

One Family
in Faith Making



ST. MARY
IMMACULATE
Parish

Christ
Known

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

April 4, 2021



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www.smip.org

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What's Inside

The Word from Father Pat	2
La Palabra del Padre Pat	3-4
Słowo od Ojca Pat	3-4
Mass Intentions	4
Weekly Scripture Readings	4
In Memoriam	5
Prayer List	5
Intercessions for Life	5
Word of Life	5
Votive Candles	5
Faith, Fundraising and Community Outreach	6
St. Mary Immaculate School	7
Religious Education	7
Confirmation	8
Youth Ministry	8
Adult Formation	9
Allies for Peace and Justice	9
Other Active Ministries	10



Rejoice!
He Is Risen!

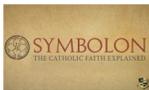
*“Our faith is born on
Easter morning: Jesus is
alive! This experience is at
the heart of the Christian
message.”*

- Pope Francis @ Pontifex

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

**SYMBOLON—SESSION 6
THE PASCHAL MYSTERY
THE MYSTERY OF JESUS’
DEATH AND RESURRECTION**



WATCH

Through Jesus’s Death on the Cross, God reveals himself most profoundly as the God who is Love. In this episode of the Symbolon series, see how Christ’s sacrificial love saves us from sin and shows us the pathway to true human happiness.

SIGN UP FOR FREE AT SMIP.FORMED.ORG

The Word from Father Pat

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!*

Jesus Christ is Risen Today [Surrexit Christus hodie], 14th Century

*It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
at all times to acclaim you, O Lord,
but on this night above all
to laud you yet more gloriously,
when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.*

From the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer for Easter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Alleluia!

Today, with incredible joy, we celebrate the great feast of our salvation: the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In his paschal victory, Jesus paid the just sentence of death for our many sins which are offensive to our God who is all good – Goodness itself. But death was not the end for him, the grave did not signal the end of his story, and because of that, death does not have to be the end for us. He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, canceling out the power of sin and death to keep us from God, and making possible our own eternal life.

This is the great mystery of our faith, the story of our redemption. We have fasted for the forty days of Lent in order to celebrate the fifty days of Easter “yet more gloriously.”

It might be easy to trivialize this feast, but we must never do so. Perhaps with modern skeptical eyes and ears, we doubt the death and Resurrection of Christ, or perhaps we just accept them as some kind of religious myth. But we the Church boldly proclaim that the Paschal Mystery was and is a real event, re-presented every day on our Altar, done because God loves us so much that he would die rather than live without us. We follow the example of the Apostles who themselves died for their faith rather than cover up the Truth of the death and Resurrection of Christ.

In the Paschal Mystery, we easily find our own stories. We know that there are times when we have to go through our own Good Fridays. There are times when we have to bear the cross of suffering, although we can never begin to imagine the suffering of Jesus. But we also get the joy of an Easter Sunday, when the suffering is lifted, even for just a bit, and we get a glimpse of the eternal life Christ has prepared for us.

It is my prayer that, during these fifty days of Easter, every one of them celebrated with all the joy the Church can muster, you will find your own story as well. May you give thanks for the times of true joy you have been given by God and look forward to a future lived in the embrace of God’s own life. May you see that pain and sorrow and death are temporary things, just as the cross and grave were temporary experiences for Jesus. May you catch a glimpse of the Resurrection and ascension to eternal life that Christ has in store for all of us who believe in him and live his Gospel. May you accept with firm faith all that these days proclaim, and live your life walking with Christ our God every day.

