

All Saints NCC Newsletter April 2023

*Have a blessed
Easter!*

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."

--John 11:25-26

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EASTER CELEBRATION 2023

On **Sunday, April 9**, after another **winter season**, the celebration of **Easter** will bring an end to this year's **Lenten Observance** and bring us into that season of **Resurrection and Hope**. Once again, the spiritual world will celebrate the **Resurrection of Jesus** from the dead - that **promise of eternal life**.

The **spirit** and the **hand of God** will be **busy at work** restoring the **world of nature** around us. The **brown carpets of grass** are **starting to come alive**, the **spring flowers** are already **poking their heads above ground**, the **frozen ice** has **loosened its grip** from **streams and ponds**.

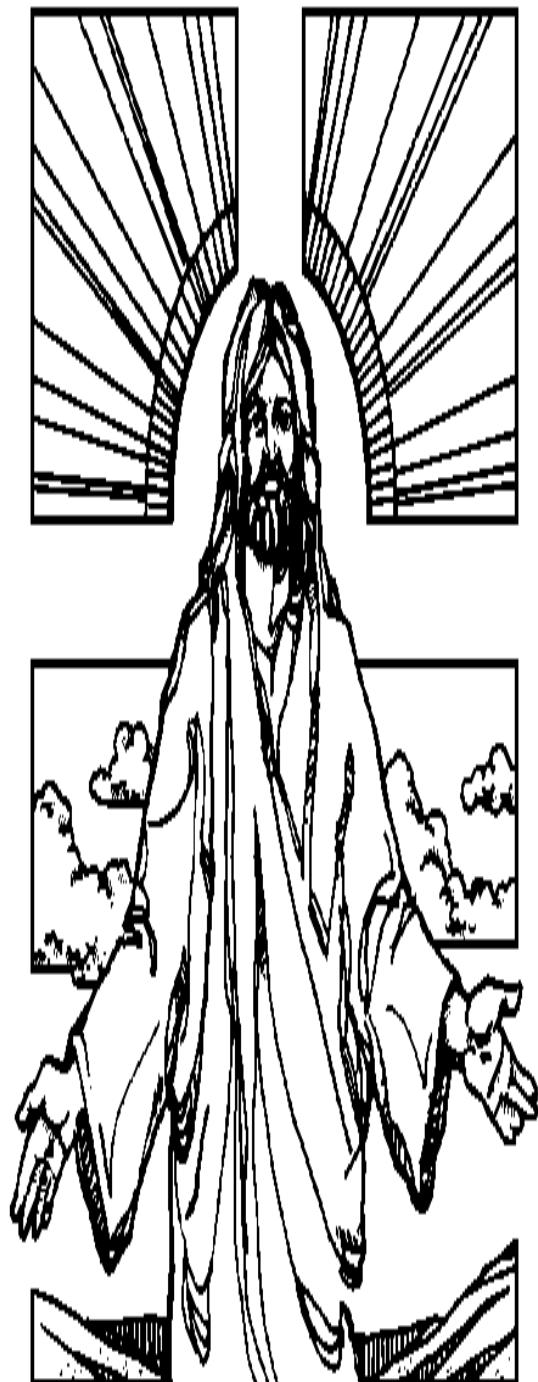
In our **personal lives**, it will **remind us** once again of the **promise of life after death** and that, as **creations** from the **hands** of our **heavenly Father**, we must **strive** to make **ourselves worthy** of this great promise.

Easter is the oldest and most sacred of Christian holy days for a good reason. From its earliest days to present, the Christian Church has never hesitated to stake her whole case on the claim that this event really happened. **"If Christ had not risen,"** the apostle Paul told the Corinthians, **"then our gospel is null and void, and so is your faith."** [1 Cor. 15: 14.

Without **Easter**, the Christian religion might long ago have withered and died, as did many faiths that preceded it. **But Easter's theme - hope, revival and survival - is indestructible.**

So, on this upcoming **Easter Sunday and Season**, abound in the joy to which you are entitled. It is the day and time of glory and victory. We, too, must be raised from our spiritual faults and negative ways that we may walk in a new life full of love and respect.

