

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

THE MYSTERY OF EMPTINESS

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! This Paschal greeting is customary in Eastern Catholic and Orthodox churches on Easter Sunday. Then there is Saint Augustine's acclamation of joy: We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song! However you express it, Easter is the time for rejoicing because Jesus Christ, our friend and brother, is risen from the dead. And yet today's scriptures are less joyful than one would expect for the most important feast in the Christian calendar. Perhaps we are being asked to look deeper into the mystery of the Resurrection, just as Peter went into the tomb to look deeper into the mystery of its emptiness.

Mary Magdalene, who loved the Lord so much that she risked everything, possibly even her life, to go to the tomb before daybreak, finds the stone rolled away and assumes that someone has taken Jesus' body. Frightened and sad, she runs to tell Peter and John. They all run back to the tomb, but what do they expect to see? Peter enters the tomb and sees. John enters, sees, and believes. But what does he believe? Scripture states, "For they did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead" (John 20:9). They went home, not really knowing what had happened. But John "believed" something.

SOMETHING HAPPENED

What do we believe? Somewhere between that Easter morning and Peter's confident teaching about Jesus in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, something (the Risen Christ) happened. Peter has evolved from his bewilderment into a witness to the Resurrection.

What are we to find in the empty tomb? Maybe the Colossians reading has an answer. By entering the empty tomb of our lives to seek the Lord, we see, we believe, we die, to be raised with Christ. "For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3). And we will rise in glory with him.

Today's Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10
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EL MISTERIO DEL SEPULCRO VACÍO

¡Cristo resucitó! ¡En verdad resucitó! Este saludo paschal es tradicional en la Iglesia católica oriental y ortodoxa y el Domingo de Pascua. Luego está la aclamación jubilosa de san Agustín: ¡Somos personas pascales y el aleluya es nuestro canto! De la manera que lo exprese, la pascua es un tiempo para alegrarse porque Jesucristo, nuestro amigo y hermano, resucitó de la muerte. Y aun así las Escrituras de hoy son menos jubilosas de lo que uno esperaría para la celebración más importante en el calendario cristiano. Quizás se nos pide mirar más profundamente al misterio de la Resurrección, así como Pedro fue al sepulcro a ver más profundamente el misterio del sepulcro vacío.

María Magdalena, quien amaba mucho al Señor hasta arriesgar todo posiblemente su propia vida, para ir al sepulcro antes del amanecer, encontrando la piedra removida y asumir que alguien había robado el cuerpo de Jesús. Temerosa y triste, ella corre a decirle a Pedro y a Juan. Luego ellos corren hacia el sepulcro, ¿pero, que era lo que ellos esperaban ver? Pedro entra a la tumba y ve. Juan entra, ve y cree. Pero, ¿qué es lo que él cree? Las Escrituras lo dicen: "Y es que hasta entonces, los discípulos no habían entendido de la Escritura, según la cual Jesús tenía que resucitar de entre los muertos". Fueron a casa, sin realmente saber lo que había pasado. Pero Juan "creyó" algo.

ALGO PASÓ

¿Qué creemos nosotros? En algún lugar entre esa mañana de Pascua y la enseñanza convencida de Pedro de la lectura del libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles, algo (Cristo resucitado) pasó. Pedro maduró de su desconcierto hacia hacerse un testigo de la Resurrección.

¿Quiénes somos *nosotros* en la tumba vacía? Quizá la lectura a los colosenses tenga una respuesta. Al entrar a la tumba vacía de nuestras vidas y buscar al Señor, vemos, creemos, morimos, para resucitar con Cristo. "Han muerto, y su vida está escondida con Cristo en Dios" (Colosenses 3:3) Y resucitaremos en la gloria con él.

Lecturas de hoy: Hch 10:34a, 37-43; Sal 118 (117):1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 o 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 o Mt 28:1-10

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Danny Rae Schexnayder, Sr.	Paul Muñoz, Sr.	Antonio Mendoza
Sandra Jean Guerra	Joe Espinoza	Sophie Alonzo
Kayla Scott	Virginia & Jose Ponce	Helen Lloyd
Maria Langley	Victoria Orosco	Odilion G. Flores
Irma Urias	Henry Vidal	JoAnn Almaguer
Mary S. Martinez	Hope Esquivel	Diana Calderon
Frances Lozano	Victor Cruz	Janie Ramirez
Mary Escalera	Tomas Johnson	Liz
Maximus James Tobar	Deacon Jesus Rodriguez	Ana Garcia
Suzanne Gutierrez	Rosalinda Esparza	Gina
Terry Moreno	Daniel Rodriguez	Pedro Maldonado, Sr.
Sarah Contreras	Rosie Flores	Sandra Garza
Jose Flores	John Ruiz	Elena Gonzales
Frances Ramirez	Jessica Diaz	Roxanne Joseph
Marty Carrera Tobias	Robert Campos	Matthew Reyna
Jesse R. Diaz	Gloria Martinez	For All Afflicted with
Celina Herrera	Carlos Guardiola, III	Coronavirus
Kevin Ryan Martinez	Joe R. Martinez	
David Santoyo	Baby Sophia	

