PRINCE OF PEACE



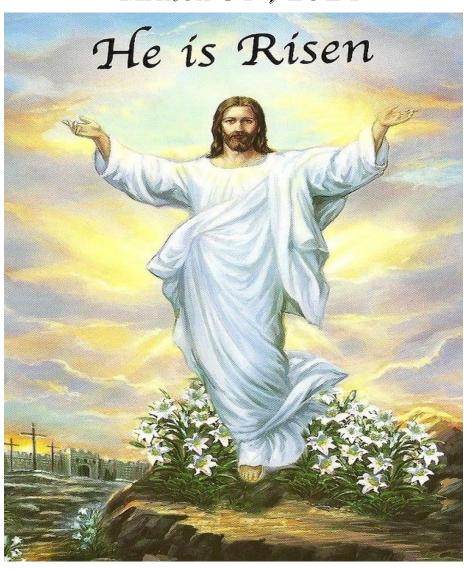
811 Chestnut Avenue N. Cambria, PA 15714

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & CHAPEL



2410 Campbell Avenue N. Cambria, PA 15714

MARCH 31st, 2024



EASTER SUNDAY
THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL: JOHN 20:1-9

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Rev. Mark E. Groeger

Administrator

mgroeger@dioceseaj.org

Deacon Gary Gill ggill@dioceseaj.org

Marissa Lashley Administrative Assistant mlashley@dioceseaj.org

Janet Barnosky Religious Ed. Coordinator jbarnosky@dioceseaj.org

Deacon Gary & Mrs. Patti Gill Directors of RCIA, Adult Faith, Marriage Prep and Family Life ggill@dioceseaj.org

> Office Hours: 9:00am-2:00pm Monday-Thursday

(Closed Fridays and on National Holidays)

(814) 948-6842 www.popnc.net Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4:00pm (Church) Sunday: 8:00am (Chapel) Sunday: 10:30am (Church)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:00am (Church)

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 7:00am-8:00am (Church)

Confessions

Friday at 7:30 (during adoration), Saturday & Sunday 1/2 hour prior to Mass

ALTER SERVERS

Saturday, April 6th

4 PM -

Sunday, April 7th

8 AM - Tyler McCreery

10:30 AM - Ben Shutty and Lillian Statler

LECTORS

Saturday, April 6th

4 PM - Denny Previte

Sunday, April 7th

8 AM - David Kudlawiec 10:30 AM - John Weiland III



IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

May the Divine Physician send healing grace for those for whom we pray. Please remember in a special way the following who have requested your prayers:

Bill & Connie Abrams, Jim & Alma Abrams, Nancy Anna, *Carl Bechel, Mary Bolette, Phil Bolyn, *Sally Chervenak, Angela Crane, *Dorothy Dercotch, Don Dykeman, Alexis Frank, Olivia Ferguson, Kendra Gibbson, Leighton Hess, Judy Hilliard, John Hornick, Michael Kakabar, Sr., *Patty Kopas, Peter Korch (Grandson), Julia Kuzzia, Judy LeGars, *John Lee, *William Lee, Jim Montanaro, Brenda Nagle, Kylie Nelson, Bonnie Nessina, *Judy Noel, Roberta Pastirko-Bechel, Lou Riva, *Magdalene Pompa, Robin Pike, James Scott, Emanuel Shetler, Susan Shuss, Yvonne Stivanelli, James Tibbott, Diana Tretinik, Darcie Wagner, Frances Weakland, Jane Williams, Joe Williams, and Sherry Williams.

* Homebound or Parishioners living in an Assisted Living Facility

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE PROUDLY SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES

Family members and friends of our parishioners who are currently in active service are as follows:

WO2 Jason Amsdell SGT Thomas Bowser SSGT Gregory Chuhran Master SGT Ryan Cox PVT Kevin Everly Robert Goody LCDR Thomas D. Hunter SSGT Matthew Kendall SPEC Shawn Kent MAJ John M. Kiraly CH Nicholas S. Klamar SGT Michael A. Kordish

SSGT Brittany McConnell ARMY SPEC Bryan Nealen PVT Josh Nelen AMN Lauren C. Penksa USN LT Nicole Peterson USN, SSGT Todd Rito PVT Jacob Schlereth SSGT Jason Tyson ENFR Ted Vermeulin CAPT Christine Zimmerman CAPT Robert Zimmerman











