

FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK...

"RESURRECTING" THE ALLELUIA...



We said "good-bye" to the Alleluia on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany. We have not said or sung the Alleluia throughout the Lenten Season. It's now time to "resurrect" the Alleluia, to welcome it back with great joy and celebration.

The word **Alleluia** is derived from the Hebrew *Hallelujah*, usually translated as "Praise the Lord". When we say or sing Alleluia, we are thanking and praising God. Think of the quintessential Easter hymn... "Jesus Christ is risen today... Alleluia" (#85 in the Hymnal 1940).

The use of the word Alleluia is ancient and appears 24 times in the Hebrew Bible (in the Psalms). The Alleluia is one of the "minor propers" said or sung at Mass before the reading of the Gospel, except during Lent and Passiontide.

The "minor propers" used during the Mass are almost always verses taken from the Psalms. They include the Introit, Gradual, Alleluia, Offertory and Communion Verse. They vary according the day and preserve one of the most important features of our historic Liturgy.

On Easter Day and throughout the Easter Season, the Dismissal at the conclusion of the Mass includes the Alleluia. The Celebrant sings or says... "Depart in Peace, Alleluia, Alleluia". The Congregation responds... "Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia".

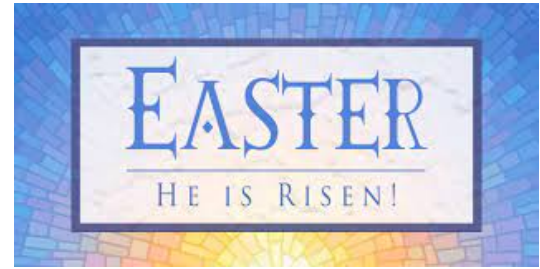
Saint Apostle encourages us to "Speak to one another with the words of psalms, hymns, and sacred songs; sing hymns and psalms to the Lord with praise in your hearts (*Ephesians 5.19*).

What better way to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord and the Alleluia than by singing the joyful hymns of the Easter Season! And let's not forget to greet each other on Easter Day and throughout the Easter Season with these words:

*Alleluia. The Lord is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

Welcome back, Jesus! Welcome back, Alleluia!

Father Craig Looney+



Easter Even, Saturday, April 8, 2023

5:00 PM – Blessing & Lighting of the Paschal Candle, Ante-Communion

Easter Day, Sunday, April 9, 2023

9:00 AM – Parish Mass & Sermon
Coffee & Fellowship Hour



The Vestry will meet in the Library following Coffee Hour on Sunday, April 16. Regular Vestry meetings are open to all interested parishioners.



During the Sundays in Lent we have been reading Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. Our discussions have been both informative and enjoyable. We have been taking our time "reading, marking, learning and inwardly digesting" God's Word. If we haven't finished reading Ephesians by Palm Sunday...we will continue in "overtime" after Easter on April 23 and 30.

Prayer Book Holy Days...

Saint Mark the Evangelist, April 25 Book of Common Prayer, Page 237-238



Mark was the cousin of Barnabas. The date and location of his birth is uncertain. According to tradition he was born in Jerusalem in 14 AD. His mother, Mary, was a wealthy and influential woman and hosted the early church in her home.

He is identified as the young man who briefly followed Jesus after his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, escaping arrest himself and running away naked. If the date of his birth is accurate, he would have been about 16 years old at the time of the Crucifixion.

According to Acts of the Apostles, Paul and Barnabas took Mark with them on their first missionary journey. He served as their "assistant", possibly arranging food and lodging. Mark decided to return to Jerusalem midway through the trip. About three or four years later, Barnabas wanted to take Mark on the next missionary journey. Paul refused and this caused a rift between Paul and Barnabas. Paul went to Syria with Silas and Barnabas went to Cyprus with Mark.

Ten years later Paul was in Rome. The rift with Barnabas has healed. Paul speaks highly of Mark and calls him "my son". Mark travels to Rome and served as Paul's interpreter. He probably wrote the Gospel according to Mark while he was in Rome.

According to tradition, Mark left Rome after the death of Saint Peter and traveled to Alexandria. The Coptic Orthodox Church considers him the founder and patron saint of North Africa. He was martyred there in 68 AD. His relics lie in the basilica in Venice, Italy. Mark is also the patron saint of attorneys, prisoners, the Philippines, notaries public, stained glass workers, lions and the Diocese of Venice.

In art, Mark is depicted as a lion in the desert or as a man writing his gospel.

The Book of Saints, Rodney Castledon, Quercus Publishing plc, London, England, ©Quercus Editions Ltd 2006

The Book of Saints, Metro Books, Weldon Owen Inc, New York NY10011, ©2011

Saint Philip and Saint James, Apostles, May 1 Book of Common Prayer, Page 238-240

Both Philip and James were among the original Twelve Apostles, although little is known about them.



