

**04/23/2023** The Pope's intention for April is for a culture of peace and non-violence by decreasing the use of weapons.

**HOLY CROSS RC CHURCH**  
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**Our Mission Statement at Holy Cross:**  
To care for the poor, abandoned and the marginalized.

**Trustees: Michael Stensland: 783-2764, John Edwards 263-5326**

**Council Chair: Christine Edwards: 263-5326**

**Maureen Joy: 263-5143**

**For the deceased members of our parish and their families and friends.**

**Pray for the sick and their caregivers and all that have asked for our prayers, especially Howard Hubbard, Diane Neczesny, Lynn Joy, Becky Barringer, Lorraine Tyson, Joe and Carol Tyson, Michelle Lee, Maria Papendrea, Valarie Manchester, Sr. Theresa Ahern, MSBT, Teresa Meyers, Amy Obrien, Linda Zoder, Bob Zoder, John Zaleski,**

**Pray for all the men and women of our parish family serving in the military and all First**

**Responders and emergency personnel. Ryan Barry, Jim Barry, Meghan Barringer**

**From Fr. Chris: In our gospels we keep meeting the indirected Christ. Have you met Him on your days? In the Easter season our first reading is from the Act of the Apostles. We hear about the growth of the early church. On Easter we do not hear from the Hebrew Scriptures apart from the psalm. Easter is all about the new life of the resurrection. In the Easter season, we celebrate new life in the waters of baptism and confirmation. At the 10:30 Mass at St. Mary's today we will confirm an adult and there will be a baptism after the Mass – both signs of new life.**

**May God bless us in these Easter days!**

**We will celebrate With Father Chris**

**April 23 at 8:30am**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-33 (Peter's Discourse) Peter stood up and, backed by the eleven, spoke out with bold urgency. "Fellow Jews, all of you who are visiting Jerusalem, listen carefully and get this story straight. Fellow Israelites, listen carefully to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man thoroughly accredited by God to you – the miracles and wonders and signs that God did through Him are common knowledge – this Jesus, following the deliberate and well-thought-out plan of God, was betrayed by men who took the law into their own hands, and was handed over to you. And you pinned Him to a cross and**

killed Him. But God untied the death ropes and raised Him up. Death was no match for Him. David said it all:

I saw God before me for all time. Nothing can shake me; He is right by my side. I am glad from the inside out, ecstatic; I have pitched my tent in the land of hope. I know You will never dump me in Hades; I will never even smell the stench of death. You have put my feet on the life-path, with Your face shining sun-joy all around.

Dear friends, let me be completely frank with you. Our ancestor David is dead and buried – his tomb is in plain sight today. But, being also a prophet and knowing that God had solemnly sworn that a descendant of his would rule His Kingdom, seeing far ahead, he talked of the resurrection of the Messiah – ‘no trip to Hades, no stench of death.’ This Jesus, God raised up. And every one of us here is a witness to it. Then, raised to the heights at the right hand of God and receiving the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, He poured out the Spirit He had just received. That is what you see and hear.”

### **The Word of the Lord**

Psalm 16:1-2+5, 7-11            Keep me safe, O God, I have run for dear life to You. I say to God, “Be my Lord!” My choice is You. God, first and only. And now I find I am your choice! The wise counsel God gives when I am awake is confirmed by my sleeping heart. Day and night I will stick with God; I have a good thing going and I am not letting go. I am happy from the inside out, and from the outside in, I am firmly formed. You canceled my ticket to hell – that is not my destination! Now You have gotten my feet on the life-path, all radiant from the shining of Your face. Ever since you took my hand, I am on the right way

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21 (Filial Obedience)            You call to God for help and He helps- He is a good Father. But do not forget, He is also a responsible Father, and will not let you get by with sloppy living. Your life is a journey you must travel with a deep consciousness of God. It cost God plenty to get you out of that dead-end, empty-headed life you grew up in. He paid with Christ’s sacred blood. He died like an unblemished, sacrificial lamb. And this was no afterthought. Even though it was only lately – at the end of the ages – has become public knowledge, God always knew He was going to do this for

you. It has because of this sacrificed Messiah, whom God then raised from the dead and glorified, that you trust God, that you know you have a future in God.

## The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke 24:13-35 (Emmaus)

Read this passage at least twice before coming to Mass on Sunday.

### *The Gospel of the Lord*

As we continue to celebrate the greatest event in the history of humanity, the scriptures proclaim repeatedly – just in case the reality of this astonishing truth is too much for us to comprehend – that this Jesus, this Jesus, born into poverty, who lived in an obscure village called Nazareth, whose parentage was suspect, who died on a garbage heap on the outskirts of town, one among many criminals – that this Jesus died and rose according to God’s preordained plan for our salvation. God has raised Him from the dead and He now sits at the right hand of the Creator in glory. Easter ushers in the hope of new life. What was perceived as dead was only asleep, and the greatest testimony to this miracle of faith is that if a barren tree can produce new life, surely, we will live for all eternity in His Love. “Death, O death, where is thy sting”?

On the road to Emmaus it was only in the breaking of the bread were their eyes opened and they recognized that this stranger in their midst was their Lord and Master. That is the power of the Eucharist, in the breaching of what looks like a simple piece of bread, we become aware of who we really are as members of HIS ONE BODY. They immediately returned to Jerusalem because their hearts were burning just as our hearts burn with the desire to bear witness to the power of the risen Christ in our Jerusalem communities and throughout the world. “Until everyone is welcome at the table, Jesus cannot come into the fullness of His Glory.” As disciples of Christ, it is our baptismal and Eucharistic responsibility to bring Jesus into the fullness of glory by standing in solidarity with a sister or brother who is struggling to reclaim his or her human dignity; by bearing witness in the breaking of the bread that at the banquet of the Lord there is no room for hatred or division. We are all God’s children – Jew, Christian, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Buddhist; black, white, brown or yellow; male or female; gay or straight. All are welcome at the table of the Lord.

**“Focus on making disciples and then pray that God would raise up workers for HIS Kingdom.” (from Dynamic Catholic daily reflection)**

**April 30<sup>th</sup> We will celebrate with Fr. Jim**

**The Magic Closet hours are: April to December – Wednesday and Saturday 10am to noon. They always need volunteers.**

**The Butternut Valley Food Pantry is located at 166 Marion Ave. Gilbertsville, NY phone number is: 607-783-2267**

<b>Collection for Easter and April 16, 2023</b>	<b>\$2,187.00</b>
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<b>Diocesan Assessment as of 1/1/23</b>	<b>\$1,069.00</b>
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**During the sacred liturgy, the priest, on behalf of the people, offers to God a small pittance: some wafers of bread and some wine and water. But because God has no need of these gifts, they come back infinitely multiplied for the benefit of the people. Through the power of Christ’s word, those gifts become his very Body and Blood, the only food capable of feeding the deepest hunger of the human heart.**

**This liturgical rhythm is beautifully conveyed by the laconic lines: “Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted.” (Bishop Barron)**

**Our hope is called JESUS. He is alive and evil has no more power over HIM. Failure cannot prevent us from beginning again, and death becomes the passage to the beginning of new life. The wounds of the risen Jesus are the signs of the LOVE that overcomes hatred, of the Pardon that disarms revenge, of the Life that conquers death. (Pope Francis)**