*May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star:
the one Morning Star who never sets,
Christ your Son, who, coming back from death’s domain,
has shed his peaceful light on humanity,
and lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen. **Alleluia!** (The Exsultet)*

Yours in Christ and His Blessed Mother,
Father Pat Mulcahy, Pastor

La Palabra del Padre Pat

*Jesucristo ha resucitado hoy, ¡Aleluja!
nuestro día santo triunfante, ¡Aleluja!
que hizo una vez en la cruz, ¡Aleluja!
sufre para redimir nuestra pérdida. ¡Aleluja!*

***Jesucristo ha resucitado hoy
[Surrexit Christus hodie], siglo XIV***

*Es verdaderamente correcto y justo, nuestro deber y nuestra salvación,
en todo momento para aclararte, oh Señor,
pero en esta noche sobre todo
para alabarte aún más gloriosamente,
cuando Cristo, nuestra Pascua, haya sido sacrificado.*

Del Prefacio a la Plegaria Eucarística de Pascua

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo:

¡Aleluja!

Hoy, con increíble alegría, celebramos la gran fiesta de nuestra salvación: la Resurrección de nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo. En su victoria pascual, Jesús pagó la justa sentencia de muerte por nuestros muchos pecados que son ofensivos para nuestro Dios que es todo bueno: la bondad misma. Pero la muerte no fue el final para él, la tumba no marcó el final de su historia, y por eso, la muerte no tiene por qué ser el final para nosotros. Resucitó de entre los muertos y ascendió al cielo, cancelando el poder del pecado y la muerte para alejarnos de Dios y haciendo posible nuestra propia vida eterna.

Este es el gran misterio de nuestra fe, la historia de nuestra redención. Hemos ayunado durante los cuarenta días de Cuaresma para celebrar los cincuenta días de Pascua "aún más gloriosamente".

Puede ser fácil trivializar esta fiesta, pero nunca debemos hacerlo. Quizás con ojos y oídos escépticos modernos, dudamos de la muerte y resurrección de Cristo, o quizás simplemente las aceptamos como una especie de mito religioso. Pero nosotros, la Iglesia, proclamamos con valentía que el Misterio Pascual fue y es un evento real, re-presentado todos los días en nuestro Altar, hecho porque Dios nos ama tanto que preferiría morir antes que vivir sin nosotros. Seguimos el ejemplo de los Apóstoles que murieron por su fe en lugar de encubrir la Verdad de la muerte y resurrección de Cristo.

En el Misterio Pascual, encontramos fácilmente nuestras propias historias. Sabemos que hay momentos en los que tenemos que pasar por nuestros propios Viernes Buenos. Hay momentos en los que tenemos que cargar con la cruz del sufrimiento, aunque nunca podemos empezar a imaginar el sufrimiento de Jesús. Pero también obtenemos la alegría de un domingo de Pascua, cuando el sufrimiento se alivia, aunque sea por un momento, y vislumbramos la vida eterna que Cristo ha preparado para nosotros.

Es mi oración que, durante estos cincuenta días de Pascua, cada uno de ellos celebrado con toda la alegría que la Iglesia puede reunir, ustedes también encuentren su propia historia. Que puedas dar gracias por los momentos de verdadera alegría que

(Continued on page 4)

Słowo od Ojca Pat

*Jezus Chrystus dziś zmartwychwstał, Alleluja!
nasz triumfalny dzień święty, Alleluja!
który raz na krzyżu uczynił Alleluja!
cierpieć, aby odkupić naszą stratę. Alleluja!*

***Jezus Chrystus zmartwychwstał dzisiaj
[Surrexit Christus hodie], XIV wiek***

*To jest naprawdę słusze i sprawiedliwe, nasz obowiązek i nasze
zbawienie,
w każdym czasie, aby Cię wychwalać, o Panie,
ale przede wszystkim tej nocy
chwalić Cię jeszcze bardziej chwalebnie,
kiedy Chrystus, nasza Pascha, został ofiarowany.*

Od prefacji do modlitwy eucharystycznej na Wielkanoc

Drodzy Bracia i Siostry w Chrystusie,

Alleluja!

