



March 2021

St. Stan's News



Of all our holidays, Easter is the greatest celebration in the Christian calendar, certainly significantly more consequential and foundational than Christmas ever could be. Happily, this year Easter will be a less muted affair than it necessarily was last year.

For me this year, Easter feels a long time in coming. It seems to me Lent has lasted twelve months already, all the way from Lent last year. Over that period of time, we have become increasingly anxious and concerned. Fear has stalked so many of us, and too many of us have been made to endure our own excruciating Good Fridays with the death of loved ones, relatives and friends. Others who were spared that burning sorrow have known the death of happiness, health and perhaps even the death of hope.

The Gospels record how during Jesus' final earthly weeks anxiety and concern grew amongst his followers who were on edge. The outlook wasn't good back then.

We pray that soon we may be able to take up ever more fully those things that bring us happiness, be in good health, and see hope being restored.

Restoring happiness, well-being and hope are what the words at the heart of Easter did for the first disciples, and what they continue to do for us. At the heart of Easter are the astonishing words, "He is Risen!"

These words changed the course of history.

Because of those words, the disciples were filled with happiness even in their bewilderment. Those whose lives had been turned upside down, and dreams shattered, found life was healthier when lived in the light of the Resurrection. Hope

filled the air, beginning with that small group of men and women who had lived alongside Jesus, then spreading out to all the world.

Yet, for all its joy and exultation, Easter never hides from hard daily realities. Instead, it points to God in Jesus bringing life out of death, and transforming darkness into light, and turning fear into tomorrow's joy, and promising hope out of hopelessness.

I think we've seen some of that Easter light already breaking out around us amidst the gloom. Just think of the incredible blessing of the remarkably rapid approach to the production of millions of doses of vaccines available for us and our fellow citizens with more and more available for more of us every day.

The emergency services continue to play their essential part in supporting and helping us; and who hasn't benefited from those unsung heroes who keep supermarket shelves restocked, maintain food supplies, and get up early to ensure deliveries reach us.

Then there are the millions of small acts of kindness that we have witnessed. Community organizing the like of which we've never seen before. Neighbors talking to each other rather than about each other. People caring for strangers and the most vulnerable.

These were the early signs of Easter beginning to dawn; light breaking through into a bleak reality.

When we allow the Easter light to shine through the cracks in our lives, and the Easter song to be sung in our communities, we begin to experience God's healing, restoration, and re-enlivening.

Many centuries ago, St Augustine of Hippo proclaimed: "We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!" That's a song worth discovering and singing, especially in these days brightening from darkness to light. So, it's time now to return to church for uplift and fellowship, albeit distanced. Come to church this Holy Week and

then on the holiest of days to worship and rejoice! It's safe within our Cathedral because of all our virus mitigating processes, and because our liturgies have been changed and adjusted to achieve those same mitigation goals.

My prayer, then, is that the hope of Easter will begin to lessen fears that you may have, precisely because the new life we have in the victorious and resurrected Christ is being reflected in our new life dawning around us. The protective vaccines are available to us, and we see reduced rates of viral infection. There is a budding yet steady movement towards the normalcy we've been denied for a year with different states reopening and certain restrictions being lifted in certain places.

The meaning of Easter presents us with hope and hope always wins because Christ gives Easter its meaning.

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! May God bless you all.

Bishop Bernard

Abbreviated Newsletter for March

The March Newsletter is unfortunately a shorter version. Because of a medical issue, I was not able to get the newsletter out at the beginning of the month. Therefore, in April, there will be more pictures and articles about the happenings in the Cathedral.

Thanks for your understanding.

Lu Ann Kaszuba

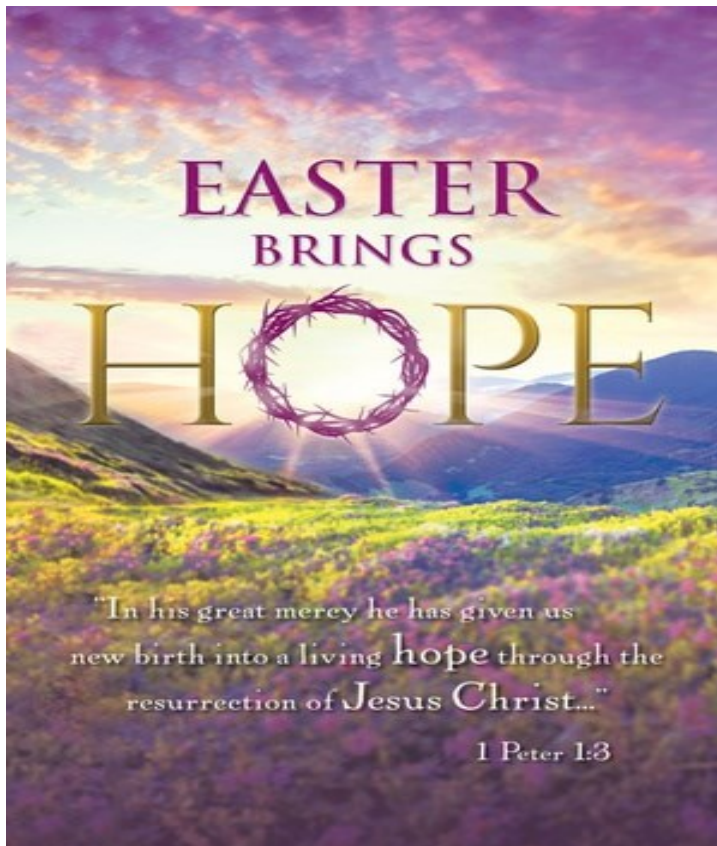


HOLY WEEK

Our Adjusted Lenten and Holy Week Liturgies

We continue to maintain the health safety of all our worshipers frequenting the Cathedral, and so we heartily encourage you to be present among the socially distanced maximum of 86 parishioners allowed for any one service of worship or for any single Mass. While we are allowed 200 parishioners or 50% of capacity according to reopening process of our State, we can only accommodate 21.5% of capacity or three people per pew and one person per pew due to social distancing requirements currently in place. We also maintain safety through adherence to mask usage, hand sanitizers, pew cleaning and removal and destruction of weekly printed programs.

