

Ministry of Praise



WELCOME, SWEET SPRINGTIME!



Hush, Can you hear it?
The rustling in the grass,
Bringing you the welcome news
Winter's day is past.
Soft, Can you feel it?
The warm caressing breeze,
Telling you the sticky buds
Are bursting on the trees.
Look, Can you see them?
The primrose in the lane,
Now you must believe it —
Spring is here again.

A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

All-powerful God, You are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
Help us to rescue the abandoned of this earth,
so precious in Your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sew beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us the worth of each thing
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly
united with every creature.
We thank You for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

Adapted from Laudato Si by Pope Francis



THE EASTER CHALLENGE

The span of fifty days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost is called the Easter Season or Eastertide. Its purpose is to give us time to rethink and relive the details of the Passion and Resurrection and to think about how it affects us.

Every year we hear the stories. . . .empty tomb, surprised grievers, runners with news and revelation, unexpected encounters, conversations on the road, breakfast on a seashore. . . .

And every year we hear our Easter Challenge:

To be open to the unexpected,
To believe beyond our security,
To welcome God in every form
and trust in our own "greening".



RISEN ONE, come, meet me in the garden of my life.

RISEN ONE, Bringer of Joy, may I enjoy life, begin each day with enthusiasm, and become ever more aware of You.

RISEN ONE, Tomb-Opener, You are the power I need. Roll away the stones of unloving. Shove aside the boulders of worry. Untomb me and set me free.

RISEN ONE, Full of Compassion, You are with me as I walk the road of sorrow and joy. You fill me with the strength of your loving nearness.

RISEN ONE, Sacred Teacher, You send me forth with blessing. You bid me tell the story of your risen life. May I tell this story again and again through the witness of my life, by the quality of my life and the courage of my words.

RISEN ONE, Core of Community, whenever we gather You are with us.

Whenever we gather You make of our hearts, one heart. RISEN ONE, we

***You believe because you can see...
Happy are those who have not seen
and yet believe.***

(John 20:29)

Our Needs, Worries and Concerns

Let us place our prayers before the Lord.

† Lord Jesus, You are the gardener and we are the soil; let the seed of Easter life bear fruit in us for eternal harvest, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† That the newly confirmed will find in the Church the meaning and happiness for which their hearts long, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† That we may honor the Eucharist as “Jesus among us,” we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† For those children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion and for their teachers, that they may come to realize the significance of this great event, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† For vocations for the priesthood and religious life, that many young people may choose a life of service in the Lord’s name, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† That mercy will be shown to the refugees who have been forced from their homes by persecution and violence; may we lead, protect and provide for them, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† For all farmers who make their living by the fruit of the earth, that they may experience a productive season ahead, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† For all government leaders, so they will make informed decisions with respect, honesty and mercy as they meet the needs of the people, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

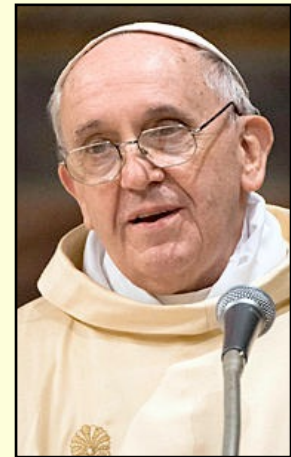
† For the poor, the hungry, the lonely and the unemployed, may they receive the assistance they need, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† May the sick, the hospitalized, and homebound, and those in nursing homes feel the healing power of our merciful Lord, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† For the special intentions close to the hearts of our parishioners, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

† That all of the faithful departed come to share in the resurrected life, we pray: *Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.*

*May the Risen Lord dwell in our hearts through faith and mercy
be the root and foundation of our lives.*



Words by Pope Francis:

“Truly, God’s mercy is forever; it never ends; it never runs out; it never gives up. God does not abandon us. He remains with us forever.”



Those Who Recently Found Eternal Rest:

Edward Zalar
Eric Ulm
James Weger
Robert Holbein



April 9 – The Annunciation

THE ANGELUS

The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary, full of grace...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord,
Be it done to me according to Thy word.
Hail Mary, full of grace...

And the word was made flesh,
And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary, full of grace...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises
of Christ.

Let us pray

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy
grace into our hearts;
That we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy
Son, was made known by the message of an
angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought
to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the
same Christ our Lord. Amen.