Dziś z niesamowitą radością obchodzimy wielkie święto naszego zbawienia: Zmartwychwstanie naszego Pana i Zbawiciela, Jezusa Chrystusa. W swoim zwycięstwie paschalnym Jezus zapłacił sprawiedliwy wyrok śmierci za nasze liczne grzechy, które obrażają naszego Boga, który jest cały dobry - samą dobroć. Ale śmierć nie była dla niego końcem, grób nie oznaczał końca jego historii i dlatego śmierć nie musi być końcem dla nas. Powstał z martwych i wstąpił do nieba, usuwając moc grzechu i śmierci, aby powstrzymać nas od Boga, i umożliwiając nasze własne życie wieczne.

Oto wielka tajemnica naszej wiary, historia naszego odkupienia. Pościliśmy przez czterdzieści dni Wielkiego Postu, aby „jeszcze bardziej chwalebnie” uczcić pięćdziesiąt dni Wielkanocy.

Może być łatwo strywializować tę ucztę, ale nigdy nie wolno nam tego robić. Być może mając współczesne sceptyczne oczy i uszy, wątpimy w śmierć i zmartwychwstanie Chrystusa, a może po prostu akceptujemy je jako jakiś rodzaj religijnego mitu. Ale my, Kościół, odważnie głosimy, że Misterium Paschalne było i jest prawdziwym wydarzeniem, powtarzanym każdego dnia na naszym Ołtarzu, ponieważ Bóg kocha nas tak bardzo, że wolałby umrzeć niż żyć bez nas. Podążamy za przykładem Apostołów, którzy sami umarli za wiarę, zamiast ukrywać Prawdę o śmierci i Zmartwychwstaniu Chrystusa.

W tajemnicy paschalnej z łatwością odnajdujemy własne historie. Wiemy, że są chwile, kiedy musimy przejść przez nasze własne Dobre Piątki. Są chwile, kiedy musimy nieść krzyż cierpienia, chociaż nigdy nie możemy sobie wyobrazić cierpienia Jezusa. Ale cieszymy się także niedzielą wielkanocną, kiedy cierpienie zostaje choć odrobinę usunięte i mamy wgląd w życie wieczne, które Chrystus dla nas przygotował.

Modłę się, aby podczas tych pięćdziesięciu dni Wielkanocy, z których każdy był obchodzony z całą radością, jaką może znieść Kościół, znajdziesz również

swoją własną historię. Dziękujcie za chwile prawdziwej radości, które otrzymaliście od Boga i oczekujcie przyszłości

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Dios te ha dado y mirar hacia un futuro vivido en el abrazo de la propia vida de Dios. Que veas que el dolor, la tristeza y la muerte son cosas temporales, así como la cruz y la tumba fueron experiencias temporales para Jesús. Que vislumbres la resurrección y la ascensión a la vida eterna que Cristo tiene reservada para todos los que creemos en él y vivimos su Evangelio. Acepte con fe firme todo lo que estos días proclaman, y viva su vida caminando con Cristo nuestro Dios todos los días.

Que esta llama se encuentre todavía encendida por la estrella de la mañana:

la única estrella de la mañana que nunca se pone, Cristo tu Hijo, que, volviendo de los dominios de la muerte, ha derramado su luz pacífica sobre la humanidad, y vive y reina por los siglos de los siglos. Amén. ¡Aleluja! (El Exsultet)

Tuyo en Cristo y Su Santísima Madre,
Padre Pat Mulcahy, Pastor

(Continued from page 3)

przeżywanej w objęciach życia samego Boga. Obyś zobaczył, że ból, smutek i śmierć są tymczasowymi rzeczami, tak jak krzyż i grób były chwilowymi doświadczeniami dla Jezusa. Obyś ujrział zmartwychwstanie i wniebowstąpienie do życia wiecznego, które Chrystus przygotował dla nas wszystkich, którzy wierzymy w Niego i żyjemy Jego Ewangelią. Przyjmijcie z mocną wiarą to wszystko, co głoszą te dni, i życie codziennie chodząc z Chrystusem, naszym Bogiem.