MASS INTENTIONS

March 2024:

Saturday, 30th:

8:00pm (Church) † Easter Vigil

Sunday, 31st: Easter Sunday

8:00am (Chapel) † Living & Deceased Members of Prince of Peace Parish, By: Fr. Mark

10:30am (Church) † Andy Ondecko, By Family

April 2024:

Monday, 1st:

8:00am † Stanley Trybus,

By Wife Donna, Children, and Grandchildren

Tuesday, 2nd: No Mass

Wednesday, 3rd:

8:00am † Marsha Lamont, By: Norm & Pauline Polites

Thursday, 4th:

8:00am † 65th Wedding Anniversary of M/M Eugene Stivanelli, By: Eugene & Yvonne Stivanelli

Friday, 5th:

8:00am † Richard Kirsch, By: Family

Saturday, 6th:

4:00pm (Church) † Leo Palmisano,

By: Wife Laura and Son Lenny

Sunday, 7th:

8:00am (Chapel) † Mike Wagner, By: Parents

10:30am (Church) † Living & Deceased Members of Prince of Peace Parish, By: Fr. Mark

The <u>side door church entrance</u> (next to the office) is open for PRIVATE PRAYER Monday thru Friday between 7am-2pm.

MEMORIAL CANDLES: APRIL 7TH

Sanctuary Candles in Loving Memory of . . .

Church: Leo & Vicky Stanek, Richard & Inez Nelson, By: Leo & Holly Stanek

Chapel: Parishioners, By: Fr. Mark

Pieta Candle in Honor of . . .

Church: Parishioners, By: Fr. Mark

WEEKLY GIVING: SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

Weekly: Envelopes: \$4,454.00- Online: \$94.00;

Monthly: Envelopes: \$465.00;

Candles: \$135.00;

Catholic Home Missions: \$30.00:

Catholic Relief Services: \$125.00; Cemetery: \$200.00;

Easter: \$670.00; Easter Flowers: \$20.00; Good Friday: \$195.00; Holy Thursday: \$210.00; Loose Cash: \$149.00; Maintenance: \$35.00; Mother's Day: \$25.00; Seminarian: \$25.00;

St. Vincent DePaul: \$160.00...

Total \$6,992.00

WEEKLY NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEAT THE HEAT, CANCEL THE COLD

WE REMEMBER IN A SPECIAL WAY IN OUR PRAYERS:

Blair & June Govel
Andrew & Rose Ondecko

DIOCESE NEWS

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and assisted with Spring Cleaning at the Chapel. Your efforts are most appreciated!

A MESSAGE FROM FR. MARK

He is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a joyous and blessed Easter.

In Matthew's Gospel 26:14-25 we're reminded by our Lord as he speaks to the disciples of the peril that will fall on those who betray Him. He says, "The Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. It would be better for that man if he had never been born." It doesn't get much clearer than that. He of course is talking about Judas. Many people have turned their back on the Lord and in so doing have betrayed Him. Hearing those words from our Lord should be all the motivation we need to embrace Him fully, to strive to be close to Him always and to keep Him first in our lives every minute of every day. I pray that has been your journey throughout this penitential season and that you will continue your journey always. Let us continue to live that which we celebrate today, to Live with and in the Risen Christ, so that when He calls us to judgment, we receive our eternal reward.

May our Lord bless you always!

-Fr. Mark

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH (NORTHERN CAMBRIA): Our Annual Spring Basket Auction will take place Saturday, April 27th from 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM and Sunday, April 28th from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. The drawing will begin at 3:00 PM on Sunday in the Church Hall. All winners will be called and can pick up their baskets between 4PM and 6PM at the church hall. Tickets for basket are \$5.00 for 26 tickets. We will also have a pie raffle and a Special \$1000 Cash Raffle. All tickets will be available for purchase at the Church Hall. Take out food is also available for purchase. Our basket auction will benefit: The Development Fund at St. John's.

DIOCESE NEWS

DR. ED SRI COMING TO MT. ALOYSIUS:

Saturday, April 20th at Mt. Aloysius, Cresson from 9AM -12:30PM. Free. Register Today! There is no cost to attend but registration is required. Online (Recommended) at www.dioceseaj.org or mail in a form, available at each parish in the diocese. Direct all questions to Sister Linda LaMagna at 814-742-7894.