Our liturgies in various ways have been adjusted to maximize health safety within the Cathedral notably in the manner of our communion distribution at the conclusion of the Mass. The Ash Wednesday imposition of ashes revived an ancient form of their application to the head. And our celebration of the Stations of the Cross



also realizes an adaptation of the traditional procession through the worship space.

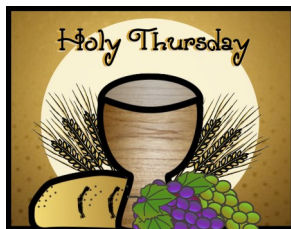
The health safety of our parishioners will also be assured in the following liturgical adjustments of Holy Week:

PALM SUNDAY

The palms for today's ceremonies will be included in each person's order of service prepared in the pew. All the palms will be blessed, both those in the pews and on the table in their usual place in the sanctuary. Everyone may take extra palms from that table if he so wishes.

The Palm Sunday procession will only move down the center aisle to the upper narthex with only the clergy proceeding to the narthex, and with no cantors in place in the nave.

The Passion regularly read on this holiday will be proclaimed in a substantially abbreviated form.



HOLY THURSDAY

Only the clergy will move through the Cathedral in procession with the blessed sacrament to the Altar of Repose, encircling only one

of the two pew-sections comprising central seating area. This type of procession path will not be repeated under Easter Sunday.



GOOD FRIDAY

conducted before the high altar.

GOOD FRIDAY and HOLY SATURDAY

All our ceremonies are



EASTER SUNDAY

As on Palm Sunday, no cantors will be placed in the nave. The Easter procession will not include the three bearers of the Paschal articles, crucifix, statue, and candle.

These three will stand holding their article before the altar rail for all in attendance to regard with reverence and thanksgiving for what they each symbolize. Only the clergy will process through the Cathedral. Their path will reflect that of Holy Thursday, encircling only one of two pew-sections comprising the central seating area, returning the blessed sacrament to the high altar.

The clergy, when outside the sanctuary, will observe mask adherence along with all present in the pews.

Brothers and sisters, it is time to return to worship within the Cathedral. Let's take that opportunity during this holy and joyous moment to do exactly that, and glory in the resurrection of the crucified and risen One.



St. Stan's News

Our Pocono Polish Deli Friends

We're grateful to Father Janusz for succeeding in having our Polish Mass poster, created by Luann Kaszuba, placed in all seven Polish delis located in the Poconos. These delis are listed here for your convenience in taking advantage of the delicious imported and homemade Polish foodstuffs you can purchase from them and eat there in their restaurant areas. Smacznego! Hearty appetite! Mangia! Bon appetite!

Anna Polish Deli
611 Scotrun Ave.
Mt Pocono, PA 18344
(570) 619-6569

Krakus Deli
22 Sterling Rd.

Mt Pocono, PA 18344
(570) 839-3605

Polish Deli
2583 Milford Rd.
East Stroudsburg, PA
18301
(570) 223-6202

Babuni's Table
2095 US-209,
Brodheadsville, PA 18322
(570) 801-7520

Orzel Deli
207 N 9th St
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 420-0682

Polonez Polish-European Market
3308 PA-940 #103
Mt Pocono, PA 18344
(570) 839-7700

Solomia Food Store

207 N 9th St.
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 420-0682

Zapraszamy! Specjalnie dla Ciebie

Holy Mass in the Polish language

Every Second Sunday of the Month
beginning



Sunday, March 14th

11:00 am



Cathedral of St Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr
529 East Locust Street
Scranton, PA

Father Janusz Lucarz,
Cathedral asst. pastor, celebrant

Wszystkich serdecznie Witamy!

Mark Your Calendars!

During Lent

Wednesdays - 7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross with Benediction,

Upstairs in the Cathedral

Fridays - Noon - Stations of the Cross,
Upstairs in the Cathedral

March 14th - 124th Anniversary of the Polish National Catholic Church
-11:00 a.m. Monthly Mass in Polish

March 28th - Palm Sunday Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

March 30th - Holy Tuesday
11:30 a.m. Chrism Mass

April 1st - Holy Thursday
Mass of the Institution of the Eucharist
7:00 p.m.

April 2nd - Good Friday

12 noon to 3:00p.m. Holy Hour,
Litany of the Passion
Mass of the Pre-Sanctified
Opening of the Tomb
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae

April 3rd - Holy Saturday
Blessing of Easter Food in the Cathedral
9:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.
4:00 Vigil of the Risen One

April 4th - Easter Sunday
Resurrection Mass 8:00 a.m.
Holy Mass 10:30 a.m.

April 11th - **Only One Mass today at 9:30 a.m.**
Annual Meeting after 9:30 Mass
Polish Mass at 11:00 a.m.

May 9th - Mother's Day

May 23rd - Pentecost Sunday

March Birthdays

Mar 1 - Robert Serovinski
Mar 3 - Michael Swannick



Mar 4 - Kyle Lennert
Mar 5 - Brandon Reed
Mar 9 - Jordan Patrick
Mar 13 - Angela Ostrowski
Mar 14 - Jean Cwynar

Mar 18 - Jean Pucher
Mar 21 - John Kotula
Gerald Coolbaugh
Mar 28 - Jean Gontarski
Mar 31 - Jerome Hughes