

## ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Mass intentions  
for April 4, 2021  
Easter Sunday  
of the Resurrection of the Lord**

**Saturday, 8 p.m. Easter Vigil—**  
People of the parish

**Sunday, 8:30 a.m. —**  
† Sydney O'Hare  
By: Ric & Norma Martin

**9:30 a.m. —**  
† Sheila Robey  
By: Fran & Rodney Robey

**Wednesday, noon —**  
Vocations  
By: Knights of Columbus

### Parish Life

**Thank you** — Thank you to all who contributed their time and talents to the Holy Week activities. Your efforts are appreciated!

**Knights of Columbus** — The Knights of Columbus will meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, downstairs in the church hall.

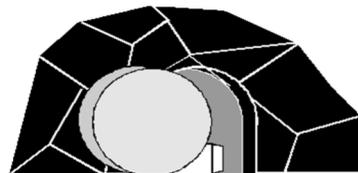
**PSR Classes Canceled** — Classes for the Parish School of Religion will not meet this weekend. Classes resume next Sunday.

**Divine Mercy Chaplet** — The Divine Mercy chaplet will be prayed at 3 p.m. next Sunday, Sunday of Divine Mercy, in the church. All are invited.

**Thank You** — Bob and Lynda Gamache thank parishioners for the prayers, help, support, concern, thoughts, encouragement, food and so on during Lynda's hospitalization, saying that it has helped tremendously. Continued prayers for her continued recuperation are greatly appreciated.

### Dispensation

Catholics living in the diocese are not obligated to attend Sunday Mass until further notice. While not required, participating in Mass online is encouraged.



On the first day of the week...

### THE REJECTED STONE

In Psalm 118 today, the psalmist was probably referring to the faithful of Israel when he said, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." The world seemed to ignore them though they were the cornerstone of religious life. The words became literally true for Jesus. In the time of Christ, workers had cut a large block of stone for building purposes at a stone quarry just outside the western wall of the city. Unfortunately they found a large crack in it, caused by an earthquake, so they left it in place and ignored it. The Romans used it for executions because it was near a public gate and could warn against such crimes as treason. They accused Jesus of treason because he claimed to be a king. For Christians, the stone of Calvary literally became the cornerstone of our religion.

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*He is Risen!*  
*Alleluia!*

### Weekly readings

**Easter Sunday  
of the Resurrection  
of the Lord**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
Psalm 118:1-2,  
16-17, 22-23  
Colossians 3:1-4  
John 20:1-9

#### Monday

Acts 2:14, 22-33  
Matthew 28:8-15

#### Tuesday

Acts 2:36-41  
John 20:11-18

#### Wednesday

Acts 3:1-10  
Luke 24:13-35

#### Thursday

Acts 3:11-26  
Luke 24:35-48

#### Friday

Acts 4:1-12  
John 21:1-14

#### Saturday

Acts 4:13-21  
Mark 16:9-15

**Second Sunday  
of Easter  
(Divine Mercy  
Sunday)**

Acts 4:32-35  
Psalm 118:2-4,  
13-15, 22-24  
1 John 5:1-6

## About Easter

### The Paschal lamb

The Jewish Passover celebrates when God saved the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt. Through Moses, God insisted that Pharaoh allow the enslaved Hebrews to go into the desert for three days to worship God. When Pharaoh refused, God sent 10 plagues on Egypt.

From the 10th plague (death of all firstborn) came what is now known as the Passover. The Hebrews were instructed to sacrifice an unblemished lamb and smear its blood on their door frames. Their homes were "passed over" when the firstborn in Egypt were killed. Then the Pharaoh expelled the Hebrews from Egypt, ending their slavery.



As a good Jew, Jesus celebrated the Passover. Jesus became the sacrificial lamb (the Paschal lamb) when he died on the cross for our sins. He is the unblemished "Lamb of God."

### The Paschal Mystery

The words "Paschal Mystery" have a special meaning for Christians. They refer to the suffering of Jesus, his death on the cross, his rising from the dead and his ascension into heaven.

At Baptism, we are anointed with the Sacred Chrism (consecrated oil), which incorporates us into the Paschal Mystery of Christ. Through Baptism, we die, are buried and rise with Christ, thus sharing in his kingly and prophetic priesthood.

At Mass, we offer our own sufferings, to be combined with those of Jesus, as part of the "Sacrifice of the Mass." We celebrate the Paschal Mystery as we receive the Body and Blood of Christ — the Holy Eucharist — which is the source and the summit of our lives as Christians.

### The Paschal Candle

The great Paschal feast for Christians is Easter, when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. During the Easter vigil, we light the new Paschal (Easter) candle in a darkened church as a reminder that Jesus dispels the darkness of sin.

Five grains of incense are inserted in the form of a cross on the Paschal candle to represent Christ's wounds. The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet are on the candle — alpha above the cross and omega below. They indicate that Christ is the beginning and end of all. The current year surrounds the cross on the candle.



The Paschal candle is lit at all Masses throughout the Easter season. After Pentecost, the candle is placed next to the baptismal font.

The Paschal candle also is lit at every baptism and funeral, symbolizing death and resurrection in Christ. During the funeral Mass, it also testifies to the resurrection of the dead and to our belief that all are alive in the risen Christ.

### Easter octave and Easter season

We celebrate the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday as one feast day, one "great Sunday," as St. Athanasius calls it. These days make up what is called the Easter season.

The days of the Easter octave are Easter Sunday through the following Sunday. They form the "early hours" of this "great Sunday" with readings about Jesus after the resurrection and the early preaching of disciples who witnessed the resurrection.

During the 50-day Easter season, the liturgical color is white (for joy and victory), and the first reading of Mass is from the Acts of the Apostles instead of the Old Testament.