Easter not only brings us the joyful **memory** of the **victory of Christ**, but also brings a **solemn reminder** of the **truth** of our **faith**. **Let us join as a parish family on Easter Sunday, April 9 at 9:00 a.m., along with family members, relatives and friends.** **INVITE THEM ! And be a part of the celebration !**



**"Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here but has risen."**
Luke 24:5

† PARISH FAMILY MASS AND SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL †

Sunday, April 2 at 9:00 a.m.	+Florence Ottman, offered by Terri Miller
Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.	Evening Service of Holy Thursday
Friday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m.	Evening Service of Good Friday - church opened all day for mediation
Saturday, April 8 at 11:00 a.m.	Holy Saturday blessing of Water, Paschal Candle and Water
Saturday, April 8 at 12 noon	Blessing of Easter Food and Baskets
Sunday, April 9 at 9:00 a.m.	Resurrection Mass
Sunday, April 16 at 9:00 a.m.	+Marie Ludka, offered by Fr. Dennis and Betty Ruda
Sunday, April 23 at 9:00 a.m.	+Debra Cushner, offered by Kay Arcangeli
Sunday, April 30 at 9:00 a.m.	+John Priester, offered by Family

Please remember the following in your prayers, with an Easter card or call:

Wanda Raychel Broczkowski, Michael Cushner, Dave & Pam Kelley, Dolores Butora Duke, Theresa Borkowski, Bob Mnahoncak, Carolyn Kolba, Beverly Ottman, Erica Blakeslee, Fred Daszewski.

I acknowledge the following who have given of themselves to our parish in material offerings, time and labor:

- ☺ to Jay and Karen Miller Konar for their \$100.00 church donation
- ☺ to Grace Fell for her \$50.00 church donation
- ☺ to Peter Dyman III for his help servicing as church sacristan
- ☺ to Bob Blakeslee, Stephen Pokrinchak, Wai Ling Lee, Kelley Cooper, Jason Yeomans for donating their time, labor and knowledge handling the parish technical projects and services.
- ☺ to George Kolba Jr. for donating his time and labor helping around the parish complex.
- ☺ to Joe Fiacco for donating his time and labor helping around the parish Complex.
- ☺ to Warehouse Carpet for sponsoring our Lenten and Easter parish message on the Bill Flynn radio program on WNBF 1290 AM radio.
- ☺ to Andy Stasko Jr. for donating his time, labor and materials helping around the parish complex.



Congratulations to first time grandparents Thomas Jr. and Cindy Novobilski on the birth of granddaughter Reese Henry to daughter Jennifer and husband Zan in Midland, NC on October 2, 2022.

God's blessings and best wishes are extended to all - everyone is doing well!





2023 Parish Council

Left to Right: Peter Dymah III, Director, David Plahanski, Director, Betty Ruda, Envelope Secretary, Terri Miller, Treasurer, Fr Dennis Ruda, Kevin Cushner, Director, Joe Fiacco, Director, Tracy Cooper, Recording Secretary, Judy Dyman, Cemetery/Parish Center Secretary. Absent: Chairman Dan Derkowsky, Michael Cushner, Honorary Director

February 12, 2023



Our Men's Society would like to treat the parish family to a free Palm Sunday breakfast following mass on Sunday, April 2.

There is a reservation sheet for those who will be attending the breakfast on that Sunday.

All that is asked is that you appreciate it and help with the clean up at the end and setting up of tables for the rummage Sale.





Easter Lilies & Mums

As we did for the Christmas season, those of you who would like to order an **Easter Lily or Mum Plant** as a **donation** or in the **memory of a departed one** will be able to do so. A **sign up sheet** is **posted** in the church.

Cost of the plants will be the same as last year - \$12.00 for a lily and \$11.00 for a colored mum. For lilies or colored mum donated in memory of loved ones, a mass will be celebrated at a later date in their memory.