We thank God for the healing of so many sick parishioners. Please be courteous and call the Parish Office if your loved one is no longer suffering or sick. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

March 29—April 5, 2020

Weekly Donations	- \$4,820.00
(Mail / Drop-In)	
Capital Improvement	- \$ 309.00
Online Donations	- \$ 355.00
TOTAL	\$5,484.00

2020 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 3/15 - 4/5/2020	\$ 33.00
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$6,501.77

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, April 11

12:00 p.m. † George Hernandez—Wife & Family

Sunday, April 12

10:00 a.m. † Mr. Rosario Juarez—Angelica Canales
† Elvira Moreno—Ultreya
† Daniel Arzola—Familia
† Alfredo & Carmen Solis—Family
† Ryan Sanchez—Family
† Jose, Juanita & Jesus Castillo—Family
† Paul Salinas—Grace Salinas

Gift of Life Miss Frances Trevino—Nora Trevino

Monday, April 13

Tuesday, April 14

12:00 p.m. † Wilbert G. Salazar

Wednesday, April 15

12:00 p.m. † Lydia Peña

Thursday, April 16

12:00 p.m. † Gloria Prieto Padron

Friday, April 17

12:00 p.m. † Rosa Gonzales Garcia

Saturday, April 18

10:00 a.m. † Luis Duran Sr—Wife & Family
† Petra Chavez—Sisters

Gift of Life Richard Diaz—Brother

Sunday April 19

10 a.m.

Live Stream † Eddie A. Vasquez—Mother
† Mr. Guadalupe Trevino—Nora Trevino
† Ryan Sanchez—Family
† Daniel Arzola—Familia
† Paul Salinas—Grace Salinas
† Gloria Lloyd—Children

In Loving Memory

We pray for the souls of our dearly departed who have passed from our parish community:

† **Corona Virus Victims**

Sanctuary Light

**For the Health of
The World**



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I am over-whelmed and inspired by your generosity and tremendous commitment to the community of St. John Berchmans. I have seen all the signs of the resurrected Jesus in our midst. We are very hopeful people. Let us remain that way. Jesus is risen and nothing will stop us from realizing our dreams and hopes not even COVID-19 corona virus pandemic.

I challenge you for the Triduum to be hopeful and confident in the Risen Lord. He is risen Alleluia, Alleluia!

In my own parish, I have been inspired by each one of you by your resiliency and commitment to your faith and community. An Emergency Task Force has been created to assist those in need. Families in need are getting food and assistance with grocery gift card. There is a possibility in place to deliver food to those in need and unable to move or go to the groceries for food.

I have seen many of you drop off your check in the mail box at the entrance of the parish office. Some of you even in rain came to drop off your weekly donations. You have been faithful also in mailing your envelopes. Some of you have used the apps online to donate. Some of you call to donate by using your credit cards to support the parish.

We are Easter people and Alleluia is our song! Easter is the time for rejoicing because Jesus Christ, our friend and brother, is risen from the dead. We are challenged to look deeper into the mystery of the resurrection as Peter and Mary Magdalen discovered an empty tomb. The empty tomb changed their lives forever. They became disciples.

As we enter the empty tomb of our lives devastated by the COVID-19 corona pandemic, to seek the Lord, may we be raised with him to new life. For we have died with Jesus and will rise with the Lord in his glory. (Colossians 3:3).

Please see attached detailed letter.

Happy Easter!

“The people who walked in the darkness have seen a Great Light” Isaiah 9:2

May God bless you always,

**Father Fidèle Okitembo Dikete,
Pastor**

fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen (Acts 10:34a, 37-43).

Psalm — This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118).

(1) Second Reading — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (Colossians 3:1-4) *or*

(2) Second Reading — Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8).

Gospel — Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb (John 20:1-9) *or* Matthew 28:1-10

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11;
Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22;
Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a;
Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-21; Mk 16:9-15
Sunday: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24;

Events of the Week ~ April 12—19, 2020

Sunday, April 12

10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Monday, April 13

6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Tuesday, April 14

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Wednesday, April 15

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Thursday, April 16

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Friday, April 17

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Saturday, April 18

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Sunday, April 19

10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

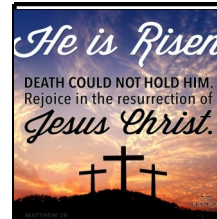


ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL

The faculty and staff would like to wish the entire community a very Happy Easter. During this time of quarantine, we are grateful for all our blessings. We would like to commend our parents and students for their hard work and efforts during this time of distance learning. We continue in our prayers with Pope Francis, and the entire St. John Berchmans community and pray for the safe return of all our students, families, faculty, and staff. May God Bless You!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Easter Sunday: Resurrection of the Lord;
Julian Calendar Palm Sunday
Monday: Monday within the Octave of Easter
Tuesday: Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
Wednesday: Wednesday within the Octave of Easter;
Thursday: Thursday within the Octave of Easter
Friday: Friday within the Octave of Easter;
Julian Calendar Good Friday



EASTER SUNDAY

Today, Easter Sunday, we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord, Jesus Christ and the Lord's work for our redemption. We give great thanks for this gift. Let us set aside this wonderful day by making it holy and bringing ourselves closer to our God.

