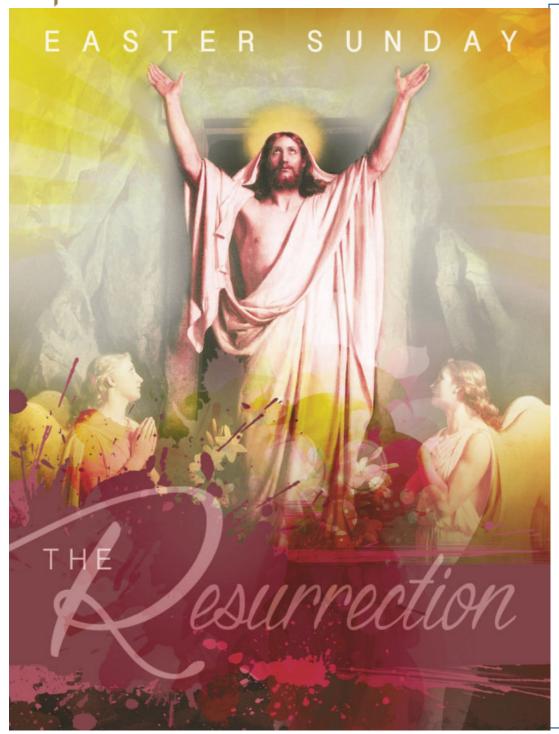


Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord April 9, 2023

ST. MICHAEL'S



Mission Statement Compelled by the love of Christ

deepen our faith, we love others,

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FR. MARK'S NOTES

Happy Easter!!

Wow! We just completed our celebration of the Paschal Mystery for 2023. I am so grateful to all those in front of the camera and those behind the scenes who made it all possible, and there were many! So, thanks to everyone who helped make Holy Week 2023 possible and as beautiful as it could ever be.

I've been celebrating the Sacred Triduum for a long time, but I never tire of it. I am always challenged by it, but I never tire of it. There is absolutely nothing in my life that is more important than these Three days -- nothing!! They are all special to me.

As we discussed throughout, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil are really one Liturgy, one event spread over three days. Each part is essential. On Holy Thursday, Jesus gave himself to us by flipping the social order and, as Master and Lord, washing our feet, and by giving himself in the Eucharist – take and eat, take and drink, this is My Body and Blood!! And we actually shared the Cup for the first time in 3 years! Wow! Then, on Good Friday, he continues to give of Himself through his passion and death on the Cross. Just imagine, Jesus gives Himself for us while we are literally responsible for hanging Him on a tree. It's the greatest act of love in all of Human History given to God and for us – again, as they hammered the nails in His hands and feet.

Because of this great love, through the Spirit, the Father raised Jesus from the dead. As a man, he has broken through; he has made a bridge between God and us that Adam and Eve closed long ago.

And let me add this: at Easter, Jesus is raised from the dead -- in His Body. Someone said to me once, and it struck me, that if it didn't rise (whatever "it" might be), it's not redeemed. So, Jesus being raised in his body is essential. Meaning all of us are now redeemed -- all of us – including our wounded and sometimes sick body.

So, how do we enter this great event? How do we share in the Resurrection of Jesus? On Easter, Jesus was raised; what about us? We enter into this great event through our Baptism. Yes, that was great. The renewal of our Baptism promises. That's why on Easter, we renew our Baptismal promises. Our baptism is huge!! And not just to be baptized, but to live out of our baptism! Stir up our baptism. Through our baptism, we too enter the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Yes, all of it. We must suffer and die to our selfish self, our false self, so we can rise in Christ into our selfless self, our true self, our Christ self. We become more and more like Christ, and now we begin in whole new ways to wash one another's feet. That's Easter, us, you, and me, becoming more and more like Jesus.

I don't know what will happen in the future, but here we are, and I am totally committed to growing as a community of faith. Given our mission statement, we will continue to be a community of faith, loving others, deepening our faith, and seeking to transform our world. We will continue to serve one another, we will continue to wash one another's feet, and we will be Christ's Church in 2023. And, I promise you that we, your staff here at OMOS and St. Michael's, will do everything in our power to make this new world we will be living in a beautiful one filled with the love of Christ, welcoming all, igniting all to being intentional disciples of Jesus.

Now we have 50 days to make sense of everything I just shared with you here. The final great mystery is Pentecost, when Jesus sends His Spirit upon us, and we begin to live our baptism as disciples of Jesus -- more about that later.

Congratulations!!!

Congratulations to McKenzie Sinclair, Valerie Mayhew, Michele Deter, and Luke Pringle. We are so happy to have all of you deepen your relationship with Jesus. We are delighted to have you here at OMOS!!!!!

FAITH FORMATION

Our Faith Formation Ministries are led by a tremendous group of ministry leaders and are filled with numerous amazing volunteers who make this ministry possible. If you are not currently participating in one of these ministries, you are missing out on something special. If you want to get involved in one of these ministries, please contact the Parish Office, and we will connect you with the Ministry Leader. Jesus is counting on us like we are counting on Him.

