

Easter Sunday
April 12, 2020



SAINTS CYRIL AND
METHODIUS PARISH

FARNOSŤ SVÄTÝCH
CYRILA A METODA



A Personal Parish Established To Serve The Slovak Catholic Community In The Archdiocese Of Detroit

EASTER SUNDAY

Dear Parishioners,

This is not how we were hoping to celebrate Easter: with everybody in their homes, connected only virtually. We share these same sentiments with many people across the world. And, we are not the first whose hopes remain unfulfilled.

We were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel. (Luke 24:21) The disciples on the road to Emmaus are being honest when they talk with Jesus, without recognizing him. Their hope was surely sincere, as is Jesus even after his resurrection. Redemption has already been accomplished, yet they remain unconvinced, incredulous, and disappointed. They fail to recognize the true nature of redemption that Jesus brings. While they had been hoping for an instantaneous manifestation of political and military superiority, Jesus brought something different. While people are concerned about their appearance, hope for success and health (especially in these days), Jesus challenges them to move beyond those expectations. The new life he lives and gives is more profound; the words that he preaches need to be put into practice. It takes our effort to revisit his words and shape our lives accordingly. Once we do, then we will be able to say: now I know that he is the one who redeemed me from my old way of life and put me on a new path.

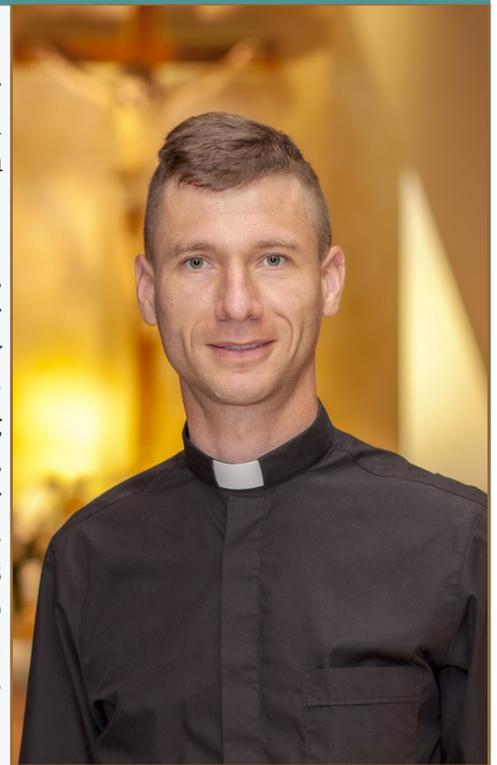
I wish you all a blessed Easter,

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Všetci sme dúfali, že Velkú Noc prežijeme ináč než zavretí vo svojich domoch a spojení iba virtuálne. Zdieľame pocity mnohých ľudí vo svete a nie sme jediní, ktorých nádej sa nespĺnila. My sme dúfali, že on vykúpi Izrael (Lk 24,21). Učeníci na ceste do Emmauz sú veľmi úprimní, keď hovoria s Ježišom bez toho, aby ho poznali. Ich nádej iste bola úprimná. Ježiš už aj je po zmŕtvychvstaní, takže vykúpenie už muselo nastať. Napriek tomu sú zmätení a nerozhodní. Nepochopili, akú spásu Ježiš naozaj prináša. Zatiaľ čo oni dúfali v okamžité prejavy politického, alebo vojenského víťazstva, Ježiš prináša čosi iné. Zatiaľ čo ľuďom záleží na vonkajšku, dúfajú, že budú úspešní a zdraví (najmä počas týchto dní), Ježiš ich vyzýva, aby šli k podstate. Nový život, ktorý on žije a dáva je hlbší: sú to slová, ktoré hlásal prenesené do praxe. Vyžaduje si to námahu, aby sme jeho slová znovu premeditovali a podľa nich aj žili. Až potom budeme môcť povedať: teraz viem, že on vykúpil mňa z môjho starého života a postavil ma na cestu života nového.

Všetkým prajem požehnanú Velkú noc.

Fr. Libor Marek





SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS PARISH FARNOSŤ SVÄTÝCH CYRILA A METODA

Parish Announcements – April 12, 2020

- The Easter Novena begins on Easter Monday. If you or your loved ones would like to add your intentions, please send your request to the parish office email: parishoffice@saintcyrils.church.
- The Chapel is open daily from 12:00PM - 10:00PM. Only five people are allowed in the Chapel at one time. Please remember social distancing and please wear a mask or scarf over your mouth to help protect yourself and your neighbor.
- Next Sunday is the second Sunday of Easter, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. At this time, as well as at other times, we join in prayers for those who are suffering.
- Next week's Sunday Holy Mass will be livestreamed at 10:00AM.
- Finally, if you are in need of assistance during these difficult times, please contact the parish office and leave your name and telephone number.