Philip was born in Bethsaida, Galilee (in modern Israel), in the 1st Century AD. Peter and Andrew were also from Bethsaida and Philip may have known them. According to John's Gospel, Philip introduced Nathanael (Bartholomew) to Jesus. Philip plays an important role in the Feeding of the Five Thousand. He helps distribute the bread and fish to the people. When he asks Jesus to show God the Father to the Apostles, Jesus replies, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14.9-11). Philip is thought to have preached in Phrygia (in modern day Turkey) and to have been martyred there.

James the Less (called 'the Less' to distinguish him from the Apostle James 'the Great', Feast Day, July 25), is mentioned in all three Synoptic Gospels. Virtually nothing is known about his early life. He did not believe Jesus was the Messiah until after the Resurrection, when Jesus made an appearance to James on his own. James appears to have spent his entire ministry in and around Jerusalem. He is regarded as the first Bishop of Jerusalem and presided over the Council that decided to what extent Gentiles had to conform to Jewish customs when becoming Christians. He was the author of the Epistle of James. The Sanhedrin condemned James to death. He was martyred in Jerusalem in 62 AD. His relics lie in the Church of the Twelve Apostles in Rome, Italy. James is the patron saint of druggists, dying people, hat makers, fullers and pharmacists.

The Book of Saints, Rodney Castledon, Quercus Publishing plc, London, England, ©Quercus Editions Ltd 2006

The Book of Saints, Metro Books, Weldon Owen Inc, New York NY10011, ©2011



ROGATION SUNDAY

The Fifth Sunday after Easter (May 14 this year) is called Rogation Sunday. The word *rogation* comes from the Latin *rogare*, meaning *to ask*. On this day and the three days following, we ask God to provide the rain and sun needed for a good harvest. After coffee hour, we will bless the seeds planted by the pre-school and trees and plants in the Saint Francis Garden (weather permitting). You are welcome to bring a plant from home to be blessed.

The Ascension of Our Lord Book of Common Prayer, Page 177-178



The Feast of the Ascension was instituted by the church in Jerusalem in the late 4th Century. In the earliest times the Church celebrated the fifty day period between Easter and Pentecost as a single festival of our redemption, including commemoration of the Passion, Resurrection, Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit

all together. Only in the 4th Century did the idea develop of separating the several events in our Lord's redemptive dispensation by distinct festivals viewed as historical anniversaries.

The Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary
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Ascension Day Mass

Thursday, May 18, is the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 PM and will include a brief homily. Please remember Creative Learning School will be in session.

Pentecost (Whitsunday) Book of Common Prayer, Page 180-183

Pentecost is one of the three great festivals of the Church Year, the other two being Christmas and Easter. The term Pentecost comes from the Greek *Pentekoste*, meaning "fiftieth". Among Jews, the festival was known as the "Feast of Weeks" and was a thanksgiving for the wheat harvest. It was celebrated fifty days after Passover.



The name Pentecost was taken over by the Church from Judaism. The festival originally concluded the fifty-day celebration that began on Easter. Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles as recorded in the Second Chapter of Acts of the Apostles.

Among Anglican Catholics the day is often called "Whitsunday"...a reference to the white robes worn by newly baptized. In England and some northern European countries...the weather was more favorable for administering Holy Baptism on Whitsunday than on Easter.

The Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary
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Diocesan Synod

The Diocese of the Holy Trinity will hold its Annual Synod at Saint Matthew's Parish, Newport Beach CA, on June 8-9. The Clericus (Clergy Gathering) and a Women's Dinner will be held on Thursday June 8.



The General Synod will meet on Friday, June 9. Father Herb and Father Looney will both be attending. Candyce Francis is the Parish lay delegate. More details about the Synod will be available in a few weeks.

Provincial Synod



The XXV Provincial Synod of the Original Province of the Anglican Catholic Church (ACC), will be held in Orland FL, October 11-13, 2023. The ACC Provincial Synod will meet in conjunction with the jurisdictions of the Anglican Province in America (APA) and the

Anglican Church in America (ACA). In addition, the Diocese of the Holy Cross will hold their Diocesan Synod in the same location. Please see Father Looney for more information about the Provincial Synod.

Dedication Video

Thanks to Rebekah Shapiro, the original videocassette recording of the Dedication Mass of our historic church building in January 1986 has been transferred to DVD. Several copies are available in the Parish Library. The video includes an interview by KCSM-TV with the late Bishop John Cahoon. The original cassette recording is not the greatest quality but is an interesting addition to the Parish historical archives.



New Hymns CD



New Hymns for an Ancient Tradition is a CD of a live performance by the Saint Mary Magdalene Church Choir (Orange CA) at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, located in Yorba Linda CA. We have one copy available for loan.