Niech ten płomień nadal płonie przy Gwieździe Porannej: jedyna Gwiazda Poranna, która nigdy nie zachodzi, Chrystus, Twój Syn, który powracając z królestwa śmierci, rzucił swoje pokojowe światło na ludzkość, żyje i króluje na wieki wieków. Amen. Alleluja! (The Exsultet)

Wasz w Chrystusie i Jego Najświętszej Matce,
Ojciec Pat Mulcahy, pastor



Mass Intentions

Monday – 9:00 a.m.	April 5, 2021 Carol Roman—(Hesch Family)
Tuesday – 9:00 a.m.	April 6, 2021 Candace Kuhn—(Kuhn Family) Bernard Riffel—Birthday Remembrance—(Marijane Riffel) Richard & Mary Ann Thompson—(Thompson Family)
Wednesday – 9:00 a.m.	April 7, 2021 Claudine Brown—(Sandra Smith)
Thursday – 9:00 a.m.	April 8, 2021 Joseph Sieracki—(Rafter Family) Robert Rettig—(Mary Fortino) Mother’s Day Remembrance
Friday – 9:00 a.m.	April 9, 2021 Lilian Adriano—(Elster Family)
Saturday – 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. (Parking Lot)	April 10, 2021 Joan Walt—(Dr. Mary Amore & the Staff at Mayslake Ministries) Lisa Hahne—(Hesch Family)
Sunday – 7:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m. (Spanish) 11:00 a.m. (Gym) 12:45 p.m. (Polish)	April 11, 2021 People of the Parish Marten Arens—(Fr. Mike McMahon) Por las familias de Santa Maria Immaculada For the People of the Parish Dla calej rodzin St. Mary Immaculate

Scripture Readings

For the Week of April 4, 2021

Sunday

Easter Sunday

Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk
16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-15

Monday

Acts 2:14, 22-33;

Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday

Acts 2:36-41;

Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday

Acts 3:1-10;

Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday

Acts 3:11-26;

Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:35-48

Friday

Acts 4:1-12;

Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday

Acts 4:13-21;

Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21; Mk 16:9-15

Sunday

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 4:32-35;

Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31



In Memoriam



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and Let perpetual Light shine upon them.

Our faithful departed

*May they rest in peace.
Amen.*

Please Remember to Pray for:

John Arduino
Marsha Bysak
Frank Carino Jr.
Luz Contreras
Camilla Cook
Gloria Cook
Lois Costablile
Pat Cremeens
Lynette Dattomo
Mary Dickerson
Megan Dolan
Maureen Dranger
Alexander Dynako
Rick Erwin
Deborah Fadden
Jean Fiaoni
Sue Flynn
Brandon Franklin
Paul Gadowski
Frances Galasinski
Wayne Galasinski
Margaret Gee
Steven Gentili
Mary Lou Gist
Avery Gladkowski

Janice Gregoire
Jennifer Grimm
Mark Gualberto
Donald Hahn
Mary Hanna
Erinn Heines
Dee Hii
Matt Hoch
Sue Hoch
Ken Hood
Pat Hood
Chris Jalove
Joe Jonish
Carmella Justice
Grant Justice
Kelly Kemp
Derek Khan
Donna Knight
Colleen Kowalke
Rita Kowalski
Lenita Krall
Lucille Lamb
Jeffrey Les
Zachary Loeffler
Rita Maksimik

Diane Markley
Michael Mardula
Shirley McBride
Margaret McCarthy
Lois McGowan
Gregory Mendoza
Amparo Mireles
Carmen Mireles
Elena A. Mireles
Raul Mireles
Benjamin Mollandin
Erik Mollandin
Kevin Moore
Michael Moravec
Wally Moskwa
Cheryl Muscato
Betty Nichols
Bob Nichols
Bobby Nichols
Sr. Roselyn Nichols
Lawrence Nonnie
Steve Obremski
Patricia O'Donnell
Maria T. Olvera
Ella Page

Siobhan Peacy
Corrine Pieroni
Willard Pristo
Joel Rivera
Kathy Schipman
Cathy Schuller
Hayley Schwartz
Rose Marie Selke
Mya Singh
Tim Slayman
Roseanne Smith
Dan Sochan
Stevie Lynn Stock
John Szklarski
Maria Tejada-Ortega
Gerard Titchenal
Bruce Trevillian II
Al Urban
Keith Urban
Aurora Vargas-Rubi
Eleanor Welps
Ed Wolosuk
Tess Zimecki

If you would like to add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact Pat Mander, Pastoral Minister at 815-436-2651 ext 893.