Farské oznamy – 12. apríl 2020

- V pondelok sa začínajú slúžiť sväté omše veľkonočnej novény na vaše úmysly. Ak chcete pridať svoje úmysly, môžete kontaktovať farský úrad na adrese: parishoffice@saintcyrils.church.
- Počas týchto dní pandémie je kostol zatvorený, ale kaplnka je otvorená na súkromnú modlitbu každý deň od 12:00 do 22:00. Prosím, buďte opatrní.
- Na budúcu nedeľu slávime druhú veľkonočnú nedeľu, ktorá je aj nedeľou Božieho milosrdenstva. Je to čas, keď sa modlíme za tých, ktorí trpia.
- Ak viete o niekom, kto potrebuje počas týchto dní pomoc, prosím, kontaktuje farský úrad.

MASS *Intentions*

©JPPC

Father Libor & Father Juraj will celebrate the scheduled Mass Intentions in their Private Daily Masses this week as follows:

April 11, Holy Saturday – Sobota † 7:00PM—Easter Vigil (Livestreamed: www.saintcyrils.church)

3:00PM: (EWTN) LIVE Easter Vigil from Rome

8:00PM: (EWTN) LIVE Easter Vigil from the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception from Washington, D.C.

❖ For the Intentions of All Parishioners

April 12, Easter Sunday - Nedela † 10:00AM—Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday (Livestreamed: www.saintcyrils.church)

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9

6:00AM: (EWTN) LIVE Urbi et Orbi: Pope Francis Delivers Easter Message and Blessing from Rome

8:00AM: (EWTN) LIVE Solemn Mass of Easter Sunday from Our Lady of Angel's in Irondale, AL

12:00PM: (EWTN) LIVE Easter Sunday Holy Mass from the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

❖ For the Intentions of All Parishioners ❖ For the Priests of Ss. Cyril & Methodius ❖ For Fr. Juraj Nuota req. Diane Mitchell

❖ For Fr. Luigi Gabris req. Janet ❖ For Barbara Garrisi ❖ For Sylvester Joachim Wilkins (B'Day) req. Grandparents

❖ For Mary Aziz (B'Day) ❖ For Julia Russo ❖ For Christopher Zabawa req. Langlois Family ❖ For Rachael Sheeran

❖ For Gungue Schultheis ❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family ❖ For Hayley Reynolds & Family

❖ For Nedhal & Ibrahim Aziz & Family ❖ For Gary & Annette Rudzewicz ❖ For the Shamoon Family ❖ For the Makarewicz Family

❖ For the Menard & Daniel Families ❖ For the Vitale & Monsu Families ❖ For Emily & †Jo Davis ❖ †Matthew Burke

❖ †Bernice Weil req. James D. Weil ❖ †Leon Jimenez ❖ †Bernard Ivin req. Daniela Grisak

❖ †Paul Magusin req. Prusak Family ❖ †Paolo Persichetti req. Jim & Barb Wisniewski

❖ †Alice Krause ❖ †Richard & Esther Baginski ❖ †Slewa & Amera Meyou & Family

April 13, Easter Monday – Pondelok

❖ For the Intentions of the Easter Novena ❖ For Celisa Rolling (B'Day) ❖ For Jeanne Baltrinic (B'Day) ❖ For Annette Rudzewicz

April 14, Easter Tuesday – Utorok

❖ For the Intentions of the Easter Novena ❖ For the Holy Souls in Purgatory ❖ For Levi Kray (B'Day) ❖ †Germaine Evely

April 15, Easter Wednesday – Streda

❖ For the Intentions of the Easter Novena ❖ For Juraj Nuota (B'Day) ❖ †Matthew Margiewicz ❖ †Stefania Bak

April 16, Easter Thursday – Štvrtok

❖ For the Intentions of the Easter Novena

❖ For Marian Prusak (50th B'Day) req. Family ❖ For Emma Timmerman (B'Day) ❖ For Gerald Sadecki

❖ For Vince Laconi ❖ †Agnus McIntyre req. Family ❖ †Gladys Langlois req. Langlois Family

