

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Holy Communion

Those of you who are sheltering in place and attending Mass virtually are invited to receive **Holy Communion** by coming to the church immediately following our in-person Masses. You may also contact a priest to schedule a time to receive Holy Communion by calling 707-822-7696 and leaving a message on Fr Francis' or Fr Fabian's line.

Sat April 3: The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
 Rdgs: Gn 1:1—2:2 Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35
 8:30 am – Morning Prayer
 8:00 pm – For the People

Sun April 4: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
 Rdgs: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3:1-4
 Jn 20:1-9
 10:00 am – Marie Rocha +
 12:00 pm – For the People

Mon April 5: Monday within the Octave of Easter
 Rdgs: Acts 2:14, 22-33 Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11 Mt 28:8-15
 No Mass

Tue April 6: Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
 Rdgs: Acts 2:36-41 Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22 Jn 20:11-18
 8:30 am – Leonildo Sousa +

Wed April 7: Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
 Rdgs: Acts 3:1-10 Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 Lk 24:13-35
 8:30 am – All Souls in Purgatory

Thu April 8: Thursday within the Octave of Easter
 Rdgs: Acts 3:11-26 Ps 8:2ab, 5-9 Lk 24:35-48
 8:30 am – John Rocha +

Fri April 9: Friday within the Octave of Easter
 Rdgs: Acts 4:1-12 Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a Jn 21:1-14
 8:30 am – All Souls in Purgatory

Sat April 10: Saturday within the Octave of Easter
 Rdgs: Acts 4:13-21 Ps 118:1, 14-15ab, 16-21 Mk 16:9-15
 4:00 pm – Ines Furtado +

Sun April 11: Second Sunday of Easter/Sunday of Divine Mercy
 Rdgs: Acts 4:32-35 Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 1 Jn 5:1-6
 Jn 20:19-31
 8:30 am – Jeremiah DalPorto +
 11:00 am – Jose & Ezaltina Enes +

Priest's Visit: If you would like a priest to visit for Anointing of the Sick &/or to receive Holy Communion, please call the office at 707-822-7696 or 707-672-5859.

Pray for the Sick: Names are listed here by request & will remain for four weeks. If you would like to extend the listed time or if you would like to add a name, please contact the office at 707-822-7696 or stmarysarcata@gmail.com. Thank you.

George Cavinta, Judith Cardoza, Pete Villarreal, Joseph Dimmick, Linda Burr, Krista Melendy, Natalia Avelar, Elena David, & Cecilia Mendonca

Pray for the Souls of the Faithful Departed:
 Connie Jo Nunes, Ines Furtado, Austin Ledbetter, Jan Mobley (Pat Heavilin's sister), Marie Rocha, Fr. Mathew Ittiyappara, Natalia Oliveira & Mary Carson

Online Worship Opportunities

Dispensation from attending Mass in person is still in effect. In an effort to continue the practice of our faith in these trying times, you may find livestreamed masses & resources on the following websites:

- www.santarosacatholic.org (diocese)
- www.franciscanmedia.org (saint of day)
- www.wordonfire.org (click on Resources)
- www.ewtn.com (click on TV) or EWTN Channel 23 on your television



Easter Sunday

Christ raised from the dead brings new life to the world.

The passage from John's Gospel takes place on *the first day of the week*. This is reminiscent of the Creation account in Genesis which narrates the events of creation and the Fall in a garden.

So, now again, God brings life in the garden where Jesus' tomb was located. Mary Magdalene *came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark*. In John's Gospel, darkness represents a time of lack of faith. Mary is not expecting the Resurrection; she comes to mourn the death of Jesus. When she discovers that the tomb is empty, her first thought is that the body of Jesus has been stolen. She returns to the disciples and tells them, *we don't know where they put him*.

