

27 APRIL 2025 SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

THOMAS SUNDAY 4/27/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✧ Jean Ferko (req. by Mike Ferko)
Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✧ Agnes Chivari (req. by Paul & Doris Pangratz)
 11:00 AM (E) ✧ Helen Law

SUNDAY OF THE OINTMENT BEARERS 5/4/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✧ Joe and ✧ Annette Komisarski (req. by John & Luke MacKenzie)
Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✧ Reginald and ✧ Ann Exley (req. by Paula & Larry Reinhart)
 11:00 AM (E) For the Parish Family

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:
04/20/25 \$1865.00

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD APRIL COLLECTION – Boxed macaroni & cheese
Proverbs 14:31 – “Anyone who oppresses the poor is insulting God who made them. To help the poor is to honor God.”

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: www.godwithusonline.org This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

ETERNAL MEMORY

O God of spirits and of all flesh, you trampled death and broke the power of the devil and granted life to your world. Now grant rest, O Lord, to the soul of your departed servant Pope Francis in a place of light, joy and peace where there is no pain, sorrow, nor lamentation. As a merciful God, forgive every sin committed by him in word, deed or thought, since there is no one who lives and does not sin. In blessed repose, grant, O Lord, eternal rest to your departed servant Pope Francis and remember him forever.

JESUS PRAYER – *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner*

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN! CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!

PASCHAL TROPARION: Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled death; and to those in the tombs he granted life.

LET GO OF FEAR

The appearance of the risen Jesus to the disciples today reveals the way for living the new life of the Resurrection.

It begins with getting rid of fear. The darkness of the evening and the locked doors of the place both highlight the degree to which the disciples’ lives are enshrouded by fear. However, the Lord emerges from the darkness and penetrates the locked room to demonstrate the futility of fear. The same divine force that causes the stone at the tomb to roll away permits the risen Jesus to pass through human obstacles and defenses. The grace of Resurrection causes human fear itself to shrink. To live in the Resurrection means to embrace that saving truth and not to give in to the tyranny of our feelings.

Time Well Spent

When we look at a tombstone, we see two numbers – the year the person was born, and the year he/she died. In between is a hyphen, indicating the length of the person’s life.

Now a hyphen is a very short punctuation mark. Likewise, our lives on this earth are very short, even if they last one hundred years or more. Thus, we have only a brief moment in this world to make a difference. What do we do with that time?

It all depends on what becomes the focus on one’s life. If that focus is satisfying the self and all of its appetites, it will have been a wasted life when the Creator calls us to our real Home. All of the wealth, prestige, education, etc. that we might have acquired here is worth nothing at all after we die.

If, on the other hand, we have spent our lives as humble servants, in imitation of the master who washed the feet of his disciples, then that hyphen will represent a life well lived for others. By reaching out to those who cannot repay us for our kindnesses to them, we are utilizing the brief time on this planet to make the lives of others more worthwhile.

AN INCREASE OF FAITH

Throughout most of Jesus’ public ministry, his apostles were utterly clueless about what was going on. Even though these twelve were the closest to him of all his followers, they stumbled and fumbled around in their misunderstanding. Yet still they followed him. In the midst of all of their questions, they were smart enough to ask for one important thing: an increase in faith.

You cannot go wrong if you follow suit. Jesus is going to answer any heartfelt prayer to increase faith. Like the apostles, you may need to fall a few times and make some mistakes along the way, but when you ask for an increase in faith. Jesus finds your prayer irresistible. Look what he did for the twelve apostles! He can do the same for you.