

APRIL 15, 2018 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Invest just five minutes a day, and your Faith will deepen and grow, a day at a Time

Sunday, Apr 15, 2018

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Love fully

One thing Jesus never could stomach is a hypocrite. In the stories, he always prefers sincere sinners to religious fakers. It's easy to slip into the role of a synthetic disciple without even noticing. Our religious routines—prayer, Mass attendance, lip-synched proper responses to moral issues—can go on autopilot. Meanwhile, self-congratulation, nasty judgments, self-involvement, and the unwillingness to forgive can turn our hearts to stone under the surface. How we love is far more important than how we look.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48 (47). *"Those who say, 'I know him,' but do not keep his commandments are liars."*

Monday, Apr 16, 2018

EASTER WEEKDAY

For everything there is a season

In order to bring something new into the world something about the old has to change. Prospective parents give up a lot of freedom when they invite a child into their family. To move to a new place you have to surrender the old one. When Jesus inaugurated "the way, the truth, and the life" in his ministry, it threatened business-as-usual for the contented synagogue-goers around him. They feared the destruction of the old practices and didn't cheerfully anticipate the arrival of the new. Change is always intimidating. Pray for the grace to make room for the new.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29 (273). *"This Jesus the Nazorean will destroy this place and change the customs that Moses handed down to us."*

Tuesday, Apr 17, 2018

EASTER WEEKDAY

Focus on the good—in everyone

Just as Mother Teresa had her critics, so also Father Damien was maligned after his death. It was novelist Robert Louis Stevenson, however, who visited the island leper colony where Damien ministered in 1889 and set the record straight. When a Honolulu pastor publicly called Damien a "coarse, dirty man" whose leprosy should be attributed to his "carelessness," Stevenson rebutted: "You are one of those who have an eye for faults and failures; that you take a pleasure to find and publish them; and that, having found them, you make haste to forget

the virtues and the real success which had alone introduced them to your knowledge. It is a dangerous frame of mind." Not all are called to Damien's heroism, but every Christian must reject a narrowmindedness that sees only the faults and failures of others.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 7:51—8:1a; John 6:30-35 (274). *"Lord, do not hold this sin against them."*

Wednesday, Apr 18, 2018

EASTER WEEKDAY

Hang out the welcome mat

Christians who define their faith in limiting terms—"who's out and who's in," for example—appear to have missed the memo from Christ that all are welcome at his table. Too often throughout history, and today as well, a desire for "religious purity" ends up hurting a lot of people who don't fit the mold. Avoid exclusionary ideology; remember that everyone else doesn't have to be wrong for you to be right with God. Christ is bigger than that, and we can be, too.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40 (275). *"I will not reject anyone who comes to me."*

Thursday, Apr 19, 2018

EASTER WEEKDAY

One life to live

"Forever is a long time," our mothers reminded us when we moaned about how it would take that long to do our homework or chores, or for summer to come again. But somehow the homework and the chores got done, and summer arrived—but forever never did. How will we know when forever begins? Technically, it already has; that is, the idea of everlasting life is not something for the future but is a continuation of the life we now enjoy. When the priest prays at Mass, "Lead us to everlasting life," he is really saying, "Keep us in everlasting life." Time to start living life for keeps! **TODAY'S READINGS:** Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51 (276). *"Whoever eats of this bread will live forever."*

Friday, Apr 20, 2018

EASTER WEEKDAY

Follow the light

Impressionist painter Claude Monet, a master at capturing the effects of light on landscapes, often found the process harrowing. He would paint the same scene with a dozen canvases and still not be satisfied. While trying to capture the color of an Italian landscape, Monet wrote: "I'm afraid what I'm doing is just dreadful and yet I really am understanding it; the light is simply terrifying." Monet's *Water Lilies*, his final masterpiece in the

study of light, was completed well after he had lost most of his sight. In the end, he had overcome his fears and learned to be the light. Our mission as Christians is similar: to painstakingly master our doubts and become one with the Light of Christ.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59 (277). *"He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?'"*

Saturday, Apr 21, 2018

MEMORIAL OF ANSELM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

To know God is to love God

"Faith seeking understanding" is the motto of Saint Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109). Anselm saw faith that "merely believes what it ought" as no faith at all. For Anselm, an active love of God, or faith, seeks a greater knowledge of God. That belief led him into the heady world of philosophical theology in search of a single proof for the existence of God. He finally came up with what he believed to be an irrefutable argument: "God is that than which nothing greater can be conceived." Although immediately criticized by a contemporary philosopher, Anselm's argument continues to be considered in any discussion of the existence of God. What steps can you take to deepen your knowledge of God?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 9:31-42; John 6:60-69. *"You have the words of eternal life."*

Next Sunday

Sunday, Apr 22, 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER; GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Your turn to serve

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18 (50). *"A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

April 14-15 – Third Sunday of Easter

After the resurrection Jesus appeared to his disciples many times, often sharing food with them. "They recognized him in the breaking of the bread" as the Gospel says this Sunday. Jesus was not just making a point about his bodily resurrection; he was also making a point about community. The risen Jesus brings people together and they become the Body of Christ. We do not choose the members of the Body of Christ, we have been chosen, by the grace of God to belong. Like the disciples of the past, we are called to give witness to this by our lives. Is our love, our mercy and compassion, especially to the poor and vulnerable credible enough that everyone who sees us could tell that we are members of Christ's body?



