**BULLETIN 04-14-2024**

***3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER***

 ***Pastor’s Message***

**Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

It was not easy for the disciples after the resurrection of Jesus. They must have been very confused. Actually, experiencing someone

rising from the dead must have been very bewildering for everyone. However, Jesus

appeared to them in different situations, to open their minds to understand what had happened. The disciples were indeed undergoing a learning process.

***In today’s reading from Luke’s Gospel, Jesus appeared to the disciples when they were in the upper room. They were terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost.  Jesus said to them: "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet. It is me. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have" (Luke 24:38-39). Jesus then explained how the Scriptures reveal that the Messiah would suffer and rise from the dead; and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached in his name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. He then added, "You are witnesses to these things" (Luke 24:48).***

Yes, the Risen Lord Jesus is not a ghost. He is real. He is the Son of God becoming man, who died for us, but then rose from the dead. When the disciples saw Jesus, they did not see a ghost. They saw the risen Lord, Jesus. The Son of God has defeated the power of death. He is alive forever.

***To celebrate Easter is to believe in the fact that Jesus has conquered the power of the devil, the evil one. If Jesus has triumphed over the power of evil why would people still be fearful of the forces of evil. The forces of evil suffered a devastating loss when Jesus out of love sacrificed himself on the cross. Here we need to remember that the forces of evil are not totally defeated. They are still trying to get into our lives. But they will never defeat the Lord, and they will never defeat us as long as we are united to the Lord.***
People do need to know that Jesus is present for them also, not as a ghost, but as the real Risen Lord wanting to share His Life with them. And we are to bring that Good News to them. We are called to be “witnesses to these things.”

***May God bless us all!***

— Fr. Joe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***1.*****We welcome furniture market visitors into our community. We are so glad that you could join us for worship this Sunday. May the Lord bless your business and grant you success at all times and in every way!**

***2.******Confession has returned to normal time: Saturday from 4:00pm to 4:45pm in English and Spanish and in the cry room.***

***3.*****Please remember to return your Lenten rice bowls to support Catholic Relief Services to feed the hungry throughout the world*.***

***4.******Please take the book titled “The Rocking Chair Prophet” as many as you can to give them to your friends. We hope that the book would inspire you to grow closer to the Lord.***

***5.*****Please mark your calendar for these two important dates: Sunday June 02: First Communion celebration, and Sunday June 23: Confirmation celebration.**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

04/13 Saturday 5:00 pm + Eugene Rosensky

04/14 Sunday 7:00 am + Richard Langone

 9:30 am + Frances & Charles Bundy

 12:00 pm (SI) Maria Olivia Villa’s Family

 + Elvira Salina Diaz

04/15 Monday NO MASS

04/16 Tuesday 7:00 am + Giuse Toan Nguyen

04/17 Wednesday 7:00 am (SI) For the Sabrina’s Fsmily

04/18 Thursday 7:00 pm + Gioan Baoxita Nhan Nguyen

04/19 Friday 7:00 pm + Maria Va Binh

**NEXT WEEKEND**

04/20 Saturday 5:00 pm + Andrew Shea

04/21 Sunday 7:00 am + Bettie, Doug & John Massey

 9:30 am + Mr. & Mrs. James Blotzer Sr.

 12:00 pm + Maria de la Luz Rodriguez

 **(+) Deceased (SI) Special Intention**

**Prayer for the Third Sunday of Easter**

Heavenly Father, In moments of doubt and uncertainty, we turn to You, our steadfast rock and refuge. Grant us the courage to confront our doubts, to lay them before You, knowing that in Your presence, they lose their power. Illuminate our hearts with the light of Your truth, that we may find solace and assurance in Your eternal promises.

Please pray for retiring Bishop Peter Jugis, who is retiring from ministry due to health limitations, and for Conventual Franciscan Fr. Michael T. Martin who will become the 5th Bishop of Charlotte.

***SPRING FLING*** Senior adults are invited for a day of fun and fellowship on Tuesday, April 30, at St. Matthew. The cost is $15 per person and includes lunch. The registration deadline is Monday, April 22. Contact Sandra Breakfield at sandrab@ccdoc.org or 704-370-3220.

*The first in 83 years*

**The National Eucharistic Congress**

Theme: From the Four Corners

Indianapolis, IN, July 17 - 21, 2024.

Learn more at www.eucharisticrevival.org

**Let Us Pray For Our Parishioners...**

Johnny Apodaca

Tracy Barber

Joseph Carter

Angel M. Cuellas

Marie Forbert

Theresa French-R.

Amanda Garcia

Mario Garcia

Willa Graham

Myles Harris

Maria Hdz.

Aber Johnson

 Jorge Lagueruel

Deacon Larry Lisk

Daysi Martinez

Linda McKinney

Felicia Murphy

Nancy Nkwokolo

Gladys Ozor

Hector Sanchez

Maria G.Sanchez A.

Mariane Smith

Paula Rodriguez

Andrew Royster

***DePaul Academy*** *at Christ the King*

\* NC Pre-K Program

\* Children must be 4yrs old by Aug 31 2024

\* Program starts September 2024

\* Free to all who qualify

\* Pick up Application at the school

\* For more info contact the school

**(336) 781-0064 or (336) 875-1449**

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| **LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION**   Offertory: $ 4,653.00 Restricted Donation: $165.00 Ricebowls: $ 548.00 Votive Candle: $ 20.00  Total: $ 5,386.00***THANK YOU!***  |

**DSA**

**2024 Parish assessment: $23,396.00**

Please be generous to the Diocesan Support

Appeal. Your contribution is a way to act with love for our sisters & brothers throughout the diocese and to continue the saving work begun by Jesus. You may drop your pledge cards/donation in the collection basket or donate at www.charlottediocese.org/dsa.

Would you like to connect with a group of joyful

Catholic friends who are thriving in a disconnected

secular world? If so, Cursillo may be just the thing you are looking for. Consider an upcoming weekend:

Men’s: June 6-9 | Women's: June 27-30

Weekends at Catholic Conference Cntr, Hickory, NC

**For more information contact:**

Dr. John McKinney - (336) 886-3086 DOCLUV2RUN@HOTMAIL.COM

**UPCOMING**

April 13-17 Spring Furniture Market

April 22 Elder Ministry— SPRING FLING

May 3-5 Marriage Encounter Weekend

June 2 CTK FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

June 23 CTK CONFIRMATION

July 19-21 Retrouvaille Weekend helpourmarriage.co

**Knights’ Charity Raffle**

Tickets are $5.00 each \*\* Top prize $5,000.00

**Drawing on May 4, 2024**

**Please see a Knight for tickets**

— Curtis White — Dan Shea — Oscar moreno

 — John McKinney — Brian Moser

 Bring God into your marriage on the next

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on**

**May 3-5, 2024 in HICKORY, NC.** Early sign up is

recommended. Visit NCMarriageDiscovery.org or contact us at

applications@NCMarriage Discovery.org or 704-315-2144.

**PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED!**

- Mac & Cheese - Saltines - Cookies - Peanut butter

 - Canned Fruit - Pasta 1Pound Box

 - Pasta Sauce (NO GLASS PLEASE)

 (NO MORE EGG CARTONS PLEASE)

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*Please be Sure All items are in Date & Unused*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**