When the two disciples arrive at the tomb, they find it just as she described it. But while Peter seems to not understand, the *other disciple ... saw and believed*. He understands what the others will come to know when the risen Christ appears to them: Jesus is risen. The burial cloths that were left behind are of no need to one who has conquered death. We have no burial cloths here – but we do have the bread and wine that will become the body and blood of our Lord. Easter is the oldest feast in the Church year. From that day of Resurrection, through this moment (and into the future), the disciples of Jesus gather to celebrate and remember the saving events of his death and being raised from the dead.

Saint Peter, at the house of the Roman centurion Cornelius, recounts *what has happened all over Judea* concerning Jesus. Peter's sermon describes the good deeds of Jesus, who was anointed with the Holy Spirit. But, *they put him to death by hanging him on a tree*. After God raised him from the dead, Jesus appeared to his disciples and commissioned them to preach the Gospel. This is what Peter is doing for Cornelius' household. We learn in subsequent verses that their response to Peter's words is to accept the faith and be baptized. Saint Paul tells the Corinthians that Christ is our Paschal Lamb who *has been sacrificed* for us. This imagery, reminiscent of the first Passover, indicates that the shedding of Jesus' blood has redeemed us. In light of this, Paul calls us to live in newness of life, putting aside our old ways and embracing the *unleavened bread of sincerity and truth*.

From that first Easter moment, the Church began to grow. This is the core belief of our Christian faith: It is the risen Lord who gathers us together around his table to listen to the sacred stories about our faith, and then he gives himself to us in the form of bread and wine, as he did with his disciples on the night before he died. We share in the life of the risen Christ now, as Cornelius and his family did; as Paul and the Corinthians did; and, until Christ comes again, as our children will. God be praised for this gift of salvation to the world.

~Excerpts from Faith Catholic

Annual Ministry Appeal 2021

The AMA funds a variety of worthwhile & needed ministries within the Diocese. Your generosity & commitment are much appreciated. Envelopes are available in the Narthex.

AMA Target: \$22,586 Payments as of Feb 28: \$7,740



May you have a Joyful & Hopeful Easter!



**Saint of the Week
Saint Vincent Ferrer**

The polarization in the Church today is a mild breeze compared with the tornado that ripped the Church apart during the lifetime of this saint. If any saint is a patron of reconciliation, Vincent Ferrer is.

Despite parental opposition, he entered the Dominican Order in his native Spain at 19. After brilliant studies, he was ordained a priest by Cardinal Peter de Luna—who would figure tragically in his life. Of a very ardent nature, Vincent practiced the austerities of his Order with great energy. He was chosen prior of the Dominican house in Valencia shortly after his ordination.

The Western schism divided Christianity first between two, then three, popes. Clement VII lived at Avignon in France, Urban VI in Rome. Vincent was convinced the election of Urban was invalid, though Catherine of Siena was just as devoted a supporter of the Roman pope. In the service of Cardinal de Luna, Vincent worked to persuade Spaniards to follow Clement. When Clement died, Cardinal de Luna was elected at Avignon and became Benedict XIII. Vincent worked for him as apostolic penitentiary and Master of the Sacred Palace. But the new pope did not resign as all candidates in the conclave had sworn to do. He remained stubborn, despite being deserted by the French king and nearly all of the cardinals.

Vincent became disillusioned and very ill, but finally took up the work of simply “going through the world preaching Christ,” though he felt that any renewal in the Church depended on healing the schism. An eloquent and fiery preacher, he spent the last 20 years of his life spreading the Good News in Spain, France, Switzerland, the Low Countries and Lombardy, stressing the need of repentance and the fear of coming judgment. He became known as the “Angel of the Judgment.”

Vincent tried unsuccessfully, in 1408 and 1415, to persuade his former friend to resign. He finally concluded that Benedict was not the true pope. Though very ill, he mounted the pulpit before an assembly over which Benedict himself was presiding and thundered his denunciation of the man who had ordained him a priest. Benedict fled for his life, abandoned by those who had formerly supported him. Strangely, Vincent had no part in the Council of Constance, which ended the schism.