Intercessions for Life

May the glory of the Resurrection inspire lasting hope in all who work to protect the dignity of human life;

We Pray to the Lord

Word of Life

"Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, 'God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end' (Spe salvi 31)."

- USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"Respect Life Reflection: Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life" (Citing Pope Benedict XVI, Spe salvi © 2007, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with Permission. All rights reserved.)

Peticiones por La Vida

Que la Gloria de la Resurrección inspire una esperanza duradera en todos los que trabajan para proteger la dignidad de la vida human;

Roguemos al Señor

Palabra de Vida

"Como nosotros, Cristo entro en el mundo a través del vientre de una mujer. De buena gana experimento la plentitud del sufrimiento humano. Dio su ultimo suspiro en la cruz del Calvario para poder salvarnos. Por tanto, 'Dios es el fundamento de la esperanza: no cualquier dios, sino el Dios que tiene rostro humano y que nos ha amado hasta el fin'".

- Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida de la USCCB
"Reflexion sobre el respeto a la vida: Cristo, nuestra esperanza en cada etapa de la vida" (citando al Papa Benedicto XVI, Spe salvi © 2007, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.)



Prayer Intention Candles

For your donation of \$3.00, we will physically light one of the candles near the Adoration chapel for your intention and add your intention to a list in the online bulletin. To request a prayer intention and make your donation, please go to smip.org/candles

In Honor Of:

Butch Zimecki

Inosenta Delgado

Intentions:

For eternal and peaceful rest

Praying that Surgery goes well

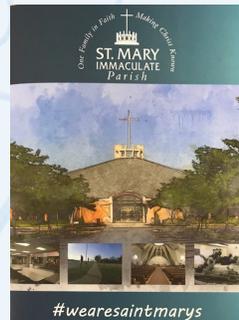
Faith, Fundraising and Community Outreach



The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick after Mass.



Fr. Pat Mulcahy, Denise Rowan and Dana from Milano Bakery distributing Irish Soda Bread for St. Patrick's Day and Zeppoli for St. Joseph's Day. Proceeds will fund Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry.



Lauren Henzel Making calls for the Capital Campaign

St. Mary's Polish Ministry

The Polish Ministry, as a part of our wonderful parish, is getting bigger and stronger. The pandemic is no match to the flowing Grace making us united in one Body of our Lord Jesus Christ. We continue to pray the Rosary, (now individually at our own homes), where each ministry member prays one decade every day.



During Lent, our Polish Ministry was part of the Multi-lingual Stations of the Cross and the Good Friday Service.

Every year, on Holy Saturday, SMIP community gathers to have the Easter baskets blessed.

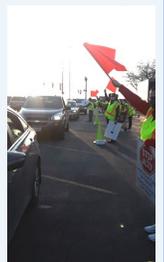
We invite everyone to join us at the Polish Mass in Church every Sunday at 12:45 PM. (Confession at 12 PM).

St. Mary's Hosts Mobile Food Pantries - 5000 Families served during COVID Pandemic - And still counting!

St. Mary's is the host site for a Mobile Food Pantry containing meats, fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as non-perishable items to feed 250 families in our community. Anyone in need can visit these mobile pantries, no ID is required.

Since March 2020 we have hosted monthly, and bi-monthly 6 months, drive-thru style mobile pantries to help families affected by the restrictions imposed on our community.

