difficulty, survival, and glory, we borrow Thomas' declaration of faith: "My Lord and my God!"

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PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

God of everlasting mercy,
who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,
that all may grasp and rightly understand
in what font they have been washed,
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can I come to grasp more fully the meaning of my baptism?

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;
Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 [1-14]

Recycling old palms:

Please bring back to church next week any blessed palms you might have at home from prior years. They will be recycled into holy ashes for 2023. Thank you!

Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of April/May offerings: PLEASE put in Mass collection basket or mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465.

Or donate at our website www.stphilipstteresa.org via Paypal or card. Please include your offering envelope # [if you have one] with your donation. **Holy Week collections : \$3922.**

4/24: Rural Food. 5/01: Catholic Home Missions.



Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

- Parish Council [PC]:** TBA
- Finance Council [FC]:** TBA
- Liturgy Committee [LC]:** TBA
- St. Teresa Ladies Guild:** Contact Diane, 823-6044
- St. Philip Ladies Guild:** Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule 2022

- 4/23 Sat. 5:00pm ✠ Brendan Smith
- 4/24 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Hugh Peterson
- 4/24 Sun. 9:30am Mass for the People
- 4/24 Sun. 11:15am Mass ✠ Al Gerhardt

- 4/30 Sat. 5:00pm ✠ Ernest Hansen
- 5/01 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Joel Bartlett
- 5/01 Sun. 9:30am Mass for the People
- 5/01 Sun. 11:15am Mass ✠ Charles Papke

Prayer Requests: Please leave a message at 707-408-2650.

Robert S., Britney N., Chuck, Rebecca A., April K., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Sherry S., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James G., Gary S., Peter R., Gerry N., Diane K., River M.; Nikkie; Mr. C., Michelle, Christian A., Peter B Samantha S., Gary E., Frederick Kasl, John Geving, Noelle G., Arnie, Reece

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday: St. Mark
- Wednesday: Administrative Professionals Day
- Thursday: St. Peter Chanel;
St. Louis Grignon de Montfort;
Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)
- Friday: St. Catherine of Siena; Arbor Day
- Saturday: St. Pius V

SAVE THE DATE

Our Parish Picnic returns on Saturday, August 6, 2022.

Join us for barbecue, games and a chance to re-connect with friends. Hope to see you there!



March Update AMA 2022

Thank you to all who have now already pledged a total of \$9,426 moving us closer to our goal as a parish community of \$13,754. Keep up the good work and generosity!





RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for APRIL 2022

On Tuesday, April 12, forty-seven families, (118 individuals) were welcomed to our distribution and selected fresh produce, milk, eggs, poultry, beef, fish or vegetarian items, commodities, snacks and bread. All who are in need are welcome to receive nutritional support from our Program. One of our clients provided colorful hand crocheted caps which were offered to all clients during the very chilly morning.

Filled Easter eggs were offered by Volunteers to every client to share with their family. Our volunteers even found time to help with the weeding in the hall parking lot. What an amazing group!

We have opened the hall to in-person shopping for our clients who can choose specific foods from our program for their families. It also allows volunteers and clients to re connect post pandemic.

If you are aware of a family which needs nutritional assistance, please let them know about our program. Leave a message at the parish office, (707) 408-2650 to get a call back with additional information and to answer your questions.

This program is funded through monthly Rural Food Collection, private donations and the dedicated, awesome volunteers. Thank you for your generous donations as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in the Parish Hall and parking area: Saturday, May 7, 9-10:00am repackaging; Monday, May 9, 9:00 – 11:00am set up and Tuesday, May 10, 7:30a – 11:00am to distribute food to clients.



***Whisper of hope* by Sr. Pauline Yuen, MIC**

I have risen, and I am with you still, Alleluia. (Entrance Antiphon)

Easter meant to be a time for joy and exultation with joyous chanting of Alleluia. We know it is the commemoration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. However, this year seems to be a year of sadness for many.