April 10, Easter Friday – Piatok

❖ For the Intentions of the Easter Novena

❖ For Citizens of U.S.A. ❖ For Pope Francis & Vatican Officials ❖ For Larry Giroux (B'Day)

❖ For John Khami (B'Day) ❖ †Slewa & Amera Meyou ❖ †Richard & Esther Baginski

April 11, Saturday – Sobota

❖ For the Intentions of the Easter Novena

❖ For the Members of O.L. Mother of Mercy Secular Discalced Carmelites ❖ For All Priests, Deacons, Religious & Seminarians

❖ For Brian Gill (B'Day) req. Mother ❖ For Bernadette Miller (B'Day) req. Husband ❖ For Paul, Linda & Family

❖ For Tommy & Angela ❖ For Alexandra Schultheis & All Parishioners

April 12, Sunday - Nedela

Acts 2:42-47, 1 Pt 1:3-9, Jn 20:19-31

❖ For the Intentions of the Easter Novena ❖ For the Intentions of All Parishioners ❖ For Priests, Deacons, Religious & Seminarians

❖ For Renee Dzieciolowski ❖ For Paul & Julie Varchetti & Family ❖ For Mark Miller ❖ For Charles & Theresa MacDonald req. Family

❖ For John Paul Lesniak ❖ For Paul, Linda & Family ❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family ❖ For Monir & Alia Korkis & Family

❖ For Tommy & Angela ❖ For the Antonelli Family ❖ For the Glen Wilkins Family ❖ †Joe Marine (Ann.)

❖ †Paul Magusin req. Joe Grisak ❖ †Frank & Maria Suga req. Janka Stewart ❖ †Kveta Mandik req. Janka Stewart

❖ †Anna Juhas req. Janka Stewart ❖ †Phillip Cusimano ❖ †Greg & Mary Manning & Family

❖ †Paolo Persichetti req. Diane Corrigan ❖ †Slewa & Amera Meyou ❖ †Michael Lesniak

Easter Octave

Easter Sunday: *Jesus' tomb is empty!*

(John 20:1-9, Luke 24:1-12)

Spiritual Essence: Death is not the end of the story!

Easter Monday: *Jesus meets up with the Marys after He is risen!*

(Matthew 18:8-15)

Spiritual Essence: Our God is a God of Surprises!

Easter Tuesday: *Mary Magdalene does not recognize Jesus!*

(John 20:11-18)

Spiritual Essence: Walk by faith and not by sight!

Easter Wednesday: *Jesus meets two disciples on the road to Emmaus!*

(Luke 24:13-35)

Spiritual Essence: Always look for Christ in others!

Easter Thursday: *Jesus shows His wounds to His disciples!*

(Luke 24:35-48)

Spiritual Essence: Look for Christ in the midst of the mess!

Easter Friday: *Jesus helps His disciples fish and feed them!*

(John 21:1-14)

Spiritual Essence: Build your hopes on Christ!

Easter Saturday: *Jesus tells His disciples to proclaim the Gospel!*

(Mark 16:9-15)

Spiritual Essence: True strength is sharing joy, love, hope & kindness!

Divine Mercy Sunday: *Thomas puts his hand into Jesus' wounds so that he may believe Christ is truly risen!*

(John 20:19-31)

Spiritual Essence: Doubt is not an enemy of faith, but disengagement is!

He Is Risen

Easter Blessings!

Fr. Libor and Fr. Juraj



ADORATION 101

To Be of Good Cheer! By: Paul Ray



Here is an Easter Prayer which I composed in light of the current pandemic which affects all of us. Life is different, life has changed, but Our God has not ...

“Eternal and ever loving Father, we come before you in humility with sorrowful hearts. For you are our God, Our Lord, Our Savior, Our hope and Creator of all. In your kindness forgive us for our sins, for we have offended you. We give You thanks, from the depths



of our being, for giving us the gift of life and the ability to come to know you; for there is no greater gift than that and we praise you for it. Help us to recognize the privilege we have as being made in your image and likeness and to give you proper adoration for doing so. We thank you, Oh Lord.

We know that the Feast of the Resurrection of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, is upon us. And we know that it comes this year during tumultuous times. We ask You, Oh Lord, to help us all, to see through the turmoil of what is happening and recognize that you truly are the way, the truth and the life. Help us to recognize that you are bigger than this pandemic and that we can truly and honestly trust in your protection.