We partner with Catholic Charities and the Northern Illinois Food Bank in bringing these events to the community.



St. Mary Immaculate School



In-person learning 5 days a week
since August

Learning and growing in a Christ-centered
loving family environment

#SMI says yes



Faith Formation - Rigorous Curriculum - Extra Curricular Experiences - Technology

Religious Education

Grades K - 6



Hand washing—masks on—six feet apart: We did it all, and we did it well. **Nothing was going to keep us from Jesus!** Our families faithfully brought their children to class every week or picked up their materials every month. The way we do things may have changed, but our relationship with Christ remained steadfast. Come and join us.



Registration for the 2021-2022 year is now open. Call our office at 815-436-4501 for information.

Confirmation

St. Mary Immaculate



Preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Faith in Action



Feeding the Hungry



Caring for God's creation —preserve clean up

Programming is for 7th and 8th grade students.

Alternative programming for High School and Special Needs students.

Registration opened March 22 for September classes.

Formation this year included in-person and homeschool class options, E-learning classes, online doctrine tests, Zoom lessons, virtual Parent-Teen classes, and at-home retreats.

"We are having some great discussions"
- A homeschool parent



Youth Ministry

Lifeteen is our high school youth group which meets Sundays at 7:00 pm all year round. We have discussions about topics that matter to teens, we play games and do social activities, we have mission trips and service projects, and we hold an annual retreat. This is a great opportunity for any high school students who are at any point in their faith journey.



Here is what some of the teens shared about their experiences in Lifeteen:

"Lifeteen and God can lead to community and friendship."

"Lifeteen is the start of a greater friendship with Jesus."



"Lifeteen can be your break from the craziness of daily life and allow you to take some time and really think about your faith and become closer to it."



We have mission trips planned for both Life teen and Young Church this summer!

Lifeteen Mission trip Date: July 24th

Young Church* Mission Trip Date: July 14th

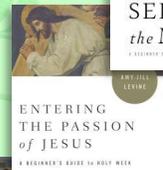
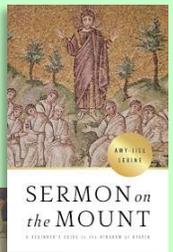
*Young Church is our middle school group for those in 6th - 8th grade.

Adult Formation



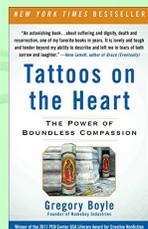
This winter in Adult Formation we continued offering studies that were conducted virtually.

We began the new year examining the Sermon on the Mount and we had professor, writer and biblical scholar Dr. Amy Jill Levine join us for an evening where she fielded questions for over an hour.



As we entered Lent we turned our focus to preparing for Holy Week by studying the days as presented in the Gospels with a study called: Entering the Passion.

In an effort to begin to re-enter we held an "in-person" marriage preparation workshop. Four couples met with seven engaged couples as they prepare for married life.



We also hosted virtual book discussions. In January we talked about the Irish influence on the Church in America with a book on "Dagger John". Our upcoming book is **"Tattoos on the Heart"**. Father Gregory Boyle's sparkling parables about kinship and the sacredness of life are drawn from twenty years working with gangs in LA. How do you fight despair and learn to meet the world with a loving heart? How do you overcome shame? Stay faithful in spite of failure? **Join us for a discussion on this book on April 12th at 7:00 pm.**

Allies for Peace and Justice

A New Ministry forming at St. Mary Immaculate



Allies for Peace and Justice is a new ministry forming at St. Mary Immaculate to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the community and world around us. The Allies are beginning with three working groups, with each group focusing on one priority of the Church's social teaching. More groups will form to focus on other priorities as interest and commitment grows. The first three priorities selected by the group are:

1. Pro-life issues from womb to tomb, with a particular focus on protecting the life of the children in the womb.
2. Support for racial justice and promoting inclusion within the Church and society.
3. Support for LGBT persons and outreach to their family members.