Third Sunday in Easter YEAR B

**APRIL 15, 2018 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, April 14, 5:30PM

Birthday Blessings for Vanessa Linton requested by Jennifer Brooks

SUNDAY, April 15, 8:00AM

For the repose of the soul of Cleo Beavers and M. Gacad, requested by the Escarrilla Family

SUNDAY, April 15, 10:00AM

In Loving memory of Johnnie Dorsey, Jr. Morris, Sr. & Morris Jr. Dorsey, Fannie Lewis, Alvin Hooper, Lenora Williams and Ecoa Montague, requested by Johnnie and Dean Dorsey.

Calendar of Events

Sunday April 15, 2018

Mass 8:00AM

Rosary 9:30AM

Mass 10:00AM

Tuesday April 17, 2018

Noon Mass

Wednesday April 18, 2018

Noon Mass

Thursday, April 19, 2018

Noon Mass

Choir Rehearsal 6:00PM

Friday April 20, 2018

Noon Mass

Weekend April 7/8, 2018

ATTENDANCE

VIGIL MASS 18

SUNDAY

8:00 am 40

10:00 am 185

Weekend April 7/8, 2018

OFFERTORY \$3366.00

Children 35.00

E-GIVING 2259.15

SVDP (E-GIVING) 75.00

SVDP 100.00

CCD 70.00

Scholarship 2000.00

Gift Store 115.00

SQUARE (gift store) 20.00

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 22 – Seminarians and Priest Education and Formation

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

May 13 – Ascension of Our Lord

August 15 – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

November 1 – All Saints

**UNITY EXPLOSION REGION X
2018 CONFERENCE**

Unity Explosion is an evangelization conference to be held June 6-10 in San

Antonio. The conference provides an experience that addresses the expressed leadership, ministerial, catechetical, liturgical and evangelization needs of families of African descent. Those involved in evangelization, catechesis and pastoral music are encouraged to participate to bring back to their parishes the education and formation received at the conference. Musicians are encouraged to attend the Roderick J. Bell Institute for African American Sacred Music. For more information about the conference, visit <https://www.archsa.org/unity-explosion-2018>. There is a limited amount of registration scholarships to be administered by the diocesan Office of Black Ministry for those who work in evangelization, catechetical, liturgical ministry among Catholics of African descent in the Diocese of Austin. For more information about the scholarship application, visit www.austindiocese.org/2018-unity-explosion-conference.

RELAY FOR LIFE

The Holy Cross Steppers, our Relay for Life Team, needs your participation and donations in this year's Relay for Life campaign, benefitting the American Cancer Society. The goal is to raise \$2000 dollars and the date of the race is rapidly approaching. The event is scheduled for Friday April 27, 2018 at Huston-Tillotson University. Please contact Darro Blankenship.

IGBO MASS BEGINS APRIL 29, 2018

Please help spread the news. Holy Cross will begin a monthly IGBO Mass, every last Sunday of the month at 12:30pm. All IGBO Catholics are welcome from everywhere.

HANDBAGS FOR HOPE

The Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver are collecting gently used purses and handbags for the Handbags for Hope Campaign. The purses and handbags will be distributed to women in 92 Women's Domestic Violence Shelters across Texas on Mother's Day by children in the shelters. Deposit in box in Weber Hall by Sunday, April 15th.

ASHES TO EASTER LENTEN BOXES

Thank you for your support of Ashes to Easter and our Diocesan mission groups. Your commitment to serving those in need throughout the world, as part of your Lenten journey, is inspiring. I hope that this process has left you feeling fulfilled as we continue our celebration of the Easter season. It is not too late to turn in your boxes.

SAINT WILLIAM'S

Saint William Catholic Church at **620 Round Rock West Drive in Round Rock** is hosting their Spring Festival on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 12 noon to 9 p.m. Garage Sale will take place at the Parish Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please join us for some great food, games, and **Music featuring Latin Express, David Farias, and David Lee Garza y Los Musicales**. For more information visit Saint William's website at www.saintwilliams.org

DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

"Women Embracing the Joy of the Gospel" is the theme of the 69th Austin Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention at the Marriott Austin North 2600 La Frontera Blvd., Round Rock, April 23-24, 2018. Keynote speaker is Father Richard Gielow, C.M., "When the Catholic sun shines there is music, laughter and good red wine" Bishops Joe and Danny will celebrate Mass in advance of Monday evening's awards banquet where **Father Basil** will be a recipient. For more information and to register access www.AustinDiocesanCouncilofCatholicWomen.org/events.

UP-DATE

Family Life Center Capital Campaign



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