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARK

I recently read a story shared by Jacqueline Dooley. It's one of those stories that is found by accident when you click on an internet link. The story is about Jacquline's daughter Ana, who was 11 years old when she was diagnosed with a rare cancer called inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor, which is sometimes referred to as IMT.

Jacqueline sadly describes how she observed simple things that her daughter did during her short lifetime. He description is sad because at the end of the story, Jacqueline reveals that she did not take pictures or save some of the simple toys that her daughter played with.

Jacqueline ends with this observation: "As I approach the seventh anniversary of losing Ana, I don't need or want to keep retelling the story of her death. I want to remember her life and the unique things made Ana, well... Ana."

In the 40 days leading up to Easter Sunday, we read lots of "little stories." One of my favorite stories is often the Gospel reading (Jn 12:20-33) on the Sunday before Palm Sunday. John recounts the following incident: Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

That Gospel passage is followed by Jesus describing in his own words how he was about the be glorified. John tells us that it would come about by the kind of death he would die. He quotes Jesus saying to all of us: "Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be."

The punchline comes next, when Jesus says: "The Father will honor whoever serves me." The highest honor for each one of us is to be united with Christ. We do that by serving him, especially in serving others who need our help, like Jacqueline who finally realized that we may never forget the tragedy of death. But what is most important are things that remind us of life.

Easter is the celebration of the life of Christ, which is all about eternal life. The liturgy of the Church on Easter and throughout the year reminds us to continue to proclaim the great mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again! Today and throughout the Easter season share that Good News with everyone.

- Bishop Mark



By: Albert & Judith Daisley

Charlie Arotin

By: Dorothy Arotin

Eli & Mary Arotin

By: Dorothy Arotin

Baker Family

By: Anna Baker

Bernard & Melissa Baker

By: Anna Baker

Richard Baker

By: Anna Baker

Margaret Baran

By: John & Kathleen Baran

Patsy Baran

By: Dan Baran

Patsy Baran

By: John & Kathleen Baran

Stanley Baran

By: John & Kathleen Baran

Stanley & Margaret Baran

By: Dan Baran

William Baran Family

By: Mary Suwinski

Leonard Barnosky, Sr.

By: Donna Barnosky

Bill & Mary Begenyi

By: Joanne Nelson

Mr. & Mrs. Delmo Benamati

Bv: Carol Benamati

Robert Benamati

Bv: Carol Benamati

Leonard & Millie Bender

By: Steven & Mary Bender

Don & Theresa Bernard

By: Brock McMullen

John F. Bernard

By: Laura Palmisano

Peter & Beulah Bernard

By: Laura Palmisano

Peter & Beulah Bernard

By: Arnold & Joyce Smorto, Jr.

Peter Bernard, Jr.

By: Laura Palmisano

Andrew & Anna Biros

Bv: Carol Benamati

Helen Biros

By: Carol Benamati

Jodi Blatt

By: James & Donna Rieger, Jr.

David, Diane, & Zachary Blick

By: James & Donna Rieger, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Blick

By: James & Donna Rieger, Jr.

Josephine Bobik

Bv: Dennis Bobik

Louis Bodek, Jr.

By: Fred & Darlene Yuhas

Louis Bodek, Sr.

By: Fred & Darlene Yuhas

Mike & Jeanette Burba

By: William & Paula Burba Clyde & Marie Buterbaugh

By: Richard & Katherine Buterbaugh

Ronnie Buterbaugh

By: Richard & Katherine Buterbaugh

Rose Ann Buterbaugh

By: Anthony & Ruth Bonanno, Jr.

Rose Ann Buterbaugh

By: Richard & Katherine Buterbaugh

Vickie Buterbaugh

By: Richard & Katherine Buterbaugh

Kevin Campbell

By: Marion Dolney

Mr. & Mrs. William Cann

By: Carol Benamati

Joe & Ted Carson

By: Eugene & Yvonne Stivanelli

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cashman

Bv: William Lantzv

Alfonzo & Salvatrice Cipolla

By: Alfonzo & Mary Cipolia

Norma Cipolla

By: Alfonzo & Mary Cipolla

Jeff Clark

By: James & Donna Rieger, Jr.

