Holy Family Parish National Catholic Church 1921 Eden Park Boulevard McKeesport. Pa. 15132

412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009

www.hfpncc.org

Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church



# EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF THE LORD April 9, 2023

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements (six months in advance), please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678. 0566.Office **Hours**: Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at <a href="mailto:bleczkowski@aol.com">bleczkowski@aol.com</a>

#### Parish Staff:

Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski, Pastor 412.276.5562
Ted Gibala, Committee Chairman 412.678.7347
Carol Davelli Chopin Choir Director 412.678.2368
Wendy Blotzer, Organist, Bell Choir 412.926.6029
David Kost, Lector Coordinator 412.519.7771
Tom Popovic, Cemetery Coordinator 724.243.3033
Parish Custodian 412.678.7347



## This Week

Sunday, April 9, 2023

Mass of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday

9:00 A.M.

Mission Collection

**Sunday, April 16, 2023** 

Easter 2

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

+ **Edmund Adamek** (5<sup>th</sup> Ann) Int. Adamek Family; +Lydia Koczwanski Int. Koczwanski & Sleczkowski families.

Always check our website www.hfpncc.org or Holy Family National Catholic Church Facebook page for added information or changes.

### **Parish Vote**

Don't forget to place your ballot on the Mass schedule. Only one vote per parish member.

## **My Easter Thoughts**

When our parish ladies decided that they should make some new banners for the Church, they asked me what I would like written on the Easter altar frontals. I prayed about what would drive the message of the Resurrection not only about Jesus, but also drive the message to us. What came to me is what was written in the Book of Revelations, 1: 18; "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. I told the ladies to put on the altar frontal "I am Alive". I wanted all who saw the altar frontal to realize that Jesus is alive, alive then, now, and forever. Easter is not just something in the past, but it is to be experienced every day. The central foundation of our Christian, Catholic faith is the day that Christ rose from the dead... Easter, the day that we celebrate the LIVING Jesus—then shouldn't it be a day that we confirm Jesus living in US? On this

Holy Day, I think it is important to ask ourselves, "Are we keeping Jesus alive in our lives?"

"My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. So, I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I am not one of those who treats Christ's death as meaningless..." Galatians 2:20-21

I reviewed the following definitions of "Alive"...

- alert and animated,
- having interest and meaning,
- to be aware of and interested in,
- prevalent and very active,
- continuing to be supported or in use.

...and I wondered if we could use them to describe our relationship with Christ. Is our connection, "alert, animated, prevalent, meaningful, active, in use?" Or is what we experience with Jesus different—even something less than that? Then why?

What does Jesus' Life, Death, and Resurrection really mean? If we experience the Risen Jesus, can we go on with our lives as if things are the same as before? Were our old selves truly "crucified with Jesus Christ"? And why has the phrase, "born again" become symbolic with only fundamentalism? Aren't all Catholic Christians "born again"? Could we describe ourselves in this way, or perhaps more significantly—why *don't* we?

Take today's celebration to be a rebirth in your Christian Catholic Faith. Become more active in His Church here at Holy Family Parish. In my preparation towards retirement, I must emphasize that Jesus is not dead, neither is our Holy Family parish, unless you let it because of your apathy. What is needed is true commitment and with that commitment, we will become a vibrant parish family, spreading the message until the day comes when we are all judged, both the living and the dead. What we must recognize is that the Body of Christ, which we are, needs all the parts of the body to work together not just some. Renew your faith and commitment this Easter. God bless you and always remember: Christ has Risen, Christ has Risen Indeed. And this was done for you and for me.

"Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord."

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