

This Week in Our Parishes

<u>Monday, April 18</u> Parish Office is <i>CLOSED</i>	
No Mass	
<u>Tuesday, April 19</u>	
Mass @ St. Anthony	7:00 pm
<u>Wednesday, April 20</u>	
Adoration @ St. Anthony	5:00-6:00 pm
Mass @ St. Anthony	6:15 pm
<u>Thursday, April 21</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
<u>Friday, April 22</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
<u>Saturday, April 23</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	5:00 pm
Mass @ St. Anthony	7:30 pm
<u>Sunday, April 24 – Divine Mercy Sunday</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
Mass @ St. Anthony	10:30 am
First Holy Communion Celebration @ St. Anthony	
Mass @ St. Agnes	12 Noon
<u>Monday, April 25 No Mass</u>	
<u>Tuesday, April 26</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes Our Lady of Good Counsel	6:00 pm CWL
Mass @ St. Anthony	7:00 pm
<u>Wednesday, April 27</u>	
Adoration @ St. Anthony	5:00-6:00 pm
Mass @ St. Anthony	6:15 pm
<u>Thursday, April 28</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
<u>Friday, April 29</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	9:00 am
<u>Saturday, April 30</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	5:00 pm
Mass @ St. Anthony	7:30 pm
<u>Sunday, May 01</u>	
Mass @ St. Agnes	9 am
Mass @ St. Anthony	10:30 am
Mass @ St. Agnes	12 Noon



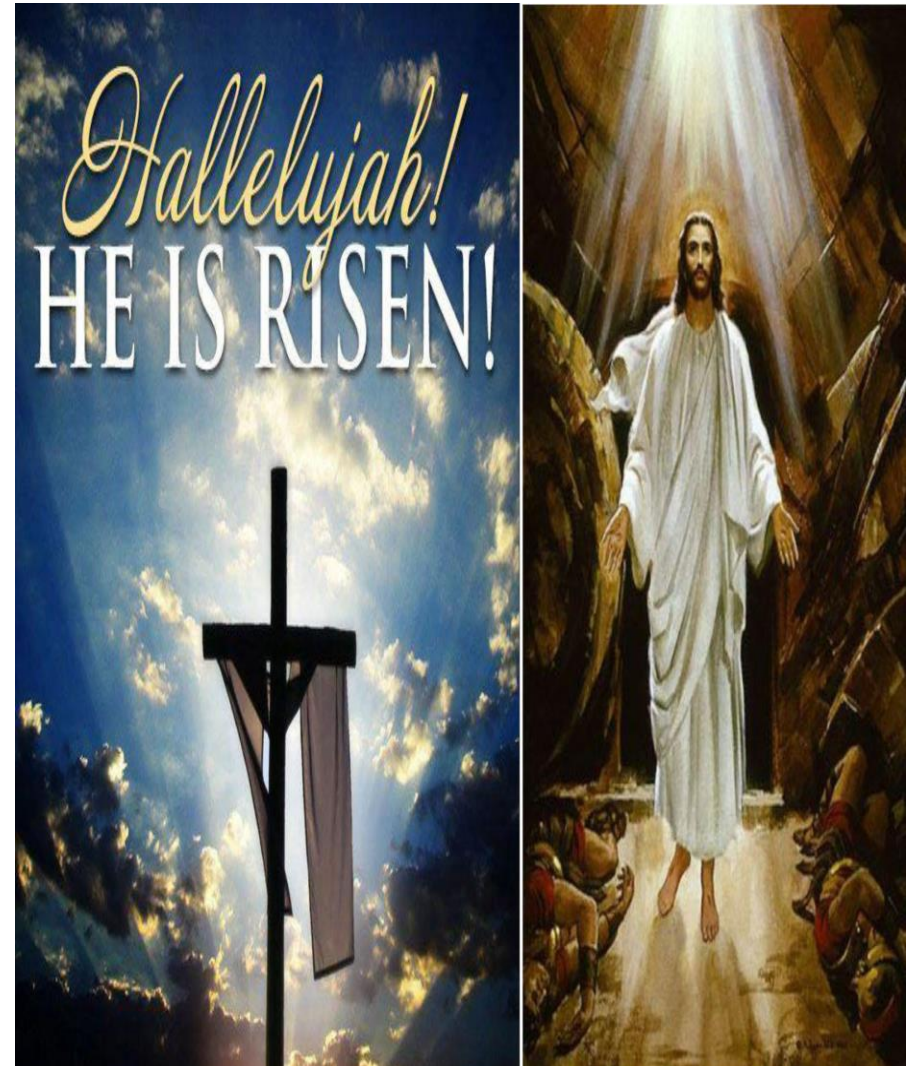
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A BLESSED HAPPY EASTER TO EVERYONE

April 17, 2022

Easter Message from our Pastor

St. Agnes/St. Anthony's Parishes

Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. It marks the birthday of our eternal hope. "Easter" literally means "the feast of fresh flowers." We celebrate it with pride and jubilation for three reasons:

1) The Resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian Faith, for it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: *"If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain... And if Christ has not been raised, then your Faith is a delusion, and you are still lost in your sins... But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (I Cor 15:14, 17, 20).* In the words of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: "The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our Faith in Christ, a Faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross..." (CCC # 638). If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then the Church is a fraud and Faith is a sham. But if Jesus really did rise from the dead, his message is true! Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained forever a good person who had met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings, and a handful of people might try to live according to them. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. *"Jesus is Lord; He is risen!" (Rom 10:9)* was the central theme of the *kerygma* (or "preaching"), of the apostles. There is a story of two women who stood before Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. One asked, "Why can't we build structures like this anymore?" Her friend answered, "The people who built this

had Faith. Today we have only opinions. And you can't build a cathedral with opinions."

2) Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection. Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: *"I am the Resurrection and the Life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he die" (Jn 11:25-26).* Christ will raise us up on the last day, but it is also true, in a sense, that we have already risen with Christ. By virtue of the Holy Spirit, our Christian life is already a participation in the death and Resurrection of Christ (CCC #1002, #1003).

3) Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows, and tears. Easter reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus — in our souls, in His Church, in the Blessed Sacrament, and in Heaven — that gives meaning to our personal, as well as to our common, prayers. Our trust in the all-pervading presence of the Risen Lord gives us strength to fight against temptations and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. The prayer of St. Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland, reads: "Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ within me, never to part."

On behalf of Deacon Guy Germain, Deacon Michael Pucylo, Deacon Ramon Morales, Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Staff, I wish you all a blessed and Joyful Easter.

May the Risen Lord continue to bless you all!

Fr. Varghese Mundavelil
Pastor