The Good Shepherd

The Second Sunday after Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday, from the "Shepherd" theme common to both the Epistle and Gospel for the day.

Author Gary Richmond, a former zookeeper and veterinary assistant at the Los Angeles, and a returned pastor, talks about sheep in his book



All God's Creatures: Spiritual Lesson from the Animals of the Bible. (©1991 by Gary Richmond, Word Publishing)

In his chapter on sheep, Mr. Richmond admits they are not his favorite animals, but they must be the Lord's. According to Mr. Richmond, taking care of sheep was seen as some sort of punishment when there were lions, tigers, bears, gorillas, rhinos and more exotic animals to care for. He did notice, however, sheep were very tolerant of the hours of attention they received from unsupervised children. They never retaliated.

Mr. Richmond notes sheep are mentioned more than 500 times in the Bible...a greater number than any other animal. In both the Old and New Testaments, sheep are used to describe people and their relationship to God...and not usually in a complimentary way. People, like sheep, tend to wander off and get themselves into trouble...

*...We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to his own way. (Isaiah 53.6 RSV).*

Sheep, Mr. Richmond says, get dirty very quickly. If it is a fact the lanolin in sheep wool is a natural attractant to dirt and grime. Sheep have to be sheared...otherwise the wool gets saturated and heavy...they can fall down. A sheep unable to stand up because of the weight of its wool...will die.

On the other hand, Mr. Richmond notes, lambs are pure and clean young sheep. He says the highest compliment in Scripture is when Jesus is called the Lamb of God...

...The next day he [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1.29 RSV).

In John's Gospel Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd who cares for his sheep (that's us) and is willing to die for his sheep (also us). He is not just a shepherd...he is THE Good Shepherd. Perhaps the most comforting icon of Jesus the Good Shepherd is the one above...Jesus carrying the lamb on his shoulders while watching over his flock. What a great and wonderful God to have given us Jesus the Good Shepherd to watch over us.

Age-Friendly San Mateo News Elder Abuse: Scams and Fraud

By now everyone knows to look out for scams that so often victimize older adults. But how to recognize the ever-changing fraudulent schemes, and what to do when we encounter them, often requires outside assistance. Here are two sources where older adults can find help:

The AARP operates a Fraud Watch Network that provides information on steps you can take to protect yourself from fraudsters, while keeping you notified about scams happening in your backyard through their Scam-Tracking Map. Additionally, AARP's Fraud Watch Helpline (877-908-3360) is available for older adults who have questions about potential scams and provides advice if you have been victimized.

Check...<https://www.aarp.org/money/scamsfraud/?cmp=RDRCT-cda29a46-20200401>...for more information and to sign up for their alerts.

The San Mateo County District Attorney's Office, Aging and Adult Services, the Public Guardian, and County Counsel have formed EDAPT, the Elder and Dependent Adult Protection Team.

Check...<http://smchealth.org/elderabuse>...to learn more about this program, including resources on how to recognize and prevent elder abuse, as well as information on how to get help for victims. EDAPT also has put together a helpful slide presentation on how to spot elder abuse:

file:///C:/Users/Acer/Downloads/4.Fraud%20Scam%20Presentation%20&%20AAS%20Hotline%20NFOCC%20Presentation-compressed_1.pdf

The Aging and Adult Services' 24 Hour Abuse Hotline can be reached at (800) 675-8437.

This information is brought to you by the City of San Mateo Age-Friendly Task Force:

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/4687/Age-Friendly-San-Mateo>.

Disclaimer: The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of Saint Joseph Parish assume no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the content of the above article. The information contained in the article is provided solely as a service to our readers, on an "as is" basis, with no guarantees of completeness, accuracy, usefulness or timeliness."

THE NEXT ISSUE...

The next issue of *The Parish Times* will be the Early Trinity edition. The target date for publication and distribution is June 1. If you have an article or announcement you wish published, please submit it via e-mail or in writing by May 25. All submissions are subject to space limitations and editing by the Rector. All submissions must be free of partisan politics...whether Church or secular.



Find us on Facebook at: **Saint Joseph Parish – San Mateo CA**

Schedule

Sundays – 9:00 AM Parish Mass & Sermon
Coffee Hour and Discussion Group
Weekdays/Holy Days as announced
Sacrament of Penance by Appointment

The Reverend Father Craig Looney, Rector
The Reverend Father Herbert Plimpton, MD, Assisting

THE CONTINUATION OF ANGLICANISM: We affirm that the Church of our fathers, sustained by the most Holy Trinity, lives yet...are determined to continue in the Catholic Faith, Apostolic Order, Orthodox Worship and Evangelical Witness of the traditional Anglican Church.

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