On behalf of Fr. Fidèle and the parish office staff we wish you a happy and Holy Easter. May the risen Lord fill you with his love, compassion, joy, forgiveness and deliver us from evil.



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for approval by Father Fidèle. We ask that you submit your requests at least two (2) weeks in advance for placement in the bulletin.



NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

If you are interested in registering as a new parishioner at St. John Berchmans Church, please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

Domingo de Pascua: La Resurrección

www.stjohnberchmans.com

LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES

Domingo: Domingo de Pascua: La Resurrección del Señor;
Domingo de Ramos en el calendario juliano
Lunes: Lunes de la Octava de Pascua
Martes: Martes de la Octava de Pascua
Miércoles: Miércoles de la Octava de Pascua;
Día de los Impuestos
Jueves: Jueves de la Octava de Pascua



LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Pedro es un testigo: el Señor ha resucitado (Hch 10:34a, 37-43).

Salmo — Este es el día del triunfo del Señor. Aleluya (Salmo 118 [117]).

(1) Segunda lectura — Todos los bautizados, eleven su corazón al cielo (Colosenses 3:1-4) o

(2) Segunda lectura — Cristo, nuestra Pascua, fue sacrificado; por tanto celebremos (1 Corintios 5:6b-8).

Evangelio — Tres testigos, María, Pedro y Juan; cada uno responde a la tumba vacía (Juan 20:1-9)

Mateo 28:1-10 (o en la Misa de la tarde o de la noche, Lucas 24:13-35).

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SEMILLAS DE FE

Hay una brevedad, una cierta concisión en las lecturas del Domingo de Pascua. El discurso de Pedro en Hechos está construido con frases directas y al punto. Las cartas de Pablo se basan en declaraciones directas como credos. Hasta el relato del Evangelio sólo narra brevemente lo que resultará ser uno de los sucesos más notables de la historia humana —la Resurrección de Jesús de entre los muertos. Los agentes publicitarios llaman a estos resúmenes “puntos para destacar”. Los biblistas los llaman *kerigma* o las “semillas” de nuestra fe. En realidad, “semillas” o granos son buenos términos para estas afirmaciones, puesto que durante todo el tiempo de Pascua, oiremos en los Hechos de los Apóstoles, en las cartas de Pablo y en los relatos del Evangelio sobre los días que siguieron a la Resurrección, exactamente cómo ese *kerigma* comienza a florecer, cómo continúa creciendo en la vida de la nueva Iglesia. Que estas “semillas” pascuales de fe sirvan un propósito similar para nosotros también, para que la vida de Cristo Resucitado florezca en nosotros y mediante nuestro testimonio en los días que siguen.

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¡ALÉGRENSE!

Alégrense también nuestra madre la Iglesia
revestida de luz tan brillante; resuene este templo con las aclamaciones del pueblo.

—Exsultet (Pregón Pascual), *Vigilia de la Pascua*, Misal Romano



Domingo de Pascua: La Resurrección del Señor

Cuando se manifieste Cristo, vida de ustedes, entonces también ustedes se manifestarán gloriosos, juntamente con él.

— *Colosenses 3:4*

LA PRIMACÍA DEL DOMINGO

¿Por qué la Iglesia no celebra la memoria de los santos en domingo? Porque el domingo es el día en que resucitó el Señor; es el primer día de la semana, es el día en que los primeros cristianos, desde la tarde del sábado, comenzaron a celebrar la Eucaristía. La celebración del domingo es la inmersión en el “octavo día”, es decir, en el tiempo de Dios. Es el día que corona la semana en su más bello esplendor: la resurrección del Señor. Por tal motivo “se considera el domingo como el día festivo primordial”. La *Constitución sobre la Sagrada Liturgia* nos recuerda que el domingo es “la fiesta primordial que debe presentarse e inculcarse a los fieles” y las *Normas Generales para el Calendario y el Año Litúrgico* reafirman su importancia al estipular que, dada la importancia del domingo, sólo una solemnidad o fiesta pueden reemplazar su celebración. Cuando se habla de reemplazar su celebración, quiere decir, el uso de lecturas y oraciones propias que el *Misal Romano* contiene para la celebración de dicha fiesta.

—Miguel Arias, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.