



St. Patrick's Parish

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27th March 2016

EASTER SUNDAY: THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

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Mass Times this week		
Monday 28 th March	10am	Octave of Easter
Tuesday 29 th March	10am	Octave of Easter
Wednesday 30 th March	10am	Octave of Easter
Thursday 31 st March	10am	Octave of Easter
Friday 1 st April	10am	Octave of Easter
Saturday 2 nd April	10am	Octave of Easter
Saturday 2 nd April	6pm Vigil	Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday 3 rd April	10am	(Divine Mercy)

Rosary and Morning Prayer each day in the church at 9.30am

WHAT IS THIS OCTAVE WE CELEBRATE?

From the Latin word, Octava, comes the ancient practice of celebrating Easter for eight wonderful days. We would like to invite you to join our parish in allowing Easter its proper observance – by continuing the celebration for eight days. We are celebrating the Resurrection! Can we properly celebrate this unfathomable mystery in just one morning?

Why celebrate for eight days? The practice actually is as ancient as the Old Testament. The Hebrew people observed many of their feasts for a period of eight days. The “Feast of Tabernacles” and the “Dedication of the Temple” are two of the more notable. Today we celebrate two feasts with Octaves: Easter (being the more prominent) and Christmas. This means that, at Mass each day we are still celebrating the Easter liturgy.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP Thursdays 7pm

COLLECTIONS

20th March £399.85 Lenten Alms: £403.20
Good Friday – Holy Places £402

AGAP LENTFEST EXHIBITION portraying in art the Year of Mercy finishes Tuesday.

A Wee Easter Thought

It's a familiar enough scene. We've all been there. There's been a sudden and tragic death. People (family? friends?) have gathered in the house. They just can't believe what has happened. There will be stunned silence.



Then people will tell stories. 'Do you remember the time that...?'

There will be laughter as well, despite the tragedy. This time of course it's Jesus' death that has caused them to gather. They didn't see it coming, and no doubt that's what the disciples who have gathered in the house will be saying. They will go over details – just days ago, he was arguing with the chief priests and elders in the Temple, and none of them could get the better of him. He was in great form at the start of Passover, but he did say a strange thing about someone betraying him, and we should have noticed he was preoccupied in Gethsemane. Then the soldiers came, and it's just been a nightmare since. This could be any family gathering. At some point, there is a chance someone will say "I can't do this", and rush out the door. Could that have been Thomas, who was missing when the Risen Christ appeared in the house on the day he rose? That's next Sunday's story however.

Eventually, people start to be practical. There are things that need to be done. There was no chance to prepare Jesus' body for burial in a proper way, so now that the Sabbath is over, that can be done. After all, life has to get back to normal. The women do what women did in

those days. They took the spices they had prepared and set off for the tomb. You can almost hear one of them shouting to the people still in the house “and you lot better get this place tidied up before we get back!” There is a need to get back to normal as soon as possible. There are things to be done. Life must go on.



But there is nothing normal in this story.

The first sign of that is when the women reach the tomb.

The stone is away from the entrance.

The tomb is empty.

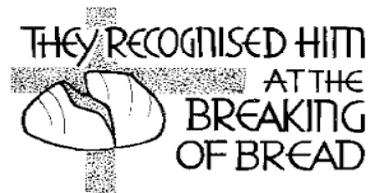
There is no Jesus.

There are two men in brilliant clothes (messengers from God).

They have a message: “why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here. He is risen. Remember what he told you while still in Galilee – the Son of Man had to be crucified and rise again on the third day.

The woman remember Jesus’ words and rush back to tell everyone, but they burst out laughing. How ridiculous is this? The people who had seen and heard the wonderful things Jesus did now seem to dismiss all of it. They want things to go back to normal.

But the resurrection means nothing can return to normal. We cannot believe Jesus has risen, and then live as if it hadn’t happened. We cannot proclaim the risen Christ if this makes no difference to our lives at all. These people in the resurrection story will catch on very soon: they will see the Risen Christ for themselves, but they will not recognise him until they hear his voice; until he breaks the bread of Eucharist with them.



Then they will know that even when they no longer see him, he is with them until the end of time. Knowing this **MUST** change their lives. Knowing this **MUST** change our lives. Here is God's ultimate act of mercy, of outreach, of total and unconditional forgiveness. In his son's death and resurrection, God raises us to the life of God himself; he forgives every sin. We know this because we have died with Christ in our baptism, and in our baptism have already risen with him. We share the Eucharist he left us; we listen to his voice when his Word is proclaimed. Nothing can ever be the same! Thank God for that – literally!



SCHOENSTATT RETREATS

'The Residential Pilgrimage 2016: God's Mercy in Our Lives (A Year of Mercy Pilgrimage) Friday 20 May Arrival 10:30am Departure Saturday 21st 11:30 £65.' Includes Lunch, Dinner and Breakfast, all teas and coffees and all materials.

Mind Body and Soul 2016 A One Day Residential Retreat. Friday May 27 Arrival 10:30 Departure Saturday 28th 11:30am £80. This retreat focuses on the holistic health of the individual, and incorporates diet, and wellness, and is superb if you are looking to improve your health, may wish to lose weight or are diabetic or with other issues and includes awareness healthy eating, juicing for health and much more. Includes Lunch, Dinner, Breakfast and a range of tastings, all teas and coffees and a mass of materials for a healthy lifestyle.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Recently Dead: Jenny (Malloch) Thomson

Anniversaries: Ruby McGeady, John McGrotty, Hugh Collie

St. Patrick's is a Parish of the Archdiocese of Glasgow,
a Designated Religious Charity, Number SC018140