In addition, an **Allies Core Team is forming** to coordinate our overall efforts of peace and justice, to provide parish education and formation, and to do projects not covered by the initial three priorities on an ad hoc basis.

If you are interested in the causes of peace and justice, please consider joining this exciting new ministry at St. Mary Immaculate. For more information **contact Father John Regan at jregan@smip.org.**

Other Active Ministries

Women's Bible Study

Our ministry provides women of our parish an opportunity to study scripture and learn how it can speak to you today. You can experience the gift of coming together to study scripture and share your faith journey!

Women's Bible Study is a great way to meet other faithful women of our parish to share fellowship as you grow closer to Christ.

All women are welcome to attend, no previous Bible study experience necessary.

We offer both a morning and an evening session. Our next study is scheduled for the fall.

Please watch the bulletin in late summer for information on our next study and how to register.

If you have any questions regarding Women's Bible Study, please feel free to contact Laurie Hovland at Llhovland@yahoo.com or Debbie Jaffray at debbiej@wideopenwest.com.



Faithful Friends Prison Ministry

We are a ministry that works with a larger group called Companions Journeying Together to match up men and women with an inmate looking for a pen pal.

One of the Corporal Works of Mercy for our Catholic faith is to visit the imprisoned. Our ministry fulfills this need by providing a friendship to someone who is lonely and in most cases abandoned by their loved ones. You can be a light in someone's life just so they know that someone is out there thinking about them and praying for them.

The Pen Pal program uses every precaution for the safety of its members. No personal information, including full name and address, is ever used. Correspondence are run through a P.O. Box. While the point of this ministry is to provide the incarcerated with some companionship, our members get just as much out of the relationship.

Pen Pals must be over 18 and we are looking for both men and women. There is training and much support provided. If you are interested please contact Gloria Cesario at gcr@sbcglobal.net or Debbie Jaffray at debbiej@wideopenwest.com.



Knights of Columbus Good Shepherd Council 5573

The Knights of Columbus have been busy over the past three months with several fundraisers. The last Sunday of January we held our Annual Knights Charities Breakfast with the support of Blueberry Hill Restaurant. The following weekend we held our Annual Tamale Fest, which was very successful, thanks to Father Pat allowing us to use the Faith Sharing Room to prepare individual orders for pickup by the Cana Hall entrance.

Our most recent efforts have been holding our Annual Lenten Fish Fries. This activity could not have been possible without the approval of Father Pat and support of the parish staff. While the Knights have not been able to conduct these activities as in past years, we greatly appreciate the support of parishioners from St. Mary Immaculate!

Thank you to Father Pat and the parish staff along with all the individuals who financially supported our activities. Your support will enable the Knights of Columbus to continue providing assistance to our Church and Church School and other needy groups in our community.

God Bless you all during this Most Holy Season.

Fishers of Men

Fishers of Men is a diocesan-sponsored organization with a mission to create solid, Christ-centered men's groups in every parish.

Fishers of men at SMI is a diverse group of Catholic men, inviting men of all ages in and around our communities to experience Jesus Christ every Saturday morning as well as other scheduled opportunities.

Our group meets for 90 minutes Saturday mornings, is radically hospitable, open to men of other faiths, allows confidential deep sharing, intently studies/reflects on the Sunday scriptures, openly prays, laughs and sings. We have grown from 7 guys to 20+ at our meeting and over 50 men who have attended at different times. But the call to action doesn't end at 8:30 am every Saturday.

- We involve ourselves in the greater community in service projects, prayer time at Planned Parenthood, food delivery drops, Feed My Starving Children, Sunshine Club (random acts of kindness/prayer) and jobs around the parish.
- Guys connect during the week with inspirational messages and words of encouragement for brothers in need of prayers or other crises.

We invite every man of every age and ethnicity, whether actively engaged in your faith or have no faith, to consider coming to a Saturday morning meeting and see for yourself what might be missing in your life.

**Questions? Contact Matt Trusk
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