

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ MARCH 23, 2008 - EASTER SUNDAY.

A very blessed Easter to each of you, dear faithful, friends, family and visitors. You are all remembered in a special way in our Masses today.

Let us remember with gratitude the many, many who have helped for an hour or a hundred hours, so that all of you may enjoy this rich Easter beauty which you see and hear in our Lord's House today.

God reward our sacristans, staff, singers, organist, servers, cooks, clean-up crews and everyone who helped.

I thank especially the devoted ladies who prepared meals for our seminarians during Holy Week, and the Holy Saturday complimentary luncheon.

Vespers are at 4:00 PM this afternoon, and Benediction follows the 11:30 AM Mass. There is no 5:45 PM Mass this evening.

May Our Lord indeed bless you all with His Easter victory!

—BISHOP DOLAN,

FR. CEKADA, FR. SAAVEDRA, FR. RAMOLLA

✠ THE EASTER OCTAVE

All our efforts and prayers do not come to a crashing close on Easter Morn. We are meant to give God thanks for the Resurrection of His Son, and taste the sweet fruits of victory throughout this glorious octave.

In particular, Monday and Tuesday of Easter Week should be solemnized as they are Feasts of Devotion. Mass times are Monday at 11:25 AM and Tuesday at 11:25 AM and 5:00 PM.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY

First Vespers of the Feast of the Annunciation and Benediction at 1:10 PM.

Set your missal: *March 30th. Low Sunday, Vidi Aquam* sung instead of Asperges. **PREF:** Easter.

✠ CONGRATULATIONS!

Our prayers and best wishes to Samuel Phillips who was baptized, on Holy Saturday at our beautiful Easter Vigil service and also to his parents, Kingsley and Patience Uwuigbe.

✠ POETRY CORNER

HOLY SATURDAY

It is Easter morning.
Christ unwinds the burial bands
and lays them by;
the balm and the spikenard,
the anointing of tears,
the soundless snow
of the white sleep of death,
the body of Christ lays by.

He set His feet on the dust.
He extends His open hands
with a supreme gesture of love.
He uncovers His heart.

It is not a ghost
who walks in the silver
of morning light;
the shadow that falls on the tombs
is the shadow of a man
of flesh and blood.

It is the shadow of the Virgin's Child,
Who asked her to make Him a heart,
that He might die
to give life.

Now He uncovers His Heart.
It has died, and now He lays it wide
open to life;
He gives it to generations
and generations
of men.

Christ rises from the dead.
There is no salute of guns,
only everywhere in the world
there are men who are aware
of a silence that is audible,
a voice
that is heard only inside the heart,
telling the wordless secret
of ultimate joy.

Everywhere
man is listening
for the first footsteps
of the risen Christ.

He hears
an unseen birds singing
and leaves opening
one by one
in a multitudinous green solitude.

In the silence
he hears the beat
of his own pulse.

It gathers like a tide rising
inside the throbbing in his forehead.
He hears the drumming
of the sap rising
from the roots of the world
and the infinitesimal music
of the tiny hammering
of life under the earth,
and the tap, tap in the egg.

In the red bud of his heart
summer is slumbering,
warm and murmurous
as a swarm of bees,
in heavy honey of golden light.
His heart swells
with a new and secret majesty,
and now he knows
that it is not his own pulse
that he hears in the silence
and feels with his finger-tips
in his thin wrist;
it is the eternal heartbeat
of Absolute Love.

Here is the architect to build the home,
the man whose heart is the home of God.

He is aware of the homelessness
of the Son of Man.
He sees the plan
of the hunted fox's lair,
and of the bird's nest
he apprehends,
with Christ's awakened mind,
the tenderness that made the plan.

HERE is the builder
to build the kingdom,
the man who builds
with the hands of Christ,
the man who loves mankind
with the heart of the risen Christ.