At this very moment, we are still very much upset by the violent invasion of Ukraine. As [Pope Francis has said](#), "the blood and tears of

children, the suffering of women and men who are defending their land or fleeing from the bombs shake our conscience." In addition, the serious blow of COVID to Hong Kong has also brought about an unprecedented plight to the people, especially the young and the old. The Churches are closed and there is no public Mass for the Paschal Triduum. In this "valley of tears" how can we find the joy and hope promised by the Resurrected Christ? Where is the Risen Lord?

The Gospel for this Easter Sunday fits our situation very well. The setting is early morning of Easter Day. It is supposed to be a joyful, new start, but it is depicted as stark and without glamour. In the account, we only see three persons: Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John. There is no great light, no angel announcing the good news, and no resurrected Christ. What we can see is the empty tomb and the burial cloths, which are the objects associated with the Passion. Where is the Risen Lord?

It is mentioned that Simon Peter saw the burial cloths, and the cloth that covered the head of Jesus was rolled up in a separate place. It seemed not to be a surprise for him, at least the Bible does not say so. However, when it comes to John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, the evangelist says, "he saw and believed". What did he see? Also the same thing seen by Peter. What was the outcome? He believed. Many exegetists have argued about what John believed. Was it the resurrection of Jesus? Or was it the theft of Jesus' body as assumed by Mary Magdalene? Recent studies would opt for the first answer — that John believed that the Lord had risen. They suggest that the contemplative love of John makes him see beyond the burial cloths.

Recently, many unexpected tragic events have happened over the world, and there is a great yearning in me for justice, healing, and peace. I think that when there is sorrow, we are still at the heart of Good Friday. Easter is long in coming. The Paschal Mystery is truncated by my narrow interpretation. Actually the Passion and the Resurrection are the two sides of the coin of the Paschal Mystery. In theory, I know this. I used to teach this in my theology class. However, when confronted with the raucous calls to despair by the tragedies in life, I have lost my orientation. I have been wondering what Easter message I can share this year.

This passage has enlightened and encouraged me a lot in my melancholic dwellings on the suffering of the world. Where is the Risen Lord? He is apparently absent. Somehow, I need to have the eyes of faith and see beyond what meets my eyes. God has placed a lot of signs around us as His whisper of Hope to show that He is there. Do I not feel strengthened when I see the innocent smile of a child amidst the debris after the bombings of residential areas? Does my heart not burn with fire at the sight of haggard soldiers kneeling down in prayer? Is the self-forgetting service of medical staff tending the COVID patients not a sign of fear overcome by love?

Some days ago, I listened to the song "[Ukraine Hallelujah](#)" and was very much struck with the verse, "and if tomorrow brings no light, I'll hold on to the hope of Hallelujah". Yes, Easter is here; do I have the hope and joy promised by the Lord? I need to regain my strength in contemplation so as to be able to hear the whispering sound of the Risen Lord, "I have risen, and I am with you still, Alleluia." Yes, Lord, help me to be like John, to see with the eyes of faith and hope and to believe that you are with me in all the turmoils and confusion.



Lake County Outdoor Passion Play

† **3rd Weekend in May** †

Saturday & Sunday, May 14th and 15th, 2022, at 4:00-6:00 PM



Off Highway 29, about 4 miles north of Lakeport

7010 Westlake Rd, Upper Lake CA, 95485

Call: 707-263-0349

Christian Play for People of all Faiths

Free Admission

Please join us in the Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of our Lord, Jesus Christ, here in beautiful Lake County, California. This has been rated THE BEST outdoor Passion Play in the world, by various spectators. The Passion Play is a prayerful expression of the faith of the people involved. Men, women, and children from many denominations have come together to make this a truly ecumenical experience, touched by the Holy Spirit.

- **Free of charge; donations are gratefully accepted.**
- **Bring your own chair.**
- **No smoking, food, drink, or pets on grounds.**
- **Water available.**
- **Facilities for the handicapped.**

HELP SPREAD THE WORD

Visit our Facebook Page at: www.facebook.com/PassionPlayLakeCo/ or

Visit our website at: www.lakecountypassionplay.org