The first takeout Chicken Barbecue for 2023 will be served on **Saturday, April 22** beginning at 11 a.m. until gone. If there is a surplus, they will be sold on Sunday, April 23, after mass.

The members of the Men's Society will have a work party preparing the chickens for the barbecue on Thursday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m.

Price for a half of barbecued chicken will be \$8.00.

Let us remember all events that our Men's Society sponsors for the parish family and support this event.



Cemetery Care

With the **Spring season** here, winter clean up at the parish cemetery has begun. Please remove all Christmas wreaths and decorations from the graves as soon as possible.

Top soil is available at the cemetery for your planting and grave maintenance needs.

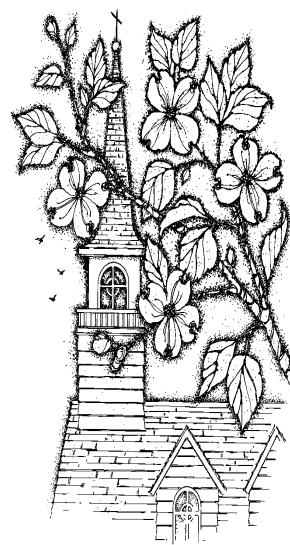
There are several grave stones and meditation benches that need attention. It is the policy of the Cemetery by-laws that, as long as there are surviving family members, it is their responsibility of maintaining their grave stone or meditation bench. If there are no surviving family members, the cemetery board will see that the work is taken care of.

THE CROSS AND DOGWOOD BLOSSOMS

Legend has it that the material of the cross of crucifixion was dogwood, which at that time was as mighty a tree as the oak. But Jesus, in His own agony, sensed the distress of the dogwood timbers over the cruel duty they were compelled to perform. In His great compassion for all persons and things concerned with His crucifixion, He included the dogwood, saying:

"Because of your sorrow and pity for my suffering, you shall henceforth grow slender, bent and twisted so that your wood can never again be used as a cross. You shall bear blossoms that will appear as a crown of thorns, while the petals will carry at their outer edges nail prints, brown as rust and also stained with red, so that all who see them will remember."

In late April or early May, check out the dogwood blossoms on the two trees in front our rectory - FDR.





Easter is the most holy of holidays in Christianity. In the Christian doctrine it is the time when Jesus Christ was crucified, died and rose from the dead. But celebrating Easter has become more than a religious tradition. It has turned into a **celebration** of the **spring** - the **happy, carefree feeling** that **spring brings** along and **family integrity**.

The “**blessing basket**” is one of the essential Easter traditions. People prepare the “**blessing basket**” Saturday morning before Easter. They put into a **basket colored eggs, bread, cake, butter, salt, pepper, a sample of Easter meats** and other items of choice and go to church to have the **basket and food blessed**.

It is believed that the “**Great Lent**” - forty days of **fasting before Easter – is over only after the blessing of the basket**.

Everything in the basket has a **symbolic meaning**. The colored eggs symbolize the **risen Christ**, the **bread reminds us of Jesus multiplying the loaves of bread**, **salt- good health and successful life**. **Meat expresses a wish for enough food** during the coming Spring.

Easter baskets and food will be blessed in church on Holy Saturday, April 8 at 12 noon.

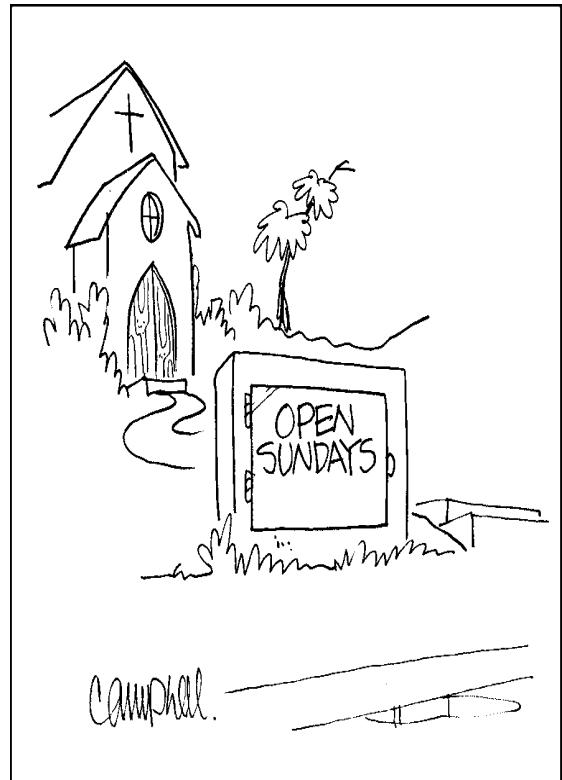
WHY GO TO CHURCH?