This workday prayer has its origins in the Middle Ages. Imagine the man pulling a plow like a beast of burden or the woman, her baby strapped to her back, stooped and sewing seed. What could it mean to stop work at noon and pray? To remember our hope in a share in the glory of God is to remember that we are more than our labors; we are human beings made in the image and likeness of God.

But it was not only laborers who prayed the Angelus. The man and woman in the field and the lord and lady in the castle, rich and poor alike, all stopped at noon and prayed that they might be “made worthy of the promises of Christ.” In those moments, divisions merged into one prayer, one plea.

The Angelus seems like a Catholic antique to many of us, but try to imagine a moment when the executive behind the office desk and the janitor cleaning the office floor both stop their work at the same time each day to pray. Now imagine that happening wherever Catholics live and work.

Imagine all of us, those employed and those panhandling on the street, stopping to remember that we are the sons and daughters of God, who by Christ’s Passion and Cross alone may be brought to the glory of Christ’s Resurrection.



CONFIRMATION

On Sunday, March 11, Reverend Monsignor Marvin G. Berger, Vicar for Clergy for the Diocese of Toledo, and delegated by Bishop Thomas, traveled to Delphos to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the following Grade 8 students.
Let us support them and their sponsors in prayer.

COME HOLY SPIRIT!

Gavin Becker
Haylee Bayman
Cassidy Beining
Jaina Bloom
Johnathan Bonifas
Emma Buettner
Noah Burgei
Jaelyn Church
Dillon Cross
Jillian Dickman
Logan Dickman
Halle Elwer
Landon Elwer
Tory Fair-Sevitz
Karissa Fish
Gavin Fittro
Marcus Freewalt
Adara Fuerst
Nathan Gable
Alexander Gerow

Lilyan Goecke
Caitlin Gordon
Mahlon Haunhorst
Nathaniel Hensley
Lola Hershey
Bruce Hutchison
Brady Kerner
Catherine Kopack
Adelyn Martin
Olivia Martin
Alexis Merschman
Caden Meyer
Jacob Miller
Garret Mueller
Stephanie Neumeier
Brenden Oleso
Andrew Palte
Kevin Pohlman
Nicole Pohlman
Austin Pohlman

Blake Ricker
Joshua Ringwald
Jenna Rode
Devin Sanders
Avery Schulte
Braysen Schulte
Kaytlyn Sevitz
Abigail Shafer
Alexis Skym
Aliyah Smith
Zane Stevenson
Lillee Stewart
Elijah Suever
Alexis Teman
Aidan Troyer
Mason Vonderwell
Zane Wertenberger
Lydia Werts
Marissa Wieging
Brady Zalar

LET US PRAY

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your children and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, And you shall renew the face of the earth.

*Spirit of God, fill your children with the joy of your presence.
Increase in them the Fruits of your Spirit: the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding,
the Spirit of Love, Patience and Gentleness, the Spirit of Wonder and true Holiness.
Bless all of your people with love and reverence for your Spirit. Amen.*

APRIL CELEBRATIONS

APRIL *ST. ISIDORE, PATRON OF FARMERS*

4

Heavenly Father, You are the source of growth and abundance. With your help we plant our crops and by your power they bring forth a harvest. Grant us the grace always to work with all our strength in cultivating the soil so that it will yield fruits for our benefit and for all who will use them. We thank you for your continuous past help and never-failing assistance in the future.



Dear St. Isidore, you were employed as a farm laborer for most of your life. Encourage all farmers in their labors and help them to feed the hungry of the world. Amen.

APRIL *DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY*

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THE ABCs OF MERCY

Ask for his mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour out His mercy upon us and the whole world.

Be merciful to others. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent on our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

May your mercy, O Lord, rest upon me. If I cannot show mercy by deeds or words, I can always do so by prayer. O my Jesus, transform me into Yourself, for You can do all things. Amen.

APRIL *WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS*

22

Praise to You, loving God, for we are always in Your hand. You know us and so we live. You call us, and so we are Your people.

Remember Your Church. Guide it as it continues in our world the saving work of Jesus, Your Son. Give us more priests and deacons, religious sisters and brothers, and lay ministers who will proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. Prepare them to be good and generous servants.

Empower them to be a greater source of hope and love in the Body of Christ. All glory and honor be Yours, Giver of all good gifts, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

APRIL *ST. MARK, EVANGELIST*

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St. Mark wrote his account of the Gospel between 60 and 70. He was not an Apostle as were Matthew and Luke, but he was close to Peter. His simple and direct gospel was one source for the other evangelists. Mark's portrayal of Jesus is very human and serves as a model for us to "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." We give thanks for the written word of God.