Michael & Ray Cook

By: Levonne Keilman

Albert Daisley, Sr.

By: Albery & Judith Daisley

DeMay Family

By: Bernadette DeMay

Frank & Genevieve DePetro

By: Anthony & Jennie DePetro

Mr. & Mrs. John Dolansky

By: Eugene & Yvonne Stivanelli

Joseph & Ethel Dolney

By: Richard & Katherine Buterbaugh

Joseph & Ethel Dolney

By: Marion Dolney

Francis & Evelyn Dolney

By: Marion Dolney

Rodney & Ryan Dunchack

By: William & Paula Burba

Frank Dale Eckman

By: Sammi Ray Medivitz

Henry Edmiston

By: Patty Edmiston

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Entler

By: John & Sandra Weymer Patti Firment

By: Paul Mattis

Stan Fish

By: James & Donna Rieger, Jr.

John Frontino

By: Jeannie Frontino

Mary Frontino By: Frank Frontino

Delores, Savina, & Tony Gaston

By: Donna Trybus

Francis J. Gill

By: Helen Gill

Frank Gomolka

By: John & Kathleen Baran

Frank Gomolka

By: Martina Gomolka

Andrew & Stefarva Govel By: Victor & Karen Williams



By: Kathleen Skupaka Margie Greenaway By: Shirley Kapeluch By: Thomas & Jeanene Criste

Monica Gresko By: Ed Gresko Isabel Gressley By: Patty Edmiston Herman & Alma Hebner

By: Anthony & Jennie DePetro

Ann Hovanec By: Kathleen Skupaka Anna Hovanec By: Shirely Kapeluch **Marion Hradisky** By: Casey Williams **Hromulak Family** By: Bernadette DeMay **Hrubochak Family** By: David & Marianne Mehall

Alma, Frank & Richard Jarvis By: Robert & Rose Lamer

Anthony & Catherine Kapeluch By: Shirely Kapeluch

Ed Kapeluch By: Shirley Kapeluch Andy & Ann Kaminski By: Joseph & Agnes Yuravak, Jr.

Ron Kazmer

By: Joseph & Agnes Yuranak, Jr. D. J., Gerry, & Skip Keilman By: Levonne Keilman

Web & Irene Keilman By: Levonne Keilman Ed & Pauline Kerfonta By: Theresa Kerfonta Joey Kerfotna By: Theresa Kerfonta

Judy Kerfonta By: Theresa Kerfonta

Rudy, Tony, & Mary Kerfonta

By: Theresa Kerfonta John & Helen Kiraly By: Bud & Angie Kiraly Jozeph & Mary Kiraly By: Bud & Angle Kiraly Richard Kirsch

By: James & Wanda Kirsch

Wanda Kleba Bv: Victor & Karen Williams Helen & Joseph Kollar By: Joseph & Patricia Kollar III

Paul & Bertha Kollar Bv: Frances Weakland Robert & Ronald Kollar By: Frances Weakland

Eva Kopko

By: Sammi Ray Medivitz

Emily Kudlavec

By: David & Dianna Kudlawiec Peter & Mary Kudlawiec By: David & Dianna Kudlawiec

Andy & Mary Kupetz By: Joseph & Patricia Kollar III

Alice & Loy Lamer

By: Robert & Rose Lamer **Arthur Lantzy**

By: William Lantzy **Bridgetta Lantzy** By: Richard Lantzy Earl & Mary Lantzy By: Anne Weber

Mr. & Mrs. George Lantzy

Bv: William Lantzv

Mr. & Mrs. William Lantzy

By: William Lantzy Raymond Lantzy By: Richard Lantzy Urban & Evelyn Lantzy By: Richard Lantzy Mrs. Catherine Lenyo

By: Ronald & Katherine Dolansky

Bernice Leslie By: Daniel Leslie Bernice Leslie By: Ellen Leslie **Bernice Leslie**

By: Harvey & Marilyn Wargo

Irvin E. Leslie, Jr. By: Daniel Leslie Irvin Leslie. Jr. Bv: Ellen Leslie Irvin Leslie

By: Harvey & Marilyn Wargo Irvin & Catherine Leslie, Sr.