—CARYLL HOUSELANDER
The Flowering Tree




✠ THE CALENDAR


MON	03/24/08	EASTER MONDAY 10:00 AM Low Masses 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Novena II</i>
TUES	03/25/08	EASTER TUESDAY 8:30 AM Low Mass <i>Natalie Brown (Susan Brown)</i> 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Novena III</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>Poor Souls in Honor of the Creation, Incarnation and Redemption</i>
WED	03/26/08	EASTER WEDNESDAY 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Novena IV</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>Jack Grimes</i>
THUR	03/27/08	EASTER THURSDAY - ST JOHN DAMASCENE, CD 11:25 AM Low Mass <i>Special Intention</i> 5:00 PM High Mass <i>Novena V</i>
FRI	03/28/08	EASTER FRIDAY - ST JOHN CAPISTRAN, C 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM High Mass, Novena & Benediction, Confessions <i>Novena VI</i>
SAT	03/29/08	EASTER SATURDAY 7:15 AM Confessions 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>Month's Mind †R. Brueggemann [from 3/27] (Tim Duff Family)</i> 8:00 AM High Mass <i>Novena VII</i> 10:00 AM Rosary Confraternity Rosary at Abortion Clinic
SUN	03/30/08	LOW SUNDAY 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>Special Intention (Kathy Schweitzer)</i> 9:00 AM High Mass <i>Novena VIII</i> 11:30 AM Low Mass <i>†Helen LeBrun-Mother-Birthday (Joan Landy)</i> 1:10 PM 1st Vespers of the Annunciation 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>For the People of St. Gertrude the Great</i>

✠ THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS

 **Saturday, April 12th: First Holy Communion testing**, with a spiritual talk and examination of conscience, and **First Confessions** will begin at **10:00 AM**. All children who wish to participate must be registered in advance with the office, and must bring a copy of their Baptismal certificate. Those getting ready for First Confession need to **KNOW** all the questions in the *First Communion Catechism*, **ESPECIALLY THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**. Testing will be based on the New St. Joseph Catechism.

 • **Thursday, May 8th: Obligatory Day of Recollection for all Confirmands from 9:00 AM—3:00 PM**. This day will include testing appropriate to each age group. *Children need to KNOW all the questions pertaining to Confirmation*. If you have questions please call the Office. *Again, children must be registered in advance if not already registered for First Confession and get the necessary Confirmation questions they MUST KNOW.*

• **Saturday, May 10th: Confirmation** will be administered during the Pentecost Vigil Mass. Enrollment in the Brown Scapular and individual photos follow this service.

 • **Sunday, May 25th: First Holy Communion** will be administered during the **9:00 AM High Mass on Corpus Christi Sunday**. The Church earnestly desires all children to receive Our Lord as soon as possible.

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

We thank God for another beautiful Holy Week at St. Gertrude the Great. Palm Sunday ushered in the solemnities with a hushed, almost silent and yet sung service. As the procession moved through the cloister, only muffled footsteps were heard, along with sacred chants and the chirping of birds—a picture of recollection. Now we have come to Easter, and more birdsong and silence for the Sunrise Mass.



May this beautiful Easter morning bring you the blessings of a Lent well spent, or at least tears shed on Good Friday, and sins—most of all—left behind in the tomb of the confessional. May it be Our Lord's will to grant us all deep joy and holy peace this day, and every day of Easter's Fifty Day celebration.

In time the Divine Doctor will surely banish the flu that has chastised us this Spring, and even the long lingering cough will eventually yield to God's healing. The benefit of this suffering this Lent—even though it made Lenten services and singing and fasting so difficult—is that God Himself has handed out to us our Lenten penances, as one of our parishioners noted. No need to seek out any extra. May the God of all consolation now be pleased to grant us all healing and peace for paschaltide.

I thank all of you who have "worked through" in spite of illness and other afflictions for a beautiful Lent and Holy Week and Easter. This too, can be a penance, but we look upon it more as an act of loving devotion, the privilege, indeed, of putting our faith into works, and allowing a part of us to be poured out and consumed for God's glory. This is its own reward, all year long.

