

EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 15-16, 2006 (XXI-36)



THEME OF TODAY'S MASS

We gather to celebrate God's victory, In Christ, over the power and attraction of death. The Gospel for Easter Day is the foundation story about would-be disciples who came to be transformed in faith and new life. This is the kind of community of hope into which the baptized have been incorporated at Easter time. Now they are themselves committed, to realize that community through their own practice.

THINGS TO LISTEN FOR IN THE READINGS

In the First Reading

The texts announce God's victory over the power of death! Peter sermonizes about post-Easter Eucharistic meals in which Jesus was understood to be present, and charges his listeners to proclaim God's power-for-life and to give witness to the risen Jesus!

In the Second Reading

As in the first reading, the text from Colossians announces God's victory over the power of death! The action of God brings : "glorification" for all God's people. The resurrection of Jesus is THE event that makes a radical style of new life possible.

In the Gospel

The early part of John's Gospel shows the possibility of a movement from "no faith to faith". For example, Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, and the royal official. Now at the end of Jesus' story, there are three more examples – the Beloved Disciple, Mary Magdala, and later on there will be the story of Thomas.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Lillian E. Sullivan, Helen P. Lembo and Louis V. Severino, all of whom were recently buried from Assumption Church.

Please pray for the deceased members of the following parish families: Perrotti, Perry, Persico, Peter, Petersen, Petronchak, Petruzzello, Phillips, Phipps, Picard, Pinto, Piotrowski, Plourde, Pokladowski, Pollak, Pompa, Pomponio. Poquette

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION | ANSONIA

Generations
of **Faith**



Have You Ever Wondered.....by Brian Singer-Towns

Where did Easter get its name? The word "Easter" is neither found in the Bible nor recorded in any of the earliest writings of the Church. St Bede the Venerable (8th century) said the name was derived from the name of the ancient goddess of spring, Eastre. If this is true the name Easter would symbolize how Christians replaced pagan celebrations with Christian feasts. Others, however, think it may be a translation of the High German word for dawn. In this case the name Easter would symbolize the direction of the rising sun (east) and new life.

How is the date of Easter determined? There was some controversy over this in the early Church. Since the Resurrection of Christ was so closely tied to the Jewish Passover, some early Christians thought it should be celebrated on the Jewish Passover, while others felt it should be celebrated on a Sunday. The Council of Nicaea (325) declared that Easter should be celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox (first day of spring) which is the way it is determined today. There is still a slight difference in the dating of Easter between the western (Roman) churches and Eastern Orthodox churches.

What are the earliest and the latest dates for Easter? According to Wikipedia, the earliest possible date for Easter is March 22. The last year it fell on that date was 1818, and it will not do so again until 2285. The latest possible date for Easter is April 25. The last time it fell on that date was 1943, and the next time Easter will be on April 25 is 2038.

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

NO SCHOOL APRIL 17-21 – SPRING RECESS

Monday (April 17)

6:30 pm-Strategic Planning Committee Meeting-Rectory

Tuesday (April 18)

7:00 pm-Miraculous Medal Novena-Rectory

7:00 pm-Rosary Society Meeting-Hall

Friday (April 21)

6:45 pm-Bingo-Hall

7:30 pm-Vocations Holy Hour-Rectory

Saturday (April 22)

4:00-8:00 pm-Cub Scouts Ziti Dinner-Hall

UP-COMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sunday (April 23)

9:30 am Mass-Children's Liturgy

Monday (April 24)

6:30 pm-GOF Core Committee Meeting-Rectory

Tuesday (April 25)

7:00 pm-Miraculous Medal Novena-Rectory

Wednesday (April 26)

6:00 pm-Shelter Meal (Jean Sember's Group)-Hall

Friday (April 28)

6:45 pm-Bingo-Hall

Saturday (April 29)

7:00-10:00 pm-School Dance-Hall

COLLECTIONS

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Offertory	\$9,673.72	\$8,085.65
Monthly	\$2,996.16	\$2,841.46

As of last weekend, the cumulative Offertory Collection is **\$3,565.68** more than last year.

Our goal is \$36,000.00 more than last year.

There will be a **Second Collection** next weekend: the annual Peter's Pence Collection

CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND

We wish to thank the family and friends of **Amelia Ball** for \$25.00 donated to Assumption Church in her memory.