Small Groups continue to meet both in person and virtually. We have over twenty –five groups that meet each week. During Lent, many groups focused their studies on the true presence in the Eucharist. Some chose to study more traditional messages of Lent and the Passion. The great part of OMOS small groups is that they are open to everyone, and our small groups study various topics. They offer a safe, judgmental environment for people to journey to Christ together.

Alpha is being shared at five Catholic Churches in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Diocese. OMOS works directly with St. Benedicts and a local Lutheran Church in Johnstown. Michele Varner, Sean O'Dowd, and many OMOS volunteers are working hard to connect with other diocesan priests and Protestant pastors to get Alpha running in their respective parishes. If you have not taken the Alpha Course yet, what are you waiting for? If you have taken the Alpha Course and would like to volunteer to help, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

On-Line Alpha is doing well. A half dozen or so participants each week seem to be enjoying the program immensely. More importantly, they are becoming a bonded caring group. The talkative participants have interesting and authentic conversations during the small group portion of the Course each week. Each week is better than the last, and watching their faith grow and their relationships blossom is a joy to watch. Watching these folks on their continual journey to a real personal relationship with Christ is very rewarding.

Liturgy of the Word is where the Church feeds the people of God from the table of His Word. Tune in to see daily installments at: www.omostoday.com/online/, then click on the Liturgy of the Word. If you are interested in becoming a reader, please contact the Parish Office, and we will get you in touch with the Ministry Leads.

Follow Your Faith moved from Facebook to YouTube a few weeks ago. It continues in the same format at the same time, Sunday at 7 pm, at www.youtube.com@OMOSChurch/streams.

RCIA has been walking the faith journey with four individuals seeking full communion in the Catholic Church. McKenzie and Valarie were baptized and received their First Communion at the Easter Vigil. Luke, Michele, and Valarie were confirmed at the Easter Vigil. They will continue to meet as we continue to guide them on their faith journey.

Sacramental Prep continues all year. Fr. Mark works with our families to prepare for the sacrament of Baptism. Eighteen candidates will receive their First Communion on May 6 this year, and sixteen candidates will be confirmed on May 11. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

Adult Faith Formation will offer a handful of learning opportunities, some familiar and some new, this summer. So everyone interested in continuing to learn more about Jesus, our faith, and becoming true disciples of Christ, this is for you.

I'm pleased to announce the following courses for this summer semester (spanning ten weeks - start and finish dates to be determined, stay tuned for more information):

Women's Group – with Shelley Lowes and Chris Cosgrove

Answer the Faith - with Norman Ed and Sean O'Dowd

Dad's Group – with Brian Koch and Matt DiFrancesco

Mom's Group – with Father Mark Begly

Eucharist in the Bible & Presence (The Mystery of the Eucharist) – with Nelson Lowes

The Saints and Heroes Collection (Animated series for kids and parents) - with Rick Messina

Marty's last class this spring is April 2nd; we will offer a three-week filler course hosted by Nelson Lowes and/or Rick Messina on April 16th, 23rd, and 30th to fill out the remaining three weeks. We will preview the summer offering called Presence (The Mystery of the Eucharist).

We hope these updates encourage you to dig deeper into your personal relationship with Jesus Christ and become His disciples for our good and the good of His Holy Church.

Men of God:

are you irish carholic?



As we celebrate each March, Irish American Heritage Month, do you feel called to embrace more fully your Irish Culture and Catholic Faith?

Then the A.O.H. is Looking for You!

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is the Oldest, Largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in America.

> Now is your chance, to become a member of a local AOH Division.

If you are interested, please contact one of our division presidents:

Our Johnstown Division: John Skelley (814) 525-2505 / JSkelley@atlanticbb.net

Our Altoona Division: Tom Hallinan (814) 934-7940 / xcrunr1@yahoo.com

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

Thank you to everyone who helped clean, decorate or donated flowers to make St. Michael's look beautiful for Easter. A big thank you to Fr. Tim, our pianist, cantor, choir, altar servers, Hospitality, Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, and everyone who made the celebration so special.

CARE MINISTRIES

Over the last five weeks, we have shared the beautiful ministries that fall under our Care Ministry. These ministries are here to serve others in so many ways, and we have tried to let you see the many opportunities you have to become involved. These ministries are:

- ♦ Assistance Ministry
- ♦ Serve Others Saturday
- SeniorCare/Homebound ◆
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Stuff the Truck
- Special Events
- Prayer Shawl
- Joseph's Hands

Bereavement

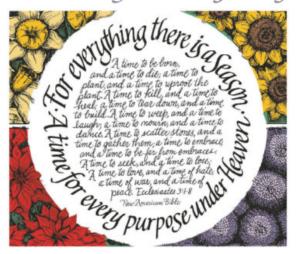
Meal Train

If you would like to become

involved in any of these ministries, you can email omostoday.com@gmail.com

Or call the Parish Office at 814 535-7646.