A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made **no sense** to go to church every **Sunday**. He wrote: “I’ve gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the **life of me**, I can’t remember a single one of them. So, I think I’m **wasting my time**, the **preachers and priests** are **wasting their time** by giving sermons at all”.

This started a **real controversy** in the “Letters to the Editor” column. Much to the **delight** of the **editor**, it went on for weeks until **someone wrote this clincher**:

I’ve been **married** for 30 years now. In that time my **wife** has **cooked** some 32,000 meals. But, for the **life of me**, I cannot **recall** the **entire menu** for a **single one of those meals**. **But I do know this:** They all **nourished me** and **gave me the strength** I needed to do my **work**. If my **wife** had not given me these meals, I would be **physically dead today**.

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!



**CHANGE
THE DATE**

The April business meeting of the parish council has been postponed until Sunday, May 7, following the 9:00 a.m. mass.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

The Spring Rummage Sale sponsored by our parish council will be held on Saturday, April 22 , from 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m. and Monday, April 24, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., followed by clean up and putting away tables.

Our Rummage Sale and the Salvation Army will not accept the following items: underwear (men/women), wigs, used hygiene products, encyclopedias, broken furniture/broken household items.

You may begin to bring your clean clothing and workable items to the parish center beginning Monday April 3, and every day thereafter from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Final set up for the sale will be on Thursday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Please when you bring items place them on a table, if possible, thereby eliminating bending down to pick them up. Also, tables will be labeled of where things should go.

P.S. Volunteers will be needed after breakfast on April 2 to set up tables for the sale.

MUSIC MINISTRY

"O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!" - Psalms 98:1

The adult choir has been rehearsing music for Masses all the way through the end of the summer. With the addition of a few new voices, the choir is sounding even greater! You may listen to most of our Sunday anthems at www.jwpepper.com.

As always, our choir is in need of more singers! Contact Betty for information.



CHOIR DIRECTOR

Hymn History - "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today" - Charles Wesley, the co-founder of the Methodist movement, wrote "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today" in 1739, where it was initially titled "Hymn for Easter Day". He based it on an older anonymous Bohemian hymn titled "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today". The new hymn was first performed at the first service at The Foundery Meeting House in England after Wesley had adapted it into the first Methodist chapel. Following this, Wesley published it in the *Hymns and Sacred Poems* hymnal of 1739, initially with eleven verses, which were later reduced to six, and early in the 19th century "Alleluia" was added to the end of each line. The hymn led to a more popular awareness of Alleluia being used for Easter to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. We will be singing this hymn on Easter Sunday, April 9.

Finally a **thank you** to Barry Biskup for his **\$25.00 donation** for music in memory of **his cousin +Debra Cushner**.

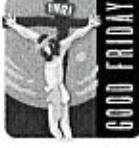


EASTER

April 2023

EVENTS AT ALL SAINTS



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2 9:00 AM Palm Sunday Mass Free Palm Sunday Breakfast after mass 	3 Start to bring items for rummage sale - 9am to 6pm daily 	4	5 10:00 AM Flowering Altar of Repose 	6 7:00 PM Evening Service 	7 7:00 PM Evening Service 	8 10:00 AM Final church preparations for Easter. 11:00 AM Blessing of Water, Incense and Candles 12:00 PM Blessing of Easter Baskets and Food in church																																																																																																	
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