

Rejoice

He has been raised.

Mark 16:6

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church
2111 Ashland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21205

Easter 2016

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
EASTER SUNDAY
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
March 27, 2016

From the Pastor . . .

My Sisters and Brothers:

Imagine what it must have been like for the friends and followers of Jesus after they had witnessed his passion and death. After they had taken his body down from the cross, they placed it in a tomb, and then they most likely experienced an intense feeling of the sting of defeat. They had been powerless to stop the events of the previous days, and they had been unable to help their leader who had been unjustly convicted and put to death. Peter himself had denied he even knew who Jesus was (*see John 18:17, 25 and 27*). Surely they were all feeling a great sense of confusion and despair. To compound their angst, it also seemed that someone had stolen his body from the tomb where they had so reverently placed it. Can there be any doubt that their heartache and distress were very intense? Without their leader, the community that consisted of the friends and followers of Jesus had no purpose; their mission had become meaningless, and they had been left in a state of humiliation and defeat. Many of them probably concluded that they would immediately need to return to their previous ways of life. And yet, it was those people who had been broken—that community without a purpose—who discovered that Jesus had been raised from the dead. That community in turn discovered that life had in fact conquered death (*see John 20:1-9*). Peter, the one who had denied that he even knew him, then realized that it was for just such weaknesses that Jesus had given of himself and died. Life conquered death! Strength conquered weakness! Hope conquered despair! In our first reading today, the same Peter then tells us that he and the others were “*commissioned to preach to the people and to bear witness*” (*see Acts of the Apostles 10:42*). Peter, the one who had denied that he even knew him, was then sent to preach and to testify to the victory of Jesus Christ. And we, who have also experienced despair, weakness, sin and death in our own lives are called to do the same. Like those first friends and followers of Jesus, we are also called to share our faith in this Risen Lord; we are called to testify to his power in our lives! As we celebrate the Easter victory today, let us stand with confidence that Jesus is our Risen Lord – and that he is Lord of us as individuals, and as a community of faith. As the friends and followers of this very Jesus, let us rejoice!

Christ is Risen, Truly, He is Risen, Alleluia, Alleluia! Happy Easter my friends!

Praise God! Friar Timothy

PRAYER REQUESTS

Remember in your prayers all parishioners who are sick or recovering from an illness, relatives, friends, our city, those who serve our country in the military and all the needs recorded in our parish prayer intention book.

FIRST FRIDAY

April 1 is the First Friday of the month. Our Holy Hour begins with Mass at 8:00 am and continues with Vocations for World Peace.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Next Sunday we will take the annual attendance count at Mass for the archdiocese. Please help us to get an accurate count of everyone in church.



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MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH AND RAFFLE

On the Sunday after Easter, April 3, the Men's Club will host its annual Spring Brunch for the church family between the Masses, 9:30–11:00 am. Plan to come early or stay late to enjoy a full course breakfast and fellowship time. There will be a drawing during the brunch for prizes which include a 32" HDTV, \$75.00 Walmart Gift Card, and a \$50.00 Outback Restaurant Gift Certificate. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, available from Men's Club members and the church office.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Family and Friends Day Luncheon - Sunday May 15, a single Mass will be held, followed by a complimentary luncheon in the Lyceum.

Outreach Center Crab Feast - Saturday July 16 in the Lyceum. Benefits the Lucille Fitzgerald Food Pantry.

Labor Day Picnic – Monday September 5 at Rocky Point Beach and Park.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH. . .

St. Ann's Church... Easter Egg Hunt Sunday March 27. Please join us after the 10:30 am Mass today outside in the Prayer Garden. Light refreshments will be provided during the festivities.

Spring Fling Friday April 1. Shrimp and Bull Roast, Columbus Gardens from 8 pm to 12 pm. Donation of \$45. Raffle drawing: 1st Prize-39" Flat Screen TV, 2nd Prize-\$100 Gift Card. Flyer on bulletin board in back of church
For tickets contact Cynthia Johnson at 443-854-8094.

St. Philip Neri Catholic Church...Divine Mercy Celebration, includes Praise & Worship, Reflection, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration & Benediction, **Sunday April 3 from 2:30 - 4:00 pm.** 6405 Orchard Road, Linthicum, Maryland 21090. Reception follows in parish hall.

St. Matthew's Church ...Spring Luncheon & Bingo Wednesday April 6. Held in St. Matthew's Church Hall, 5403 Loch Raven Blvd. Doors open at 10:30 am. Tickets/Donation: \$13. For more information flyer on bulletin board in back of church. **Contact Caroline Grayson for tickets: 410-323-7617**

St. Thomas More Church... Italian Dinner: April 10 from 12:30 – 3:30 pm, 1608 McClean Blvd. Served in Children's Guild Conference Center, enter from lower parking lot. **Catered by CARRABBA's.** Adult - \$16, Child under 10 - \$12 and Carryout - \$17. Basket of Cheer, Jewelry and Prizes. **NO SALES AT DOOR - PURCHASE AHEAD call 443-798-0556//410-302-4641.**

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary...Prayer Service for Peace in Baltimore: Monday, April 25 at 7 pm, 409 Cathedral St. All faiths are invited to pray for healing in Baltimore on the one-year anniversary of the unrest following the death of Freddie Gray. "Together, with faith and with God's help, we can heal our broken city." Parking is available in the garage on Franklin Street between Charles and Cathedral Streets.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & COLLECTIONS
Due to early deadline submissions for the church bulletin, March 20th figures will be posted in the April 3rd bulletin.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY
Second Sunday of Easter
or
(Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

1st Reading	Acts of the Apostles 5:12–16
2 nd Reading	Revelations 1:9–11A, 12–13, 17–19
Gospel	John 20:19–31

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun,	Mar 27	8:00 am	Arden G. Livingston 11:45 For Parishioners
Tues,	Mar 29	8:00	Deceased Members of St. Wenceslaus Ladies Sodality
Wed,	Mar 30	8:00	Ann & Bud Steiner
Thur,	Mar 31	7:00	Souls in Purgatory
Fri,	Apr 1	8:00	Special Intentions

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION PLAN

The subscription plan for church activities has been a major factor in the success of our fund raising efforts. Reminder to subscribers you can continue to make payments on your plan either to Alicia Champlin or turn it in at the office. By purchasing your subscription to sponsored events held you get a bargain and the church is assured all the events have enough participants to go forward. Remember the cost of the subscription plan is \$132 yearly or \$11 monthly.

CHURCH ENVELOPES

Reminder, if you haven't please take your box of church envelopes as you leave. We hope they serve as a reminder to you to continue your weekly offerings whether at home or away. Your use of these envelopes is a great help to us in our record keeping. Anyone not receiving church envelopes who would like to just call the office at 410-675-7304.

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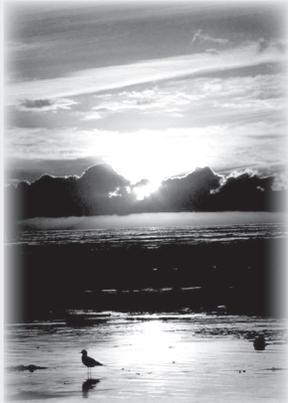
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