

*I AM THE Resurrection
AND THE Life,
HE THAT
Believeth
IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD,
YET SHALL HE
Live.*
~JOHN 11:25

Jesus promises that those who believe and follow Him will never die. Today's Gospel recounts Jesus saying, "I am the Resurrection and the Life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live." These words clearly identify Jesus as the Son of God, the author of life and the One Who brings our salvation. The words also give the promise and hope of eternal life in heaven to all who believe in Him and persevere in faith.

In the reading from Ezekiel, the prophet tells the Israelites that they will know God because he gives them life and frees them from enslavement. Saint. Paul explains to the Romans that the life-giving spirit they received through Christ frees them from both sin and death. In the Gospel reading, Jesus proclaims that He is the Resurrection and the Life and that all who live and believe in Him will never die.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES—Please call the church office you are celebrating a wedding anniversary during the month of May. Your parish family would like to recognize you for your commitment.

EASTER EGG HUNT—Sponsored annually by IHM Church and KC Council 9753, will be held Sunday, April 9th, beginning at 12:00 noon. Children, bring something to gather eggs in, and meet in Allen Hall. Prizes and candy will be given in four age groups ~ *newborn—2 years; 3—5 years; 6—8 years; and, 9—10 years.*

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL— "I will give you a New Heart "...and a new spirit I will place within you." (Ezekiel 36:26) Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. St. Paul reminds us that God Himself "did not spare His own Son." Jesus' death was God's greatest gift to us. He gave his only Son so we may have eternal life! Are my gifts to the Lord — of my resources, of my time, of myself — also sacrificial? Do I gratefully and generously share with my parish, the community and the Universal Church? Your support of the 2017 Annual Diocesan Appeal is a grateful response to God's greatest gift to us. IHM goal is \$17,525.00.



LENTEN REGULATIONS - are on the back of the bulletin, as well as the *Holy Week/ Easter Schedule.*

ADORATION / BENEDICTION —Friday, April 7th, 5:00—6:00 p.m.

WAY OF THE CROSS —will immediately follow Adoration and Benediction.

LENTEN MEAL—will be served in Allen Hall, following the Way of the Cross.

RICE BOWLS—please turn in your donation before Easter.

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES—are on the table at the church entrance. Your gift will be used to decorate the Church during the Easter season. You may drop your gift in the collection basket.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEACON L.G.! - Every day you do so much for our whole church community! We are praying for many blessings on your special day, and throughout the year. Have a great birthday, knowing that you are well loved! May God grant you many more years to live, love and serve!



Vigil (4 p.m.) Irvin and Michael Brouillette
Deacon L.G. Deloach Intention
Johnston & Pelletier families
Sun. (9 a.m.) Dewon Mayeaux Intention
Carl Perschy
(11 a.m.) All people
Mon. Gage LaVallie
Tues. No Mass
Wed. Kyle and Scott Myers
Thurs. Milton Snow
Fri. Ruby Primeaux

Mass intentions next weekend: Vigil (4 p.m.) - Leo & Alberta Brossett, Louis & Annie VanAsselberg; Sunday (9 a.m.) - Michelle Babineaux and Michael Shane Ryland, Aldon and Louis Granger; Sunday (11 a.m.) - All People.

SANCTUARY LAMP WILL BURN—this week for Catherine Flagler Intention. Please keep her in your prayers.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE— Erna Bailey, sister of Lois (Marvin) Brouillette; J.V. "Buck" Williams, brother of David (Merlie) Williams; and, Billy Christopher, father of Roger (Rhoda) Christopher. We offer our sympathy and extend our prayers to their family and friends.

R.C.I.A.— This Sunday at the 9 a.m. Mass, we celebrate the 3rd Scrutiny with the catechumens who are preparing for initiation into the Church at Easter. Please keep them in your prayers.

OFFERTORY GIFTS :

Regular collection: \$4,140.00
Catholic Relief Services: \$915.00
2nd collection: Improvement Fund
Allen Hall roof fund: \$24,041.55
Church AC/Heat unit: \$5,200.00

Thank you for your generosity!

