

**From the  
Pastor's Desk**

Dear Parishioners,

A blessed and happy Easter to all of you! On this greatest of all feasts in the Church when we celebrate the joy of the Resurrection of Christ, I pray that Our Risen Lord fill you with his life and love. During the last few days of the Easter Triduum we have recalled the great events of our redemption by Christ through his Passion, Death, and now, his Resurrection, which together constitute the Pascal Mystery. Jesus, the Son of God, came to save us entirely, in both body and soul, by these paschal events now made really but in mystery present to us in the sacraments. Our souls are saved and raised up to new life through the forgiveness of our sins that we have received through Baptism, Reconciliation, and the Eucharist while we await the redemption of our bodies on the last day when all the faithful will share in the Resurrection of Christ. Our Easter joy is found in this: Christ has conquered sin and death! As we have journeyed through Lent doing our Lenten sacrifices and receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation we have come today to renew our Baptismal promises, once again pledging our allegiance and love to our Savior Jesus Christ who alone can save us. And we rejoice during this Easter time when new members are received into the Catholic Church throughout the world to know the fullness of all the spiritual blessings of salvation that Jesus desires to pour forth upon us. Here at St. Joseph we welcome in the full life of the Church Scott Ferrin, who already baptized in another Christian denomination, has made his first Reconciliation, and, then, at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening, has made his profession of faith into the Catholic Church and received the sacrament of Confirmation and, for the first time, the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. We also rejoice in welcoming into the Church Sarah Meyers who this coming Thursday evening will be baptized, confirmed, and make her first Holy Communion here in our parish. Of course, next Sunday, at a special 11:00 A.M. Mass, we will rejoice in our second graders receiving their first Holy Communion. Try to remember that we celebrate Easter for 50 days, basking in the light of the Resurrection of Christ, with these first eight days comprising the Easter Octave where liturgically every day of the Octave is considered to be one Easter Sunday (so, I guess, technically our kids could claim that they should get an Easter basket each day of the Octave!) . Finally, I want to thank all who have helped in making our liturgies for Holy Week special, especially Candy Connery and all our

musicians and choir members for the time they have put into our liturgical music and Lisa Kessler, Kathy Long, Teresa Starks, and members of our youth group for decorating the Church. Also, a thanks to our parish staff, Sherry Huntwork, Sharon VanTassell, and Rich VanTassell for all that they have done in preparation for Easter as well as all of the members of our Ladies Guild and Knights of Columbus who have given of themselves generously to the parish during Lent and in celebrating Easter.

**MASS  
INTENTIONS****APRIL 25 THRU MAY 1**

Monday	Catherine Heimes
Tuesday	Con Kwapnioski
Wednesday	Ray Heimes
Thursday	John & Betty Biernbaum
Friday	William Roth
Saturday	Virginia Meister
Sunday	People of St. Joseph

**OPERATION RICE BOWL -  
ALLELUIA!!**

Christ is risen! Like Mary Magdalene, share Jesus' life with all those around you by telling someone you know about what happened at Church this weekend. In addition, tell people about the work that Catholic Relief Services is doing on our behalf throughout the world, and invite them to become a part of this work by contributing to Operation Rice Bowl. Thank you for your participation this Lenten season!

If you did not return your Lenten Rice Bowl, please bring it next week and put it on the table at the rear of the church.