By: Daniel Leslie

Irvin & Catherine Leslie, Sr.

By: Ellen Leslie Francis Ligda By: Kathryn McKee

John & Margaret Lonergan By: Eugene & Kerry Zernick Joe & Connie Macaluso

By: Patty Edmiston

Angeline, Bernard & John Malysa

By: Regis & Janne Mattis

Leonard, Louise & Richard Malysa

By: Regis & Joanne Mattis **Mary Ann Manioc**

By: Levonne Keilman Mike Markovich Michael & Sharon Markovich

Rose Marie Markovich By: Michael & Sharon Markovich

Kathy Matava

By: Joseph & Agnes Yuravak, Jr.

David Matko By: Terry Bonatesta Blance, John & Mike Mattis

By: Paul Mattis Harry McAndrew, Jr. By: Phyllis McAndrew

Anna Jean McIntyre Bv: Donna Barnosky Mr. & Mrs. Arthur McKivigan By: William Lantzy William & Agnes McMullen By: Patrick & Diane McMullen **Jeffery Mease** By: Anthony & Ruth Bonanno, Jr. Raymond Leo Medivitz By: Sammi Ray Medivitz Mehall Family By: David & Marianne Mehall Ben, Benedict, Mary & Ralph Messina By: John & Diane Messina **Amandus & Ann Miller** By: Kenneth Bradford **Art Miller** By: Richard Lantzy **Arthur & James Miller** Bv: Kenneth Bradford Harold & Ann Mitchell By: Shirely Kapeluch Mr. & Mrs. Harold Mitchell By: Kathleen Skupaka **Edith Mondi** By: Donna Barnosky **Norman Montgomery** By: Barbara Montgomery Bruno & Jennie Moriconi By: Patty Edmiston Marje & Pete Nalisnick By: Joseph & Sharon Nalisnick **Henry & Marie Natcher** By: Dorothy Arotin James & Virginia Neilson By: Casey Williams **Charles & Jean Nelson** By: Joanne Nelson Dick & Inez Nelson By: Leo & Holly Stanek **Andrew & Rose Ondecko** By: Steven & Mary Bender Andy & Rose Ondecko By: Larry & Diane Waksmunski **Gary Ondecko** By: Paul & Julianna Ondecko Peter & Margaret Ondecko By: Kenneth & Joyce Harchick Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Palka By: James & Donna Rieger, Jr. Mike & Aline Pallone By: Bud & Angie Kiraly Leo M. Palmisano By: Laura Palmisano Don & Mary Louise Parrish Bv: Richard & Karen Staruch Mr. & Mrs. Francis Paliske By: Robert & Gloria Slavik Andrew & Mary Petrisko, Sr. By: Francis & Joan Petrisko Helen Louise Petrisko By: Francis & Joan Petrisko Mr. & Mrs. John Petrisko

By: Ronald & Katherine Dolansky

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Polesky Bv: Eugene & Yvonne Stivanelli **Father Anthony Pollack** By: Patrick & Diane McMullen Frank & Jennie Popovich By: Troy McMullen Peter & Jessie Puleo By: Theresa Kerfonta Mr. & Mrs. Richard Rieger By: James & Donna Rieger, Jr. Danny, Ferdinand & Hilda Rietscha By: Danny & Lois Rietscha Joseph & Georgetta Ritchey By: Daniel & Carol Antos Joseph & Georgetta Ritchey By: Andrew & Jean Federinko Joseph & Georgetta Ritchey By: Richard & Martha Kemp, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rocco By: Ronald & Katherine Dolanksy **Charles & Julie Rushton** Bv: Francis & Joan Petrisko **Diane Rushton** By: Francis & Joan Petrisko Paul R. Sally By: Marion Dolney Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Salyan By: Barbara Montgomery Fr. Stephen Sedlock By: Alfonzo & Mary Cipolla John & Mildred Shackelford By: Nancy Zatorsky Kathy Shell By: Nancy Zatorsky Mac & Bud Sholtis By: Jerome & Beth Sholits **Donald Shovestull** By: Chris & Sue Hoover John & Mildred Skupaka By: Kathleen Skupaka Patricia Skupaka By: William Skupaka Tom & Joe Skupaka By: Kathleen Skupaka Andrew R. Slavik By: Robert & Gloria Slavik John & Cecilia Slowik By: Robert & Gloria Slavik **Arnold & Pearl Smorto** By: Arnold & Joyce Smorto, Jr. Janet Spinner By: Casey Williams Leo & Vicky Stanek By: Leo & Holly Stanek John & Jean Staruch By: Richard & Karen Staruch Virginia Stinson By: Richard Lantzy Mr. & Mrs. Emil Stivanelli By: Eugene & Yvonne Stivanelli John & Mary Suwinski By: Levonne Keilman Sawynos Family