SICK LIST —Nancy Affeltranger, Ernie Babineaux, Leah Baden, Dorothy Barrios, Cylie Blevins, Special Intention GB, Jackie Brandow, Syble Brouillette, Joyce & Ray Burge, Lily Ceasar, Frank Chapman, Frankie Costantino, Jim Cutler, John Deslatte, Catherine Dupray, Catherine Flagler, Deacon Ray Gibson, Deborah Halbrook, Carolyn Hernandez, Bishop Emeritus Ronald Herzog, Pam Hogue, Iva Isom, Danny Johnson, Jared Johnson, Audrey Kelley, Mike Killian, Jimmy Mayeaux, Ronnie Mayeaux, Jr., Willie Mae Milam, Ottis Monroe, John Musgrove, Paul Nugent, Abel Pacheco, Dawn Parker, Mary Perschy, Frances Philpot, Benny Quatrevingt, Judy Rechs, Alma Reitzell, Mark Reitzell, Hazel Roberts, Carol LaCaze Rose, Maddox Sasser, Paul Schmidt, Ann Sellers, Kay Setliff, Nick Tullier, Artis & Verla White, Gracie Zaunbercher, Residents Tioga Manor Nursing Home. *(Names will be left on the sick list for three weeks; please let us know if we need to add/remove a name)*

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE—will be held Monday, April 3rd, 6:00—7:00 p.m., in the Church.

LADIES ALTAR SOCIETY—will be hosting a **BAKE SALE** after each Mass next weekend, April 8/9. Please stop and support this fundraiser, and pick up a dessert for your family!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—monthly meeting will be held Monday, April 3rd, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at their KC Hall on Birkland Drive.



MASS HYMNS— are in the missal, #136, "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"; #507, "Now We Remain." *(We will have no recessional Hymn during Lent.)*

HOLY WEEK /EASTER SCHEDULE

Daily Mass ~ Monday, April 10th, and Wednesday, April 12th, 8:00 a.m.

Chrism Mass ~ Tuesday, April 11th, 11:00 a.m., St. Francis Xavier Cathedral
Bishop Talley will bless the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens and consecrate the Oil of Chrism. Our Priests will also renew their priestly vows during this Mass.

Holy Thursday ~ *The Lord's Supper* ~ April 13th, Mass at 6:00 p.m.
Washing of Feet, Presentation of Oils, Transfer of the Holy Eucharist
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight

Good Friday ~ *The Lord's Passion* ~ April 14th, 6:00 p.m.
Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion
(There is No Mass anywhere on Good Friday)

Holy Saturday ~ *Easter Vigil* ~ April 15th, 8:00 P.M.
Service of Light, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of Baptism, Mass

Easter Sunday ~ *Resurrection of the Lord* ~ April 16th, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
(There will be no confessions scheduled during Holy Week)

LENTEN REGULATIONS—Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. This means we do not eat meat and we have only one full meal. Other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Obligation to abstain from meat binds Catholics age 14 and older. The obligation to fast, eating one full meal and two lighter meals in one day, binds Catholics age 18 to 59. Younger or older may freely embrace these disciplines. Lenten disciplines should never endanger your health. It is obvious that abstaining from meat is meaningless for vegetarians, who must choose some other form of abstinence. It is equally obvious that replacing meat with a gourmet seafood meal is not in keeping with the spirit of Lent.

"THE THREE DAYS" - an informative and prayerful explanation of what we call the **Paschal Triduum** will be held Thursday, April 6th, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at St. Rita's, Alexandria. We will explore the meaning and the richness of our Liturgies and how they reflect the events of these days in the life of Our Lord Jesus. This presentation will be in preparation for our celebration of **Tenebrae**, an evening prayer service meant to prepare us for Holy Week, which we will pray immediately following this presentation, approximately 7:30 p.m.
****PLEASE NOTE:** St. Rita's will not pray **Tenebrae** on the Wednesday of Holy Week as in the past.

Regular Schedule

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Facebook at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

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