

**THE
LORD**
has truly been
RAISED
LUKE 24:34

April 14, 2024

Resurrection People!

What is your **favorite time** of the year? Is it your **birthday**, the **last day of school**, the **first day of school**, **summer vacation**? How about **Christmas time**? A Christmas carol claims, "**It's the most wonderful time of the year!**" The reality is that **Easter** is the most wonderful time of the year. It is all of your favorite days **rolled into one**. It is the **Feast of Feast for the King of Kings!** We celebrate the Easter **season** for a total of 50 days. As we prepared with 40 days of penance during Lent we now celebrate for 50 days.

As we continue to celebrate Easter, today we stop and ask ourselves "**am I a Resurrection person**"? Has the Easter Resurrection of Christ made a difference in my life?

The Resurrection changed the life of Jesus' disciples forever. They have an **encounter with the Risen Lord**. After they have seen the Resurrected Lord they are new people. We must ask ourselves the same question. **Have I seen the Risen Lord**? Has Easter touched me? Has my life been changed by God? Is the power of the Resurrection part of my daily experience? As humans our two greatest enemies are **sin and death**. The message of Easter is that Jesus has come and conquered them.

SIN

The essence of the Easter message is that Jesus died for our sins. We have an advocate in Jesus. The ancient sense of **advocate** was a legal counselor or lawyer. St. John is saying when we confess our sins we have Jesus as our lawyer! He will plead for our innocence because he has died for our sins. To be full of **Easter joy** we need to live in the freedom we have through the forgiveness of sins. There is nothing more freeing, nothing more liberating than making a **good confession** and knowing that our sins are forgiven. We always hear of Easter joy. This joy comes from the forgiveness of sins.

There is no sin that cannot be forgiven. To say that there is a sin that cannot be forgiven is to say that there is a sin that is stronger than the Cross of Jesus. There is no sin that is stronger than the love of Christ. The only sin that cannot be forgiven is the sin that is not brought to the Cross.

Easter proclaims victory over sin!

Have I **sinned grievously**? I can bring my sins to the Cross of Jesus Christ and he will forgive them. Had **Judas** asked for forgiveness Jesus would have granted it. **Peter** abandoned Jesus but he was taken back and forgiven. **John left his clothes in the garden and ran away leaving our Lord.** **Have you betrayed Jesus** in some way? Go to him and ask forgiveness. Avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and experience the **freedom that Peter found**.

DEATH

Our other **great fear is death**. We may wonder, **when I die is that it?** Death is the last frontier. We stop and think what is life all about? **Is all that awaits me death?** **The Resurrection answers that fear.** We rejoice today because the Resurrection points to eternal life. **Jesus rising from the tomb points to the fact that we too can live forever with Him.** For many people the greatest fear is of death. Jesus smashed the jaws of death by rising from the grave. No longer does death have power over us. Death is a passageway into eternal life.

While he walked this earth he promised his followers **eternal life**. Today that promise comes true as Jesus rises from the tomb. He was put to death but on the third day he rose. This means his promises are true. Some day you and I will be laid into a tomb. That is not the end of the story.

You see it is the **most wonderful time of the year**. Are you burdened by **sin**? Bring it to Calvary and be set free. Are you **grieving** over the loss of a loved one? Do you **fear death**? Death calls for a time of sadness but always built on **hope**.

Let these next **seven weeks be a time of renewal for us**. Will there be challenging days ahead? Undoubtedly. Will we face hardships and struggles ahead? Surely. But Easter reminds us **we never walk alone**. How has the **risen Lord impacted your life**? Are you an **Easter person year-round**? When we realize how much we have been given how can we fail to be **joyful, generous** people? You receive the **forgiveness of your sins** and **eternal life!** Easter is the most wonderful time of the year. **Christ's resurrection is our resurrection.** Let us embrace the freedom He won for us.

-Fr. Tim McKeown

RCIA class on **Monday, April 15** in the Narthex at 7 p.m.

