

Though this past week has been more like winter than spring, there are signs of spring all around. For more than a month, when it was still winter, there have been signs of the coming spring. The camellias have been blooming for quite some time, the birds have been chirping merrily even in the darkness of the early morning, the evenings are growing light past dinner. Spring arrives little by little, and long before we are even aware of it. One day, we are suddenly aware that the spring is here.

This is the day the Lord has made! Jesus Christ is risen! With such bold proclamation of the day of the Lord's resurrection, we may think that resurrection is immediately perceivable and that it arrives all at once. I have begun to think that resurrection is much like spring—it is long in the making and it takes us a while to recognize it.

Every gospel reports a story of the empty tomb. The women disciples and then the men disciples go to the tomb and discover that it is empty. Jesus has been raised, but they do not recognize the reality. Instead, they are fearful. It takes some time before they come to believe. The empty tomb stories are followed by "resurrection appearances." Jesus appears to his disciples, but they do not recognize him. Then they do. It is not that Jesus has not been with them; he has. But they have not recognized him. Much like spring.

I would even venture to say that there are signs of resurrection even in the midst of dying and death, just as there are signs of new life even in the midst of winter. Jesus, even in his suffering, knew the presence and power of God. In our own struggles, there are signs of the presence of God long before we can recognize them.

Because Jesus has been raised from the dead, we can find hope even in our dyings that there is new life for us. As Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ...For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his."

This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad! Today and every day!

Victoria

Calendar

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| 4 Easter Sunday
Mass: 8:30, coffee hour following
Mass: 10:30, coffee hour following
AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement | 12 Monday
Communion Service: 9am
Pastoral Council: 7pm - Benincasa
St. Vincent De Paul: 7pm - Benincasa |
| 5 Monday
Communion Service: 9am | 13 Tuesday
Mass: 9am - Church
Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am-7pm - Church |
| 6 Tuesday
Mass: 9am - Church
Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am-7pm - Church | 14 Wednesday
Communion Service: 9am - Church
School Commission: 7pm - Benincasa |
| 7 Wednesday
Communion Service: 9am - Church | 15 Thursday
Mass: 9am - Church
RCIA Potluck: 6pm - Church Basement |
| 8 Thursday
Mass: 9am - Church | 16 Friday
Mass: 9am - Church |
| 9 Friday
Mass: 9am - Church | 17 Saturday
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3pm
Mass: 5pm
Chris Young Dinner: 6pm - Victoria Hall
AA Meeting: 7pm - Benincasa Basement |
| 10 Saturday
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3pm
Mass: 5pm
AA Meeting: 7pm - Benincasa Basement | 18 Third Sunday of Easter
Mass: 8:30, coffee hour following
Mass: 10:30, coffee hour following
AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement |
| 11 Second Sunday of Easter
Mass: 8:30, coffee hour following
Mass: 10:30, coffee hour following
AA Meeting: 6pm - Church Basement | |

Readings for April 11
Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 5: 12-16
Revelation 1:9-11, 12-13, 17-19
John 20: 19-31

Readings for April 18
Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 5:28-32, 40-41
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

PRAYERS

Bob Barone
Luis Batayola
Kay De Ambrosio
Evan Dubicki
Martha Harris
Frank Martin

James McNamara
Mary Roberts
Effie Rohner
Sylvia Sheehan
Don Sullivan
Chris Young

PRAYERS

Parish Stewardship

March 28, 2010

Regular Collection: \$7,503.00

Rice Bowl: \$1,017.00

Announcements

Whole Community Gathering

Fr. Peter Byrne, SJ, will return for our final whole community gathering of the year. His topic will be Walking with Jesus in Resurrection and New Life. The gathering is scheduled for Sunday, May 16 after the 10:30am mass. A meal will be provided, then Fr. Peter will speak to the adults, Mr. Buerge to the 5th-8th grade students, and Mrs. Lofstedt to the K-4th grade children; there will be childcare for the 1-4 year olds. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

Landscaping Projects

We are in the process of planting the area around the statue of Jesus. If you can help remove sod, prepare the soil, or plant the new plants, please call Rochelle Lucero at 322-6280. If you are interested in other projects, call Victoria at the parish office.

Greeters Needed

We are continuing to develop our ministry of greeters and are looking for volunteers, including children, to welcome people as they come to church. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Loida Olivas at 255-3754 or Victoria at the parish office. You will be scheduled approximately once a month.