A Season for Everything



OMOS Women's Retreat Saturday, April 15, 2023 8:30 AM -4:30 PM Bishop Carroll Catholic High School Ebensburg, PA

The focus of this retreat is to understand the seasons of life and the many ways we can relate, support and love each other through our seasons.

Register at omostoday.com

SERVE OTHERS SATURDAY Saturday, April 15 @ 9 am

We will make blankets in Holy Grounds to help warm the children of Johnstown. Unfortunately, our inventory of blankets is getting low. Blanket kit donations or monetary donations can be dropped off in the Parish Office.

We will also be hitting the highway to clean-up our portion of Menoher Blvd. Safety vests, gloves, and garbage bags will be provided for this clean-up project. All are welcome.

CURSILLO WEEKEND

Another Step in Your Journey of Faith

Join us for the Women's (April 20 - 23) and Men's (April 27 – 30)

Cursillo weekend at St. Ann's in Ebensburg. The cost is \$200, which covers lodging and meals. Scholarships are available. Contact Sean O'Dowd (sodowd8@yahoo.com; 814 539-1489) for additional information.

Help With Alpha Meals Needed!

Help is needed for the upcoming Alpha meals. Please check out the Perfect Potluck website Name Alpha, password OMOS and sign up if you can help. Your help is greatly appreciated.

WEEKLY & MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Monday, April 10

6 a.m. -Eucharistic Adoration 8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS Server: Meara Gleason

Tuesday, April 11

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration

7:30 am—Confession 8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS

Server: Arianna & Annaliese Manalang

Wednesday, April 12

7 a.m.—Praise & Worship

4:30 p.m.- Eucharistic Adoration

5:15 p.m.—Confessions 6 p.m.-Mass at OMOS **Server:** Tim Burgess

Thursday, April 13

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration 9 a.m. – Mass with Divine Mercy Servers: Divine Mercy Students

Friday, April 14

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m..-Mass OMOS Server: Wynn Curtis

6 p.m.—Stations of the Cross –St.

Michael's

Saturday, April 15

3 p.m.—Confession

4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS

Servers: Haley Kesslak & Kylee Mateljan

Lector: Michelle Petrell

Euch. Min. Mary Kay Clark (2), Jerry Clark, Kathy Ridella, Michelle Rivetti, Tom

& Nancy Simmons, Diana Tyger

Hosp. Val Deater, Rich & Deb Cowan, Gerri Isban, Jane & David Solomon, Alexis

Angelo, Allie Zoldos

Saturday, April 15

6 p.m.-Mass at St. Michael's Servers: Tim Burgess **Lector:** Mitzie Simmons

Sunday, April 16

8:30 a.m.-Mass at OMOS

Servers: Rachael Cameron & Damian

Carbaugh

Lector: Doug Puchko

Euch. Min: Matt DiFrancesco (2), Linda Geiser, John Fontana, Carol Battaglia, Estelle & David Milligan, Rick Messina Hosp: Marjorie Lechene, Marge Pipan,

Michelle Kush, Jim & Joan Frischauf, Keith Santee, Julie & Ed Sheehan Prayer Ministry: Allison Messina, Patty

Sulosky, Bill Sulosky

Sunday, April 16

11:00 a.m.-Mass at OMOS

Servers: Joe Gritzer & Aubrey Marron

Lector: Jim Clark

Euch. Min. Mike Thomas (2), Tim DiGuiseppe, Barbara & Richard Luckner, Amy Bradley, Mike Garver, Nelson

Lowes

Hosp: Joyce Radovanic, Bill Ingram, Michele Varner, Gail Stotler, Linda & Ken Salem, Don & Patty Falcone

Saturday, April 15-Vigil

Anthony Perry (wife, 4:00 p.m. Carmela Perry)

6:00 p.m. Patricia Balog (Dick & Nancy Popchak) & Barbara Petruska (Mary Lou Dobrick)

Sunday, April 16—Second Sunday of **Easter**

8:30 a.m. Edward J. Sr. & Marie Burkhard (Edward, Jr. & Florine

Burkhard)

Clara Vranich (Tim & 11:00 a.m. Jackie Ayres)

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18 Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35 Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48 Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15 Next Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 8—Easter Vigil

8:00 p.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of Our Mother of Sorrows & St. Michael's Parishioners

Sunday, April 9—Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Chuck Owens (Ed & Julie

Sheehan)

9:00 a.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of St. Michael's Parishioners Vince Saccone (Mary 11:00 a.m.

Battaline)

Monday, April 10

Gerianne Litwalk 8:00 a.m. (Theresa & Jane Pfaller)

Tuesday, April 11

Stephen & Eleanor Rist 8:00 a.m. (Family)

Wednesday, April 12

Rose Mirable (Louis & 6:00 p.m. Catherine Vigna)

Thursday, April 13

9 a.m. Vince Saccone (Mary

Battaline) Friday, April 14

8:00 a.m. Paulette Balog (Bruce &

Patty Shannon)

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