Your Son told us, “I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” Help us to rest in you during these times and have peace. Help everyone who is struggling this Easter season be of good cheer, knowing you have overcome the world. Just as you were resurrected on Easter Sunday, resurrect our confidence in you.

Easter will be different for all of your children. But you remain the same. Increase our faith, hope and love for you. We repeat the words of your servant, St. John and pray, “for he who is in us is greater than he who is in the world.” Grant us your blessing Oh Lord. Through the intercession of your Mother, Mary and through the name that is above all names, the Lord Jesus Christ, we pray!” – *Paul A. Ray*

Lenten Challenge Update

There is still time to complete the St. Cyril Lenten Challenge (for children, teens and adults)! Since the office has been closed since March 17, the challenge is being extended!

Please note! For any of the challenge squares that you are not able to complete because of the current restrictions, you may pray a rosary instead.

We will have a private drawing with lots of fun prizes as soon as the parish re-opens so make sure to send in your completed challenge sheets soon!

Please mail the completed Lenten Challenge to:

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish
Attention: Lenten Challenge
41233 Ryan Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314

American Red Cross Needs Donors

Thank you to everyone who signed up for our Blood Drive that was scheduled for April 6, however, due to the situation with the Coronavirus, the Blood Drive at Ss. Cyril & Methodius was postponed.

If you would still like to donate blood during this incredibly important time, please contact:

redcrossblood.org or **1-800-RED-CROSS**
to find Blood Drives near you



A Note from Right-to-Life, Lifespan

Dear Friends, Never has our nation been so determined to protect human lives.

Social distancing, self-isolation, wearing masks, hand washing, churches closed, shortened school year and home schooling, limited number of shoppers allowed into those stores that are still open. Marriages postponed, birthdays recognized by “drive by” parades of vehicles with signs. Babies being born and grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins seeing them only on I-phones or I-pads; people facing death surrounded by strangers instead of their loved ones; grieving loved ones standing alone at the gravesite. All these things in an effort to protect our loved ones and all of society.

And yes, let’s not forget to praise the first responders, doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, housekeeping staffs, makers of ventilators, masks, gloves, gowns and other needed items to keep our health care providers “below the curve”. They place their own well-being on the line every single day.

It seems that suddenly we have discovered that human life is indeed precious, to be cared for, fought for and protected. We are willing to put aside our own wants and desires to protect those around us. We are discovering that there are ways around these difficult circumstances. That it is possible to protect others. It takes sacrifice, yes, but it can be done! The result is clearly worth our efforts—people’s lives are being saved, supported, and protected.

Our wish and prayer is that when this trial is over, we will not lose that newfound realization that we can protect human life—young, old, convenient or problematic. We are a people of courage, a people of faith, a people of compassion and we will prevail. *Diane Trombley and the Oakland Macomb Board*

Catholics encouraged to practice “spiritual Communion” during COVID-19 Epidemic

After the Angelus prayer on March 3, Pope Francis invited the faithful “to rediscover and deepen the value of the communion that unites all the members of the Church. United to Christ we are never alone, but we form one single Body, of which He is the Head.”

Pope Francis encouraged those unable to attend Church to pray for spiritual Communion, “a practice that is highly recommended when it is not possible to receive the Sacrament.” Archbishops and bishops in the U.S. join the pope in inviting the faithful to this practice.

In his encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, Pope John Paul II explained how the essential role of the Eucharist in uniting us to Christ led to the practice of “spiritual Communion”:

In the Eucharist, “unlike any other sacrament, the mystery [of communion] is so perfect that it brings us to the heights of every good thing: Here is the ultimate goal of every human desire, because here we attain God and God joins himself to us in the most perfect union.”

Precisely for this reason it is good to cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist. This was the origin of the practice of “spiritual Communion,” which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life. St. Teresa of Jesus wrote: “When you do not receive Communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual Communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.” (*Ecclesia de Eucharistia* 34:68-70)



Cathy Images/Pixabay.com

What is spiritual Communion?

Spiritual Communion is the practice of desiring union with Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. It is used primarily by individuals who cannot receive holy Communion, such as the ill, the divorced and remarried, and those who have not yet been received into full communion with the Church. St. Thomas Aquinas described it as “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace him” at a time or in circumstances when we cannot receive him in sacramental Communion.

Act 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.

Saints have encouraged spiritual Communion

“Communion is to the soul like blowing a fire that is beginning to go out, but that has still plenty of hot embers; we blow, and the fire burns again.