Baptism

If you are interested in having your baby or young child baptized, please contact Victoria at the parish office. You will meet Victoria and also attend a class for parents. The next parent class for baptism is Saturday, April 17 at 10am in the Benincasa Center. Call Victoria at the parish office to register.

Questions About the Catholic Church?

Have you been away from the Catholic Church? Are you now beginning to explore the Catholic Church for the first time? Do you have questions or concerns? Join us for an evening of welcome and discussion on Wednesday, April 21 at 7pm in the Benincasa Center (the parish office at the east end of the church; 814 NE 85th St.). Would you like an orientation to the parish or a tour of the facilities? Call Victoria at the parish office or join us on April 21.

Cantare Vocal Ensemble

Cantare Vocal Ensemble, a 40-member mixed chorus directed by our St. Catherine choir director Mark Adrian, presents "He, Ho, The Wind And The Rain." This concert features the lyric genius of William Shakespeare and the compositional talents of George Shearing and Matthew Harris. Also on the program is a 200th birthday tribute to Frederic Chopin and Robert Schumann. Saturday, April 24, 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, April 25, 2:00 p.m., The Chapel at Lakeside School, 14050 1st Ave. NE in Seattle. Tickets are \$15 - \$22. Call 206-551-4544 for more information.

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~ *Announcements, continued* ~

Chris Young Spaghetti Dinner

The Chris Young Spaghetti Dinner will be held April 17 from 5pm-9pm in Victoria Hall. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 & under. Please make checks payable to Maple Leaf Pharmacy.

Plant Sale

Start tilling your beds and get ready for the first ever St. Catherine's Plant Sale. We will place an order with Bell-R Greenhouse in late April and the plants will be delivered to St. Catherines on May 15th. Please contact Katie Fleming @ 526-8082 or kjfleming@comcast.net if you would like an order form or have questions.

St. Catherine's Family Nights with the Mariners

Come to one game or both! Saturday May 8th @ 6:10PM vs LA Angels and/or Friday May 21st @ 7:10PM vs SD Padres. View Reserved seats for only \$15 (normally \$20). The Mariners have reserved a block of tickets for our school/parish community so we can all sit together and whoop it up when we see our name on the Big Screen! Please contact Katie Fleming 526-8082 or kjfleming@comcast.net for tickets. Go Mariners!!!

Sr. High Youth Group

Our High School youth group is open to all students in the 9th-12th grades. We meet a few Sunday's a month for service opportunities, fun activities, faith sharing, and open gym. If you think you might be interested contact Shannon Fleming Bray. I will put you on the email list for regular announcements about upcoming activities.

Social Justice

Garden of Giving

In order to continue to invite all of you to participate in the ministry of Social Justice we have planted a spring garden. Look for the garden in the back of the church with various opportunities for individuals to get involved. Each flower will contain a Prayer request, a volunteer opportunity, a justice statistic, or an opportunity for giving. Please take one and help us celebrate the Easter season with generosity and compassion.

Action Alert

Are you interested in receiving monthly emails containing actions that you can take to engage in the political process and have your voice heard? This alert will allow you to educate yourself, chose what to take action on, and to do it quickly. If you would like to receive these monthly emails please sign up by emailing ShannonFleming@stcatherineparish.net

The Social Justice Committee

We meet on the third Sunday of each month. Sunday, April 19th at 12 noon is our next meeting.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School HELP!

Attention all artists, set designers, decorators, and creative minded among you!

The theme for Vacation Bible School this year is HIGH SEA ADVENTURE! I'm looking for some interested folks to come to a brainstorming meeting to imagine how we could transform our parish hall into a High Seas Adventure. The curriculum comes with lots of ideas but we need to figure out how to make it happen. Vacation Bible School is the first week of August so all set design, decorating, construction would need to be done well in advance. Anyone interested? The work will be done over the summer but brainstorming and materials collection would need to start soon. Email Shannon Fleming Bray if you are interested and I'll get back to you.

Vacation Bible School - Teachers/ Leaders needed

We are looking for High School and adult leaders to help out at our summer Vacation Bible School happening August 1-8th this year. We need help with drama, snacks, games, and small group leaders. If you are interested please contact Shannon Fleming Bray.