

April.



The month of April is dedicated to The Lamb who was slain, the Eucharist and the Holy Spirit. The first eleven days of the month fall during the season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical colour purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remainder of April falls during the Easter Season which is represented by the liturgical colour white — the colour of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored).

After our solemn commemoration of the last days and death of Our Lord, we will spend the month of April celebrating. As Spring breaks forth even nature will join us as buds and blooms begin to surface and we spend this month basking in the joy of the Resurrection.

We continue throughout the entire month our cry,
"Christ is risen, Christ is truly risen."

The Feast of Divine Mercy offers us the opportunity to begin again as though we were newly baptized.

The unfathomable mercy of God is made manifest today if we but accept His most gracious offer.

Easter is the feast of feasts, the unalloyed joy and gladness of all Christians.

This truly is "the day that the Lord has made."

From Sunday to Sunday, from year to year, the Easters of this earth will lead us to that blessed day on which Christ has promised that He will come again with glory to take us with Him into the kingdom of His Father.

April boasts the most solemn and sublime event of human history: the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ — the Paschal mystery. Though the way to the Resurrection was the Via Crucis, the Sacrificial Lamb of God is now and forever Christ our Light, the Eternal high priest of the New Covenant. And his sorrowful mother, the Stabat Mater of Good Friday, is now the jubilant Mother of the Regina Caeli.

We the members of Christ's Mystical Body exalt in the mystery by which we were redeemed.

If in Baptism we were buried with Christ, so also will we share in his resurrection.

By his death we were reborn; "by his stripes we were healed." (Is 53:5)

Easter, the epicenter of time, is the event that links time and eternity.

It is indeed "the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it." (Ps 118:24)

This month the main liturgical feasts are:

St. Francis of Paola (April 2nd),
St. Isidore (April 4th),
St. Vincent Ferrer (April 5th),
St. John Baptist de la Salle (April 7th),
St. Stanislaus (April 11th),
St. Martin I (April 13th),
St. Bernadette (April 16th),
St. Anselm (April 21st),
St. George and St. Adalbert (April 23rd),
St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen (April 24th),
St. Mark (April 25th),
Our Lady of Good Counsel (April 26th),
St. Louis Mary de Montfort and St. Peter Chanel (April 28th),
St. Catherine of Siena (April 29th)
St. Pius V (April 30th).

The Gospel readings for the Sundays in April are taken from St. Matthew, St. Luke and St. John and are from Year A, Cycle 2.

April 5th - Palm Sunday

The Gospel is the reading of the Passion of Our Lord.

April 12th - Easter Sunday

The Gospel tells of the visit of Mary Magdalene to the empty tomb

April 19th - Divine Mercy Sunday

The Gospel relates the story of doubting Thomas.

April 26th - 3rd Sunday of Easter

The Gospel relates the story of the disciples encountering Jesus on the road to Emmaus.