So many of you do so much! You are the glory of St. Gertrude the Great and I thank God for each of you. May Our Lord reward you in His own infinitely generous fashion. May Our Lord grant eternal rest to the two good women of St. Gertrude's whom we buried this Lent. May the fragrance of their devoted lives blend with the little bit we may bring this Easter, and rise as an acceptable and edifying incense before the throne of the Most High.

A Blessed Easter!

—Bishop Dolan

✠ AN EASTER MEDITATION: Promise and Image

At the Annunciation the angel came to a Virgin named Mary. The announcement of the Resurrection came to a very different Mary, the Magdalen woman who had been the dwelling place of seven demons. The number seven connotes completeness, perfection. Mary Magdalen must have been seen as completely lost, perfectly hopeless. But she is chosen to be the herald of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. She is the perfect complement to the sinless Virgin who received the news of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. The Virgin Mary witnesses to what we are all promised, Mary Magdalen witnesses that in the face of the Resurrection, there is no such thing as hopelessness: life is stronger than death, the promise is stronger than despair. He is risen! He is risen for Mary Magdalen, or rather, *Saint Mary Magdalen*, the compassionate woman who stood side by side with Mary at the cross! He is risen for Peter, who had betrayed Him but who will lead the Church in its new resurrected life! He is risen for Thomas, who doubted Jesus and his friends, but who would now be a pillar of certainty before the world! He is risen for Mary His mother and thus for all of us, for she, our mother, invites us to her risen Son, the promise and image of what we shall be.

—THE MAGNIFICAT

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D.)



The Rosary Confraternity will meet at **10:00**

AM in front of the **Auburn Avenue Abortion** clinic to *pray the Rosary* on **Saturday, March 29th**. A light breakfast will follow the 8:00 AM Mass before proceeding to the abortion clinic.

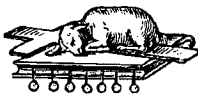
UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday: March 31st - THE ANNUNCIATION. Pro-Life Afternoon Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Vespers and a Holy Hour.

Tuesday: April 1st - FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH and the Opening of the Month of St. Joseph, and of a solemn novena in his honor for the needs of Holy Mother Church and all of our petitions.

Wednesday: April 9th - SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH, closing of the solemn novena, Mass and St. Joseph's table.

Saturday: April 19th - PILGRIMAGE AND DAY OF RECOLLECTION in Honor of our Lady of Consolation.



LUMEN CHRISTI

For the next fortnight the Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament for:

OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED PARISHIONERS

BERNIE B.

Wishers

MARCH 30, 2008

7:30 AM John Wiesman, Kent Maki, Tom Kamphaus, Joe Andreotta
9:00 AM Dale Wilker Richard Smith Jim Gebel, Bernie Brueggemann
11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Kirby Bischel, Dennis Hille, Jim Kolcnich
5:45 PM John Seyfried

Servers

MARCH 24 - MARCH 30, 2008

•TUE 03/25 5:00 PM Low: J. Bayer
•WED 03/26 5:00 PM Low: G. Keaveny
•THU 03/27 5:00 PM High: C. Ritze
•FRI 03/28 5:45 PM High: G. Keaveny, J. Bayer, C. Ritze, M. Derksen
•SAT 03/29 7:30 AM Low: C. & T. Simpson, Jr.
8:00 AM High: M. Briggs, G. Keaveny
•SUN 03/30 7:30 AM Low: D. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM High: MC: T. Simpson, TH: A. Lotarski; ACs: T. Simpson, B. Lotarski; TORCH: P. Duff, T. Kunkel, J. Simpson, S. Arlinghaus
11:30 AM Low: G. Miller, G. Wnek
1:10 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: G. Miller
5:45 PM Low: M. Derksen

Collection Report

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2008 \$5473.58
FRIDAY NIGHT IN LENT \$ 214.00

*Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

MARY REMEMBERS

Today brings sungold, spilling over –
(Remember Galilee in Clover?
Folded, stored away
Until this future day

When each and every hour between
Should be the subject of a dream –
And every purple – blossomed field
Should open every door it sealed!

