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St Mary Magdalene's Church

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Rev. Bogdan Palka S.D.S. - Parish Administrator

Rev. Krzysztof Jablonski (07851 735590) - Permanent Deacon

PARISH MOTTO - 'THE BEST IS YET TO COME'

EASTER SUNDAY

9th April 2023

NORMAL MASS SCHEDULES

Monday
No public Mass

Tuesday – Saturday
9am

Friday
7pm (Polish)

Sunday
8.30am (Polish)
10am (English)
12noon (Polish)

CONFESSIONS

Saturday

9:30am (after Mass)
or call to make an appointment.



Dear Parishioners and Friends of our parish,
we are so happy that you could join us today to
celebrate Easter Sunday.

We all have different perspectives on life. We see life differently as a result of many things in our lives. As Christians, the feast we are celebrating today should influence our perspective on life most strongly. Jesus' resurrection from the dead deeply colours the way we live. We all have to live with the reality of death. It is something from which we can't escape.

We can deny it, we can try to hide from it, we can push it to the back of our consciousness, but we can't escape from it. The question we are faced with is: What is my particular relationship to death? Is death the great spoiler of life for us? Do we see death as the end of everything and so allow it to be the dark cloud that hovers over everything we do?

Knowing that it is certain that we are going to face death someday, do we not enjoy life as much as we could? Perhaps this is the way that some of us relate to death. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ has the power to free us from the anxiety that death provokes within us. The Resurrection has the power not only to lead us into new life after our death, but it also has the power to renew

the lives we are now living. If we allow belief in Jesus' resurrection and our future resurrection to take deep root in our hearts, then we will gain the power to live our present life in a much fuller way.

St Paul says, "Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God." Paul is not telling us to ignore our earthly life. Far from it. He is urging us to allow our lives to be surrounded and bathed in the light of Jesus' resurrection. We all know that when a person is consumed by a passion such as the love of the poor, or the pursuit of beauty in music or art, or even the love of money, they allow that passion to direct their lives.

They begin to see everything that happens in their lives in terms of the vision they have for their lives. That is what Paul wants us to do with the resurrection of Jesus. He urges us to make our decisions and direct our lives always within the atmosphere that the resurrection provides for our lives. Jesus has conquered death. Death is now only a passage to a new and wonderful life. And so our decisions about this and that take on a new perspective. The colour of our new car is not really all that important. The house we live in and the jobs we have are all relative realities. We don't have to always have the best the world has to offer. People are more important than things. As you can see, there are many, many things that change once we live in the light of the Risen Christ.

In fact, everything changes. This new vision of life is not one that we possess as we possess a piece of furniture. Seeing everything in the light of the resurrection of Jesus is something that we need to nurture. We do this through prayer and reading, through belonging to a community of believers who also believe in the resurrection, through reflection on our decisions and on the way we bring new life to others.

Have a great week—stay well and enjoy the gifts and blessings God has given us. May God bless you always,

Fr Bogdan SDS

For today's Mass

Responsorial Psalm

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.

Gospel Acclamation

Christ, our passover,
has been sacrificed;
let us celebrate the feast then,
in the Lord.

PRAYERS

Please pray for the repose
the souls of Margaret Conway
and Edwin Carlin
who died recently and for
all whose anniversaries
occur about this time.

**Eternal rest grant
unto their souls, O Lord.
May they rest in peace. Amen.**

Thank You

We thank you for your spectacular generosity. Your generous support of our Parish and your help with the needs of our community is greatly appreciated!

Last Sunday's Collection:
2nd April 2023 – £899.00.

Priest's musing

Three ladies were discussing the travails of getting older. One said "Sometimes I catch myself with a jar of mayonnaise in my hand, while standing in front of the refrigerator, and I can't remember whether I need to put it away, or start making a sandwich.

"The second lady chimed in with, "Yes, sometimes I find myself on the landing of the stairs and can't remember whether I was on my way up or on my way down." The third one responded, "Well, ladies, I'm glad I don't have that problem. Knock on wood," as she rapped her knuckles on the table, and then said, "That must be the door, I'll get it!"

Important Memorials

Memorials can be dedicated in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a special occasion—birthdays, anniversaries, living and dead etc... or for your own special intention by ordering a Holy Mass. Offering a stipend for a Mass intention is a way of contributing to the upkeep of your priest. It is a donation. Thank you for all your orders!

Easter Monday Masses

Masses at 9am (English) and 11am (Polish).
All are welcome!

Foodbank Needs

Most needed items for the month of April 2023 are: small bags of rice, small boxes of cereal, UHT milk, tinned tomatoes, main meals, jam, giscuits. Thank you for your help!

Jesus was a morning person

I love mornings. I will happily wake up with my alarm and bounce straight out of bed, and thinking through the day ahead. Mistakes have not yet been made, ideas have yet to be tested, and nobody quite knows exactly how the day will pan out. It's exciting, if we allow it to be. The Bible is full of references to the morning, using this tangible, everyday occurrence to illustrate the refreshment and renewal that Christians believe is on offer through the presence of God.

The book of Lamentations reminds readers that, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning". Psalm 30 gives the encouragement that "Weeping may last for the night, but joy comes with the morning". Mornings, especially early ones, buzz with potential. Perhaps this is why Jesus embraced them, too. Luke's gospel tells us that Jesus would preach in the temple "early in the morning". Mark's gospel similarly reports that Jesus would get up "very early in the morning, while it was still dark", in order to pray.

And, perhaps most significant of all, the resurrection of Jesus was discovered "at dawn on the first day of the week" (Matthew 28:1). Easter Sunday is a time when Christians remember that the extraordinary, history – shaping resurrection of Jesus means a fresh start. A new day, filled with space for forgiveness, celebration and hope. The resurrection is the sign to all who wish to see it that death – in all its thievery and pain – is not the end, and that another reality is possible.

As is often the case in life, this idea is perfectly summed up by the inimitable Nina Simone: "It's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for me; and I'm feeling good".

Lucy Colman

Christ is Risen, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Big thanks to all who took part in the services of Holy Week, including the Holy Triduum, and to the Lectors, Cantors, Eileen Williamson for the music and all who prepared for these sacred liturgies – making them a worthy celebration for all of us.

It was well done!

**Fr Bogdan, Deacon Krzysztof
wish you all a
Happy and Holy Easter!**

SAINTS DAYS and SPECIAL OBSERVANCES THIS WEEK

Monday 10th April
Monday Within The Octave Of Easter

Tuesday 11th April
Tuesday Within The Octave Of Easter

Wednesday 12th April
Wednesday Within The Octave Of Easter

Thursday 13th April
Thursday Within The Octave Of Easter

Friday 14th April
Friday Within The Octave Of Easter

Saturday 15th April
Saturday Within The Octave Of Easter

ARE YOU GOING TO BE IN HOSPITAL? DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS IN HOSPITAL?

Name _____ Hospital _____ Ward _____

Please complete/ tear off and hand it to Fr Bogdan after Mass