



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Newsletter
April 24, 2022

My Dear Parishioners,

I pray that this past Sunday was a good day for all of you. I myself had a very good day, starting with our beautiful Easter Sunday Liturgies and then continuing with dinner with my family later in the afternoon. After dinner, we had some time to reminisce while playing some pinochle. Playing cards after dinner was a family tradition from years ago, and it was great to revive the tradition this year.

Of course, at the heart of our parish's Easter Celebrations were our Easter Liturgies. The Easter Vigil was truly beautiful as we welcomed the true light of the world into our hearts. We did this as we lit the Easter fire and, from the Easter fire, lit our new Paschal Candle for the first time. The beautiful liturgies continued throughout Easter Sunday with our uplifting music. We thank our cantors, musicians, children's choir, and adult choir for aiding us as we gave thanks and praise for the most important discovery in the history of the world, the discovery of the empty tomb.

I truly thank everyone else who helped to contribute to our Easter celebrations, including those who helped to provide our inspiring music, who helped to decorate the church, who helped to clean and maintain the church, who lectured, who ushered, who served Mass, and who helped to distribute Holy Communion. You have done so much to make the lives of so many better, and I thank you for that.

I would also like to thank everyone who came. It was so edifying to see the church full again, just like in the days before COVID. This is important because Our Blessed Savior came to form a *community* of believers, and as such we are called to pray and worship together as a community, as a Church. So, it was so good to see everyone together to give praise and thanksgiving to God Our Father through Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and I pray that we will continue to be together and to support each other on our Catholic Christian journey through this world to the world to come.

I would also like to thank our CYO Board and all of those who helped with our Easter egg hunt. It was so nice to see so many young families gathered for a really fun morning. I also hope that this will lead our young families to "step up" and get active in CYO. If you wish to get involved with CYO, please contact the office and the office will get you in touch with a CYO board member.

Our joyous Easter celebrations will continue this weekend, as our children receive their First Holy Communions this weekend. Whenever we celebrate first sacraments, it brings back fond memories of my own first sacraments, and I hope this weekend's celebrations will make beautiful memories for our children. Please join me in praying for them and their families, that they always remain faithful to their "Sunday obligation" to attend Holy Mass and to worthily share in the Blessed Sacrament.

We know beyond a doubt that Jesus is Really and Truly Present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, in Holy Communion. We know this because at the Last Supper He took the bread and said: *this is My Body*, and He took the chalice and said: *this is My Blood*. Thus, we know beyond a doubt that He is Really and Truly Present in the Blessed Sacrament because He told us so in His own words.

We rejoice then whenever we approach the altar, for we are approaching the very same Jesus Christ who walked on this earth some 2000 years ago. As we remember His Passion, Death, and Resurrection, moreover, we remember that beautiful promise that He makes to those who remain faithful to sharing in the Holy Eucharist: *he who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has My Life in Him, and I will raise him on the last day (John 6)*. May our children really and truly receive Jesus in their hearts this weekend and faithfully throughout the rest of their lives.

Our joyous Easter celebrations will also continue as we observe Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday was established by St. John Paul II to spread the message of Divine Mercy. The message of Divine Mercy is not a new one, but Our Blessed Savior asked for a renewed devotion to His Divine Mercy through St. Faustina. The message of Divine Mercy is a message of hope, for as the Marian Fathers teach: *The message of God's Love and Mercy is especially made known by the Gospels. The good news revealed through Jesus Christ is that God's love for each person knows no bounds, and no sin or infidelity, no matter how horrible, will separate us from God and His love when we turn to Him in confidence, and seek his mercy. God's will is our salvation. He has done all on our behalf, but since He made us free, He invites us to choose Him and partake of His divine life. We become partakers of His divine life when we believe in His revealed truth and trust Him, when we love Him and remain true to His word, when we honor Him and seek His Kingdom, when we receive Him in Communion and turn away from sin; when we are mutually caring and forgiving.* As the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa is within our parish boundaries (and technically makes me pastor of the Shrine), I encourage all who can to participate in the Divine Mercy devotions at the Shrine this weekend.

May the graces of this weekend and this past weekend continue to give true joy to all, as together we pray the concluding prayer of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy: *Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.*

Fr. Michael J. Pawelko, Pastor





Easter Sequence

The Easter Sequence is a 1000-year-old hymn that our cantors and choir sang so beautifully at our Easter Masses. The sequence was sung after the Second Reading and before the Gospel Acclamation. Here is the inspiring and uplifting text of the hymn:

Christians, to the Paschal Victim
offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say
what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as He rose!

The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen:
He goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen
from the dead we know.
Victorious King, Thy mercy show!
Amen. Alleluia.



May God bless our children
as they receive their

First Holy Communion

May you draw ever closer
to Jesus, the Bread of Life.

May you always
live as a child of God.

Respect Life Baby Drive

appreciated. All of the donations will be donated to the new expecting Mothers at Crossroads Pregnancy Center in Quakertown.

Following Donations Needed:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Pacifiers (0-6 months) | Pacifiers (6+ months) | Pacifiers (16+ months) |
| All Size Diapers | 2T-3T Pull Ups | 3T-4T Pull Ups |
| 4T-5T Pull Ups | Baby Wipes | Johnson's Head to Toe Wash |
| Aveeno Baby Lotion | Fresh Food Feeder | Baby Forks & Spoons |
| Baby Bottles | Sippy Cups | Toddler Plates |
| Puffs Snacks | Amazon Gift Cards | Target Gift Cards |
| Walmart Gift Cards | Enfamil Baby Formula (Neuropro Gentle Ease or Sensitive) | |

Monetary donations for the purchase of gift cards can be made via the Parish Scrip Program - 1) Lorri Resuta at (215) 534-3092 or Email olshscrip@gmail.com or 2) SCRIP Table in the Church Narthex.

The Drive will be running from
April 23, 2022 ~ May 1, 2022

Bins for donations will be in the Church Narthex.

Any Questions
Renzi Dager ~ Renzi.dager@outlook.com



RamPacks



SN AKER DRIVE

**Donate Your Gently Worn, Used or New Sneakers
for RamPacks that helps Pennridge Community**

COLLECTION DATES:

APRIL 23 - MAY 15

DROP-OFF BINS LOCATION:

**Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church Narthex
100 Broad Street ● Hilltown ● PA 18927**

**START
TIME
11:00 AM**



**Ages
13+**

5/21

**1ST
PLACE
\$150.00**

**2ND
PLACE
\$100.00**

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

**3RD
PLACE
\$50.00**

**FOOD & BEVERAGES
AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE**

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART

100 Broad Street • Hilltown • PA 18927

Registration Fee: \$50.00 per team (2-person team)

One person to register for the team(s)

Info: Chris Rosica ~ (215) 913-6648

OR

Online Registration:

<https://forms.parishgiving.org/form-6137742/>