

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Monday, April 13, 2020



EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020, READINGS: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 16:1-2a,5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15

Dear Parishioners:

This week in the Church calendar is called Octave of Easter which means every day is celebrated as Easter Sunday. The "Gloria" is recited, the "Alleluia" is chanted before the gospel again and a double "Alleluia" is said at the end of Mass. Over the past few days we did our best to bring the beautiful rites of Holy Week to our parishioners via Facebook and You Tube by livestreaming. The Easter Vigil had over 1,000 viewers (some from New York State, Maryland, New Jersey, Washington State and Alaska) and Easter Sunday at 10:00 a.m. over 900 viewers. [Too bad we couldn't take up a livestream collection]. Despite the wet, cold, winter-like weather (causing leaks in the rectory garage, church and LEAKS in the cry room, a gas outage in the rectory leaving the kitchen and half the rectory without gas) we still had beautiful celebrations. The gloomy darkness in society and in the lives of so many, brought about by the coronavirus, is overcome by the bright light shining forth from the empty tomb. As the holy women discovered the reality of Christ's resurrection and brought the news to the Apostles so do they bring that same news to us. The bible tells us of the hundreds of people who encountered the risen Jesus after His resurrection, so who are we to discount their testimony. Yes! Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Some good news comes that there have been less cases of the virus being reported the past few days. Be sure that doesn't make us complacent. We must stay the course together until all of this is defeated.

Despite the fact we could livestream Holy Week and Easter --- *it just wasn't the same as when all of us are gathered together to celebrate in the church!* Be patient. Be prayerful. We will be able to resume a somewhat normal life again soon.

A Little Humor: It was Good Friday. No one could come to Good Friday Services because everyone was at home due to the coronavirus pandemic. It was *pouring* rain, eventually dropping 3.5 inches according to the rain gauge in the back yard. Gas was smelled coming from the rectory stove and the SDG&E technician discovered the source: a leak from an underground pipe, causing him to turn off the gas to the kitchen and the pastor's heater and hot water heater until it could be fixed beginning the next week. No problem, we could use the outdoor gas grill, but the igniter failed and the rack holding the fire bricks had collapsed, rendering the grill unusable. The church roof had two leaks near the altar and the cry-room, which had just recently been painted, had a waterfall pouring down one of the walls, flooding the floor, from a BIG LEAK in that part of the roof. Then it was discovered that part of the ceiling in the rectory garage fell off from another big leak there. And all the pastor could do was stand there and laugh (really!) saying (quoting St. Teresa of Avila): "God, if you treat all of your friends this way it's no wonder you have so few!"

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