

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

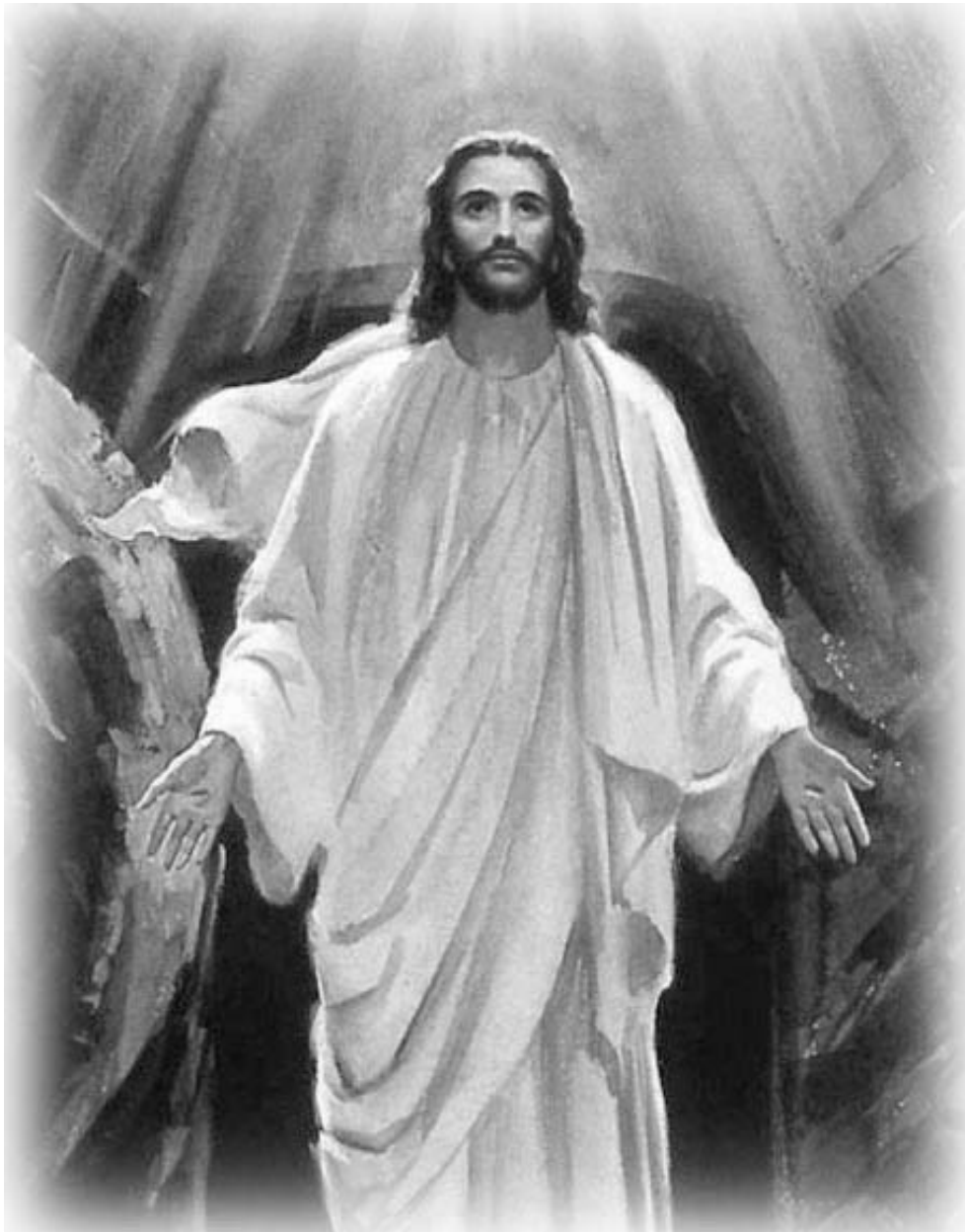
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Fr. Charles Forget, **Pastor**

Jayne Williams, **Office Administrator**



Rejoice!
For the Lord is truly risen!

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

REFLECTION ON THE RESURRECTION



Considering the tremendous truth, revelation, and power of the scriptures, the great minds of the Early Church Fathers, the writings of the saints, and the teachings of the popes and the Catholic Church, what could I possibly say about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, that has not already been taught, preached, reflected upon, and made clear in the past two millennia? In this regard, "there is nothing new under the sun." Yet, this event—Jesus Himself—serves as the source of endless and mystical contemplation, with implications for my life, yours, and the entire world that are infinite and eternal.

He was pronounced dead, when I think about it, by the Centurion who, after he had driven his Lance through the side of our Lord, said the words, "Truly, this was God's Son!" In past tense phrasing, even as he proclaims Jesus to be the Son of God, he expresses the inevitable assumption that everyone—including this Man, Jesus—dies and is no more.

Yet, can we really fault those who were closest to Our Lord for not seeing beyond what their eyes witnessed? In their experience so far, except for the three remarkable instances of Jesus's power in raising the dead, He appears to be dead. And He remains dead like everyone else. This near-absolute belief in death's power to permanently erase a human life, especially among the religious Pharisees and scribes, illustrates this point with their mocking

words: "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the king of Israel; let Him come down from the Cross now, and we will believe in Him". (Matt. 27:42)

But would they have believed in Him? The very reason they sought to kill Him through a gruesome crucifixion was that He had performed the wondrous and powerful miracle of raising a four-day-dead man, Lazarus, back to life. Their fear was that this demonstration of Jesus's power would only increase the number of people who would come to believe in Him, and it had to be stopped! And, therefore, no one, save His own Blessed Mother, Mary, expected anything more from this "imposter" than His end, as with all other men, in the finality of a buried, lifeless and spent corpse.