By: William & Paula Burba

Walt & Millie Sawynos By: William & Paula Burba **Terrizzi Family** By: Ellen Leslie **Terrizzi Members** By: Daniel Leslie Mr. & Mrs. James J. Terrizzi By: Jayne Certo **Jeff Tomallo** By: Ronald & Katherine Dolansky William & Martha Tomallo By: Michael & Lisa Mays **Peter & Marcy Trybus** By: Donna Trybus **Stan Trybus** By: Donna Trybus Paul & Dorothy Toth By: Vivian Bly Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Urgolites By: John & Karen Urgolites Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Voytish

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Voytish
By: John & Karen Urgolites
Michael Wagner
By: Dean & Joan Wagner
Sally Wagner
By: William & Paula Burba
Chuck & Rose Wargo, Jr.
By: Dan Baran
Joe & Helen Wargo
By: Martina Gomolka
Jude Wargo
By: Harvey & Marilyn Wargo
Mr. & Mrs. Wally Wargo, Sr.
By: Harvey & Marilyn Wargo
Ralph & Joann Weakland
By: Marjorie Boring

Valentine Weakland By: Frances Weakland **Daniel & Matthew Weber** By: Anne Weber Michael & Betty Weber By: Anne Weber Frank Weymer By: John & Sandra Weymer Mr. & Mrs. John Weymer, Sr. By: John & Sandra Weymer Jay & Virginia Williams By: Casey Williams Stanley & Victoria Wojno By: Patrick & Diane McMullen **Richard Yeckley** By: Joseph & Sharon Nalisnick Joe & Ann Yuravak, Sr. By: Joseph & Agnes Yuravak, Jr. **Bernie Zatorsky** By: Nancy Zatorsky Brownie & Olga Zatorsky By: Nancy Zatorsky Chloe Zatorsky By: Nancy Zatorsky Josephine Zemrose By: Michael & Sharon Markovich Stanley Zemrose By: Michael & Sharon Markovich Zernick Family By: Anna Baker John & Mary Zernick By: Anna Baker John & Mary Zernick

By: Eugene & Kerry Zernick



Cemetery Policy - Decorations

- In the interest of the safety of employees and visitors, no glass or ceramic objects are permitted in the Cemetery.
- No decorative stone is permitted. Such <u>objects are subject to removal by cemetery</u> <u>personnel.</u>
- Fall/Spring cleanup days will be fixed as a weekend in October/April respectively. All
 decorations must be removed prior to the first day of October/April. Decorating may resume
 the first day of November/May.
- Permanent Decorations: Statues, flower pots, and plastic vigil lights are permitted only if they are part of the stone.
- Flush flowerpots are permitted next to the stone only with permission of the Management.
- No fences, corner posts, or other border arrangements are permitted.
- Anything that violates these policies can be removed without prior notification.
- No raised mounds are permitted on cemetery lots.
- Graves must be level with the contour of the cemetery ground.
- Up to three arrangements of flowers are permitted on the grave at the time of burial.

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Today, we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ! This event is the greatest in our Catholic faith. It is through the resurrection of Christ defeated sin and death and opened fir us the gates to eternal life. All of God's promises are fulfilled through this glorious event. We have been preparing for 40 long days, through prayer and penance, so that we might be better prepared to receive Christ this day, and to better prepare our hearts to one day rise with Christ in eternal life. Today, we do not fast, but rather, celebrate and rejoice because of our great and merciful God!

The meaning and joy of Easter is not just a "one-day" affair, but is an essential element of our Catholic faith. We are called to live out the joy of Easter all year long.

Let us celebrate this glorious day with prayer and feasting, for Christ is risen! And let us strive to carry this Easter joy with us all year long by the way we live our lives and how we respond to Christ each day! Happy Easter!