There are no secrets, Child Divine,
Of Yours, which are not also mine;
And so, You come to romp with me
When spring creeps into Galilee.

We have a shore where sunlight danced,
And every laughing wave romanced;
Where You would splash and we would sup
While joy o'er flowed our summer cup.

Your smile was ever candle light
And hearth-fire for the stranger's plight;
So warm, my Beautiful, I know
All love is but Your afterglow.

Then Calvary – the promise kept
While ages watched and ages wept.
Your victory rang through heaven's nave
As angels watched your empty grave.
We have a shore, a clover field
of memories this day unsealed.

—ADA RAPHAEL FEDERSPIEL



RESURRECTION

Easter, the solemnity of solemnities,
the day of *Alleluias*, of perfect joy—let us
forget all our fears.

Fear of Difficulties. They said one to
another: *Who shall roll us back the stone?*

And looking they saw the stone rolled back... How many times have I made mountains
out of nothing or exaggerated the importance of an obstacle? Trust in Our Lord! When
I shall near my goal, the stone will be rolled back. Invincible courage! *Alleluia!*

Fear of Failure. Sometimes I wonder if all my efforts are of any avail. Is God glorified
by them? Do souls profit by them? Shall I ever actually meet Jesus? Don't harbor such
doubts. Listen rather to the consoling words, *He is risen and goes before you*. Christ has
gone before me; I have only to follow. I shall meet Him in Galilee. Then I will follow
generously with the rest of the caravan. There, at the end, the Master awaits me.

—MEDITATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS
Rev. Raoul Plus, S.J.

THE MAGDALENE

I was a rich young woman -
Beautiful, men say -
Spoiled, as many women are -
I always had my way.

But, when I saw Christ standing
In the market place,
I loved Him for His innocence
And His commanding grace.

He seemed to know my interest
And turned to look at me -
A glance that pierced my very soul
With utter purity.

From that revealing moment
Magda's glowing flame
Became as dust before Him -
Quenched by sudden shame.

Simon did not greet Him
Nor honor Him as guest -
I wept, and knelt beside Him,
(And bore most cruel jest).

The flame of Magda kneeling -
A woman of the street!
My hair was towel, drying
My tears which bathed His feet.

And when they dragged Him out to die
I followed on the way,
To give Him my repentant heart
As solace, that dark day.

I knew Him in the garden -
Pure and whole again -
He greeted me most tenderly -
This savior of all men.

And when He rose to Heaven
I honored His commands -
I left to live the Gospel
In strange and foreign lands.

—ADA RAPHAEL FEDERSPIEL

THE GARDEN OF THE HOLY SOULS

(From "Hours of the Passion")

*In Thy garden, in Thy garden, though the rain
Fall, and the winds beat there,
And they stand unsheltered, piteous, in the storm,
They who were once so fair.*

*In Thy garden of the souls, where Thou art gardener,
Thou who was once so mild,
Now pruning down to naked stems and leafless
The roses that ran wild.*

*Oh, Thy roses once waved in the wind so sweetly,
Though thick with thorns beset;
In the morning sunshine opening, and at evening
With cool dews wet.*

*In Thy garden, where Thou walkest as a warder,
How poor, how small they stand;
Yet once their beauty, to the hearts that loved them,
Lighted the living land.*

*In Thy garden, where no smile of Thine is granted,
Yet keep within Thy heart,
A place in Paradise for these transplanted,
Still with Thee where Thou art.*

*In Thy garden, in Thy garden, where Thy roses
Without a thorn are sweet,
And each poor branch in endless wreaths uncloses
To kiss Thy feet.*

—ELEANOR HAMILTON KING