Presented with this scene, I always wonder how it was that, even though Jesus made it clear when speaking to His own apostles about His impending death, He always added that He would also rise again, specifically three days later. Of all the good news revelations that one could hear from Jesus, you would think they would remember His promise to defeat death quickly and come back to life. But they didn't, and no one did. They either never understood or mysteriously never heard His promise to come back to life. His torture and death so scandalized all of them that they abandoned Him and fled in grief over what the worst of man's cruelty could do to another. Up until Jesus' arrest, they had hoped.

Admittedly, our lives confront us with the reality — and perhaps the fear — that everyone we've known and loved will die, and that the same awaits us. It is only through spiritual faith that we can look beyond death's chasm, not to a vague hope of some dull existence on the other side, but to the glorious, clear vision of the One who is Life itself, Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord! There is a significant difference between our "culture of death", as Saint John Paul II called it, and the faith in and knowledge of Jesus here and now. Ours is not an image of a distant future God who may or may not have the power to raise the dead. Ours is a faith that guides us to the knowledge of life after death — which is life after this life — a life of truly and personally knowing Jesus.

Not one of Jesus's Resurrection appearances to His apostles or friends found them calm and expectant of His return. Interestingly, there is no mention of Jesus appearing to His own Mother after His Resurrection, but I believe He did. She, who carried Him in her womb, had always carried Him in her heart, thoughts, and prayers as she 'pondered' over the mysterious and profound revelations made known to her and her late beloved Joseph, enabling her to see the unseen: the promise and fulfillment of new and restored life. Not merely the resuscitation of a deceased person but new life, glorious life, life infused with power that comes, not from within, but from without.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Risen Lord, would that we could not only believe that Jesus rose from the dead and is now and remains risen, but that we would come to know it so manifestly that its evidence would be written in our eyes that look, our feet that walk, our hearts that beat toward the knowledge and great consolation that Jesus lives, and, by faith in Him, so shall we... eternally. Because He is faithful. Blessed Easter. (*Fr. Charles*)

MASS  **SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

Tue April 7 th 6:30pm 7:00pm	CONFESSIONS +Bogdan Chodynski Requested by Family
Wed April 8 th 8:30am	+Mary Little Requested by Julie Brennan
Thurs April 9 th 8:30am	+Josefina Ania & +Al Henry Chambers Requested by Ray Lazaro
Friday April 10 th 7:30am 8:30am	HOLY HOUR Intentions of the Guerrero Family
Saturday April 11 th 8:30am 3:30pm 4:30pm	Intentions of Luke Jagielski Requested by Mom CONFESSIONS +Dan Braniff Requested by Pat & Family
Sunday April 12 th 9:00am 11:00am	For the People +Norma Still Requested by Judy Ferguson

Please Pray for the Sick



Alex Poirier, Hudson Ford, Janine Wright.

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased



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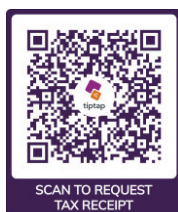
Inc PAG	\$5688.45
ShareLife 2026 Goal	\$46,000.00
Raised So Far	\$ 10,521.15



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St. Mary's CWL Spring Plant Sale

The CWL will be having a spring Plant Sale. You will be able to pre-order your plants the weekends of April 11th & 12th, 18th & 19th, and the final weekend will be the 25th & 26th. Order forms will be available at each entrance to the church, and members of the CWL will be available to answer any questions. Or you can go onto the St. Mary's CWL Website (collcwl.ca). Plants are to be picked up from the Church Hall on Saturday, May 23rd from 10 am to 2 pm "Help us Help our community by purchasing your spring plants through the St. Mary's CWL". Thank You, Kindly.

The Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

Wishing you a blessed Easter from ShareLife

This Easter Sunday, we hold gratitude for the Lord Jesus, our saviour; and for you who brings the hands of Christ to our brothers and sisters in need. We witness how you live the Gospel wholeheartedly, opening your heart to the poor, the vulnerable, and the marginalized. It is through your love that our family of faith is strengthened. We wish you and your loved ones a blessed and peaceful Easter, blooming with hope.

The second ShareLife Sunday of the year is April 26. Thus far we have raised \$10,521.15 toward our goal of \$46,000.00 Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Easter Flowers

Anyone wishing to donate to our Easter Flowers, there are flower envelopes at either entrance to the church.

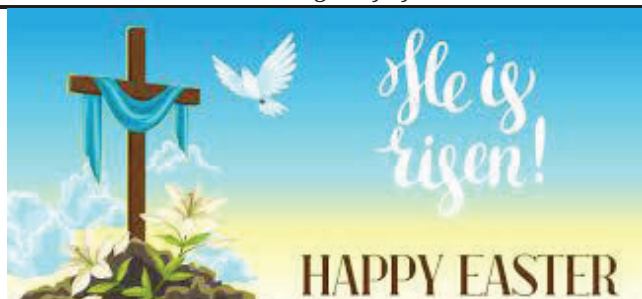


Please join us in welcoming our newest members to be received into the church this Easter.

Larissa Garrod, Chris Myers, Darice Cairns & Sarah Traviss.



John 8:12- Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."



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