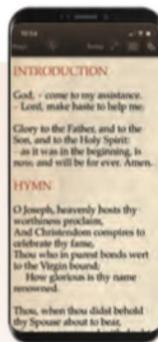
“After the reception of the Sacraments, when we feel ourselves slacken in the love of God, let us have recourse at once to spiritual Communion. When we cannot go to the church, let us turn towards the tabernacle; no wall cannot separate us from the good God.” ST. JOHN VIANNEY

Spiritual Communion is “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him.” ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

“What a source of grace there is in spiritual Communion! Practice it frequently and you’ll have more presence of God and closer union with him in your life.” ST. JOSEMARIA ESCRIVÁ †

Pray the Liturgy of the Hours

The Church has another liturgy (public prayer) with which people may be unfamiliar. That is the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office, the daily prayer of the Church. This beautiful liturgy marks the hours of each day and sanctifies the day with prayer. The Hours are a meditative dialogue on the mystery of Christ, using scripture and prayer. Join priests and religious around the world each day, and particularly on Sundays, in praying the Liturgy of the Hours. You can find it at www.ibleviary.com.





Regina Caeli (Queen of Heaven)

Our Queen is constantly before the Divine Majesty, interceding for us with her most powerful prayers." St. Alphonsus Liguori,

Every year, from Easter to Pentecost, the beautiful prayer and chant, the **Regina Caeli** replaces the Angelus, traditionally prayed at 6am, Noon, & 6pm. The origin of the Regina Caeli is attributed to Pope St. Gregory the Great, which is found in *The Golden Legend*, a 13th Century work on the lives of the saints:

"The plague was still ravaging Rome, and Gregory ordered the procession to continue to make the circuit of the city, the marchers chanting the litanies. An image of Blessed Mary ever Virgin was carried in the procession. And lo and behold! The poisonous uncleanness of the air yielded to the image as if fleeing from it and being unable to withstand its presence: the passage of the picture brought about a wonderful serenity and purity in the air. We are also told that the voices of angels were heard around the image, singing:

*Regina coeli laetare, Alleluia, * Quia quem meruisti portare, Alleluia, * Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia! Queen of heaven rejoice, Alleluia, For He when you did merit to bear, Alleluia, Has risen, as He said, Alleluia, to which Gregory promptly added:*

*Ora pro nobis, Deum rogamus, alleluia!
Pray for us to God, Alleluia,*

Then the pope saw an angel of the Lord standing atop the castle of Crescentius, wiping a bloody sword and sheathing it. Gregory understood that that put an end to the plague, as, indeed, happened. Thereafter the castle was called the Castle of the Holy Angel."

Since then, while the Angelus celebrates and honors the Incarnation of Jesus, the Regina Caeli celebrates His Resurrection and praises Mary for the victory of her Son over sin and death.

In these uncertain days, let us recourse to Mary and ask her for healing and to bless the world and cleanse it of the Coronavirus, trusting in her most powerful intercession.

REGINA CAELI

V. O Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

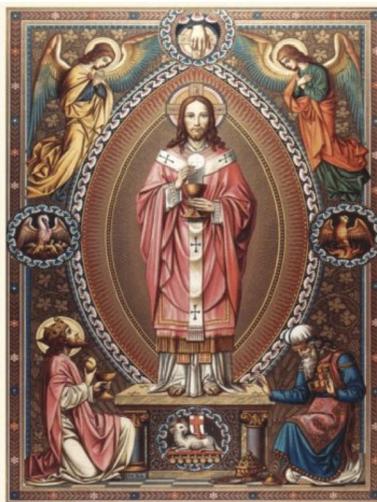
V. Has risen, as He said, alleluia.
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord has risen indeed, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who by the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has given joy to the whole world, grant we beseech You, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the same joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen

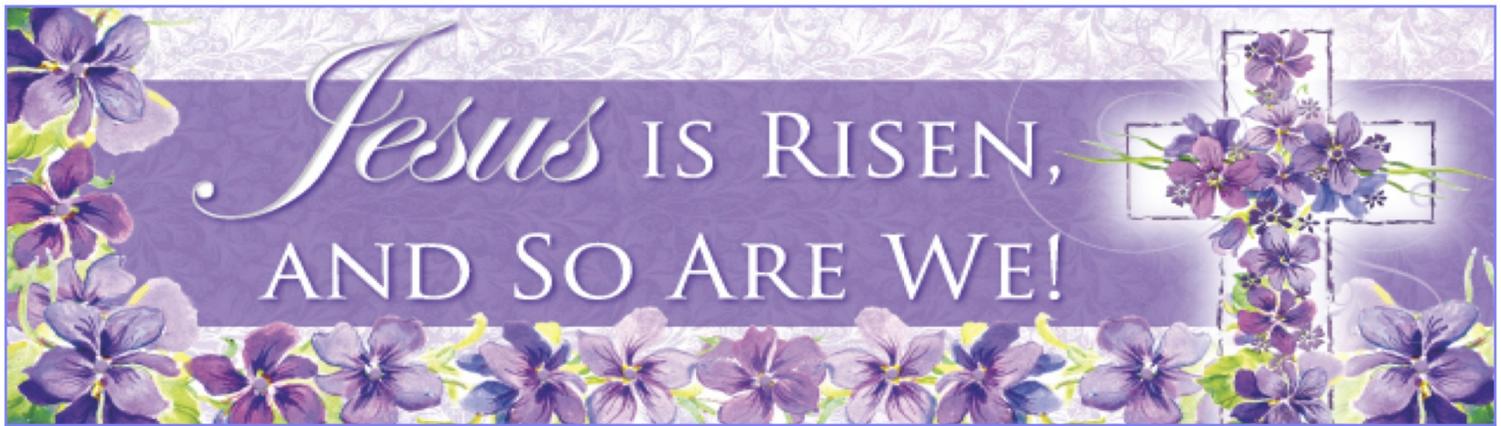
April ~ Month of the Holy Eucharist

"Just as the Bread which comes from the earth, having received the invocation of God, is no longer ordinary Bread, the



Eucharist, consisting of two realities, earthly and heavenly, so our bodies, having received the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible because they have the hope of the Resurrection."

St. Irenaeus of Lyons



10 April Activities for Catholic Families

1. Bring back the Alleluia! Once the season of Easter begins, put up a decorative Alleluia in your home. This could be as simple as it written on a piece of paper or as elaborate as large, wooden decorative letters.
2. Divine Mercy Sunday is the Sunday after Easter (April 19). Enjoy a special ice cream treat for Divine Mercy Sunday. This fun sundae activity is sure to be a hit with kids. <http://www.catholicicing.com/celebrate-divine-mercy-sunday/> Work on the free Divine Mercy coloring page near Divine Mercy Sunday. <https://www.reallifeathome.com/divine-mercy-coloring-page/>
3. Take a walk through the neighborhood and count Easter decorations and signs of spring. Try to increase how many things you can find each day that are signs of spring (example, perhaps a new tulip popped up overnight, a new wreath is hanging on a door, ants making an ant hill or worms playing on a sidewalk after the rain, etc.)
4. Give your kids some extra computer time to watch a segment/movie/bible study on FORMED.ORG or enjoy a 'no internet' day (you pick which would be best for your family).
5. Prepare for a trip to a farm or zoo. In Spring, new life abounds on a farm. Read about some of your favorite baby farm animals so you'll know more about them when you are able to visit the farm/zoo. Draw pictures of your favorite farm/zoo animals or cut out pictures of them from newspapers or magazines.
6. Start a prayer journal: Every morning start with prayer and note one thing that you are grateful for from the day before. Once you start writing, you'll realize how many blessings God sends your way each day. As an expression of thanksgiving, send a note of gratitude to a healthcare worker, police officer or another person who is working extra hard during this time.
7. Pray for those preparing for First Communion. Your family may have a friend or relative receiving Jesus for the first time soon. Spend extra time praying for them, and maybe even let them know that you're doing so!
8. This is the perfect time to start a summer garden or to start cooler winter crops. You can begin a backyard garden or start seedlings in your home (you can even use an egg carton for plantings). Even a small garden can help children feel close to God through His Creation. If gardening really isn't your thing, consider growing a small indoor plant. (Here are Mary Garden ideas, if you want to make one: <https://www.reallifeathome.com/how-to-start-a-mary-garden-in-7-easy-steps/>)
9. Read about St. George in "The Book of Saints and Heroes" (Age 8 & up) on FORMED.ORG and do a drawing activity on how to draw a dragon in honor of Saint George's feast day (April 23). <https://www.artforkidshub.com/how-to-draw-a-dragon/>
10. Pick your favorite verses from the Gospel of Saint Mark to share or memorize for his feast day (April 25)