HELPING HANDS RAFFLE

For each \$25,000.00 that Assumption School makes through Helping Hands, we can raffle \$1,000.00 to participants. We are able to keep track of this. If you give cash, please make sure that the seller takes your name and the amount given. The money must be made by June 30, 2006. As of April 2, we have made \$16,345.00. Thank you very much for helping.

SPORTS/K of C BREAKFAST

Many thanks to those of you who participated in the Sports/K of C Breakfast last Sunday. The response we received from the children and parents who either baked, or donated food, money or prizes was impressive. Thank you to everyone who attended the breakfast as well – without you, the breakfast would not have become the success it has been year after year. We wish to congratulate the winner of the grand prize, Marie Holcomb, who won a trip to Foxwoods Resort. Lastly, congratulations are in order for Father Bob, who won the beauty basket, which includes the soaps and lotions.

HOME-SCHOOL RAFFLE RETURNS

Please make Home/School Raffle returns in the Offertory Collection, or you may drop them off at the school office during school hours. Many thanks for your support!

FREE HEALTH AND WELLNESS WORKSHOP

A free health and wellness educational workshop will be presented by Bonnie Loglisci at the Rosary Society Meeting on Tuesday, April 18, at 7:00 pm in the Assumption Church Hall. All women of the parish are welcome.

BLOOD PRESSURES

Blood pressures will not be taken on Easter Sunday. Nurses will be available, however, next weekend, April 22 & 23, to take blood pressures after all Masses.

ASSUMPTION PARISHIONERS ATTAIN HONORS

The following parishioners of Assumption Church have attained honors for the third quarter at Notre Dame High School in West Haven:

Pasquale Campolattano	Joseph Castiello
Michael Condon	Nicholas Cote
Darius Farahani	Kevin McQueeney
Jeffrey Richard	Michael Strom

Our sincere congratulations to all of you. We are very proud of you!

ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK

If the members of the family for whom a Mass is being celebrated would like to bring up the Offertory gifts, please notify one of the ushers before Mass. Thank you.

- Saturday (April 15)** Vigil of Easter (W)
8:00 pm-HM-Denise Simpson Hebert (Family)
- Sunday (April 16)** Easter Sunday (W)
7:30 am-LM-For All Parishioners
9:30 am-HM-Kathryn Jurkowski (Mary & Jerry Mahoney)
11:30 am-HM-Jennie Vacca (The Kemp Family)
- Monday (April 17)** Easter Monday (W)
8:00 am-LM-William & Mary Toussaint
- Tuesday (April 18)** Easter Tuesday (W)
8:00 am-LM-Viola Hale (Family)
- Wednesday (April 19)** Easter Wednesday (W)
8:00 am-HM-Russell & JoAnne Kiely Kulawitz (Family)
- Thursday (April 20)** Easter Thursday (W)
8:00 am-HM-Anthony D'Alessio (Family)
- Friday (April 21)** Easter Friday (W)
8:00 am-LM-Victor Szatkowski (Wife Dorothy)
6:00 pm-Wedding-Chris Marro and Monica Janus
- Saturday (April 22)** Easter Saturday (W)
8:00 am-LM-Steven Andrew Cory (The Clifford Family)
- Saturday (April 22)** Vigil Second Sunday of Easter (W)
4:00 pm-HM-Frederick Dural (Family)
- Sunday (April 23)** Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday (W)
7:30 am-LM-For All Parishioners
9:30 am-HM-Walter Frymus (The Kutash Family)
11:30 am-HM-Clifford & Dorothy Hoyle (Family)

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL NOW TAKING REGISTRATIONS

Assumption School is now taking registrations for the 2006-2007 school year. There are openings in the Three-Year-Old Prekindergarten Program, the Four-Year-Old Prekindergarten Program, Kindergarten and Grades 1 thru 6. Please call the school office for more information: (203) 734-0855.

CONFIRMATION REMINDERS

The Confirmation Class will attend the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday, April 30. Please report to the church hall to pick up your robe between 11:00 and 11:15 am. Rehearsal for Confirmation will be held on Sunday, April 30 at 5:00 pm. Please meet in the church hall with your sponsor.

Confirmation will be held on Monday, May 1 at 7:00 pm. Confirmands and sponsors must report to the church hall by 6:45 pm.

A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED

EASTER TO ALL