Our **Young Catholics** (18-35, single or married) meet each Friday night. Please contact Rob Sadowski for the schedule. Phone - (912)230-4863 or email robertsadowski@yahoo.com

That Man is You! For more information contact Deacon Chris at csadowski@bellsouth.net

We have contributed \$47,248 of our \$67,829 goal for the **Annual Catholic Appeal** which puts us at 69%. If you have not yet made your pledge please do so this week!

Adult Bible Study

Sundays in the St. Anne Room Meets between 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. Please come join us!

Our High School Youth Group meets on

Wednesdays in the Narthex from 3:30 until 7:30. Please come and join us. Snacks, games and homework starting at 3:30 pm. Group activities at 4:30 pm. Dinner served at 5:15 pm. Spiritual lesson at 6:00 pm. Holy Mass at 7:00 pm in Church.

Keep in touch with us via text!

Mass times, ministry updates, & more delivered to your phone TO SIGN UP, TEXT **SFX150 TO 84576**

SIGN UP ONLINE AT: stfrancisxaviercatholic2.flocknote.com

At the **Saturday Vigil Mass on April 20**, we will welcome our candidates (those already validly baptized) into the Catholic Church through Profession of Faith, Confirmation and First Communion. These six candidates have been studying the Faith in RCIA since August. We congratulate them for their example of Faith!

**ST. VINCENT
de PAUL**

**FOOD PANTRY
REQUESTS**

Baked Beans,
Cereal, Stove top
stuffing



Confirmation Mass

May 7th at 6 p.m.

First Communion

**Mass May 11th at
10 a.m.**



Knights of Columbus State Charity Raffle: The 2023-2024 Charity Raffle to benefit both statewide and local charities is now being held through the end of April. **Up to 70% of the proceeds from local ticket sales will be used to fund improvements to the parking area between SFX church and the school.** The prizes are: 1st Place \$5,000; 2nd Place \$2,500; 3rd Place \$1,000. Tickets may be obtained from members of the Knights of Columbus – 1 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$20.00. Tickets will be available after most weekend masses. Winners will be drawn on May 18th at the Georgia Knights of Columbus Convention. For tickets or more information, call Don Heinecke at 912-577-8722.

MASS INTENTIONS

April 13 - 21

Saturday, April 13

5:00 p.m. † John Trinidad

7:00 p.m. † David Glasser

(at Jekyll United Methodist Church)

Sunday, April 14

8:30 a.m. † James Kilmetis

11:00 a.m. † Paul Ferra Jr.

6:00 p.m. (Spanish) † Maria Mendez &
Rafael & Rafael Rojas

Monday, April 15

Noon † Jim Holland

Tuesday, April 16

Noon † Frank Stevens

Wednesday, April 17

7 p.m. † Carol Malek

Thursday, April 18

8 a.m. † Buddy Brumit

Friday, April 19

8 a.m. † Richard & Natalie Newbern

Saturday, April 20

5:00 p.m. † John Trinidad

7:00 p.m. † Carol Malek

(at Jekyll United Methodist Church)

Sunday, April 21

8:30 a.m. † Jim Holland

11:00 a.m. † Mary, Effie & Preston
Blanchard

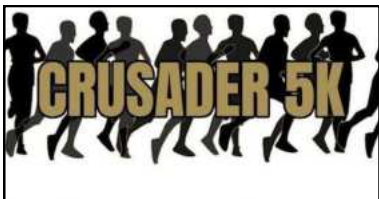
6:00 p.m. (Spanish) Efrain Lopez (int.)

Do you pay most of your bills online? You can donate to SFX online through Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) on our website.

Would you prefer to receive your bulletin each week via email? Go to www.DM.CHURCH/4324 or you can scan the code on the back of the bulletin.

2024 Mass Intention book is open. If you are interested in having some Masses said for a loved one, contact Ann in the office. You can call, email or stop by. Suggested donation is \$10 per Mass.

If your baby or toddler is feeling restless, the **Narthex** is open with a **live video and audio feed**. There are about 25 seats available. There is also a room located at the back of the Church you can go to.



May 18 starting at 7:30 a.m.
in front of the school

St. Francis Xavier Staff email addresses and exts.

912-265-3249

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