Reflection

The split in the Church at the time of Vincent Ferrer should have been fatal—36 long years of having two “heads.” We cannot imagine what condition the Church today would be in if, for that length of time, half the world had followed a succession of popes in Rome, and half an equally “official” number of popes in say, Rio de Janeiro. It is an ongoing miracle that the Church has not long since been shipwrecked on the rocks of pride and ignorance, greed and ambition. Contrary to Lowell’s words, “Truth forever on the scaffold, wrong forever on the throne,” we believe that “truth is mighty, and it shall prevail”—but it sometimes takes a long time.

~Excerpts from *Franciscan Media*

Sacrament of Reconciliation

is available on Saturdays at 2:00pm in the church. Also, upon your request, the priests are available after the weekend masses on Saturday and Sunday to hear your confession.



Email Addresses!

Fr Francis would like to communicate with you via email. Please consider giving the office your email address if you have not done so already. We would honor your privacy and only use your email for parish communications via our office or through our ParishSOFT software program. A sign-up sheet is available in the back of the church or email the office at stmarysarcata@gmail.com. Thank you.

Lenten Rice Bowl – Return next week!

Please return your Rice Bowls next Sunday. In order to help our counting crew, please count your donation and write a check for the amount to St. Mary’s. Reference ‘RICE BOWL’ in the memo section. You may also donate online at www.stmarysarcata.com: select ‘Donate’, choose ‘Other’ fund and note ‘Rice Bowl’. Thank you for your generosity!

Sara Jaye Hart, PhD, a professor from HSU, is working to connect students with community members who might like to share their story. The students are enrolled in the *Religion in America* class & are working on a project learning how COVID has affected spiritual practice for local individuals. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sara at sjh68@humboldt.edu or call her at 707-601-6619.

Is God Calling you to be a Sister? Single Catholic women ages 18 - 40 are invited to an Online *Religious Vocation Prayerful & Reflective Discernment Retreat* with the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul on Saturday, April 17th 9:30am–12:00noon. Contact Sr. Lisa Laguna, D.C. at srllaguna@doc1633.org for the Zoom link or sign up at www.daughters-of-charity.com/retreats/ or call 213-210-9903.

On Fire – Keep the Light Bright

On Fire NorCal is hosting a Youth Night Sunday, April 11 from 7-8:30pm. Navigate to www.onfirenorcal.com.

Youth & Young Adult resources: www.catholicya.org & www.onfirenorcal.com or email Stephen Morris at dsryouth@srdiocese.org

Scrip! The St Mary’s Scrip program is an ongoing fundraising tool for the many maintenance needs in our parish. Please call Alice @ 707-822-6850, Cathy @ 707-616-4772 or Bev @ 707-826-2729 to place your order. **Thank you!**

Our Parish needs your support!

Thank you to all those who have donated to the parish. Your generosity is much appreciated. This is a challenging time for all of us: spiritually, physically, & financially. If your budget allows during these trying times, please consider donating to St Mary’s Church, 1690 Janes Rd, Arcata, CA 95521, or donating online at www.stmarysarcata.com. **Thank you!**

Offertory Donation March 28: \$1622.00

Masses for the People & of Reparation

- Mass for the People: April 3
- Mass for the healing/support of all victims of clergy sexual abuse: April 23
- Mass for the conversion & just punishment of the perpetrators & concealers of sexual abuse: April 28
- Mass for the strength of the bishops to be holy shepherds in protecting & leading their sheep from all harm: April 30

WELCOME TO ST MARY’S! Whether you are a long time parishioner, a returning Catholic, or a new member, we hope your time with us is a meaningful and spiritual experience. If you haven’t registered, please complete this form and return it to the rectory office or place it in the offertory basket. Name: _____ New Parishioner yes / no
Address: _____ Phone: _____