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He is Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia

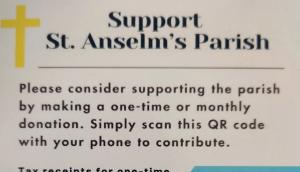


Tuesday, April 22nd, 8:15 a.m. Joan Greenwood Requested by Ken & Lorraine Ware

Wednesday, April 23rd, 8:15 a.m. For the Intentions of George Kostovcik Requested by Mel Kostovcik

Thursday, April 24th, 8:15 a.m. For the Deceased Members of the Aust Family Requested by

Friday, April 25th, 8:15 a.m. For Peace and Care of Creation Requested by EcoAnselm





SHARELIFE 2025 PARISH CAMPAIGN

Thank you for being a beacon of hope On Easter Sunday, we thank you for being a beacon of hope for our brothers and sisters in need by supporting ShareLife. In their darkest hours, you are right beside them. As we rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord this Easter Sunday, let us open our hearts to all.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

THE LORD IS RISER! ALLELNIA!

EcoAnselm

THANK YOU to each parishioner who has discerned and posted a Lenten Eco-Commitment on the EcoWall. Habits begun in Lent often lead to lasting spiritual and practical lifestyle changes. Each action, big or small, contributes to collective HOPE, serves to inspire further action and can lead to impactful CHANGE. Commitments are dynamic and can evolve over time. As Earth Day approaches, feel welcome to post a revised or new personal and/or family commitment related to caring for "our common home" (Pope Francis). EARTH WEEK 2025, APRIL 16-22. The theme for 2025 is "OUR POWER, OUR PLANET". For EARTH DAY, Tues., April 22, we are asked to "unite behind renewable energy, and to triple the global generation of clean electricity by 2030. How? ... By encouraging all to take action - EDUCATE, ADVOCATE, MOBILIZE. Learn the facts, raise awareness, inspire action." The Earth Day 2025 inspirational poster, created by Alexis Rockman, is intended to raise environmental awareness. Check it out! Consider ordering a personal copy to display at your school or workplace. earthday.org/earth-day-poster-2025/

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL BUNDLE WEEKEND

The weekend is fast approaching! St. Vincent de Paul's Bundle Sunday is **May 10-11**. The truck will be in our parking lot to accept gently used or new items on these days.

Items accepted: Bedding, drapery, textiles, clothing coats, boots and shoes, towels, <u>new</u> toys only.

Items not accepted: Appliances, dishes, books, all baby furnishing and items, large furniture items and beds, used toys, construction material, video or cassettes.

CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA! Reflection on John 20:1-18



These are the victorious words we shout with gusto on this greatest of all feast days. But, in order to fully appreciate them, we need to go way back in time to the people who first discovered this reality. We need to put ourselves inside their skin and see with their eyes.

All throughout his public ministry, Jesus had so impacted the lives of a group of people that they had become radically changed. These disciples of Jesus were the very same ones who had walked and talked with him, who were present when his many healings took place, who listened to him discourse about a God of mercy beyond their farthest imagining. For these early followers of Jesus, life had taken on a whole new meaning. In him, they believed they had found the Messiah the prophets had promised. They believed that things could finally be different: the hungry would be fed; the poor would be recognized; the sinful made whole. Easter is initially the story, though, of how these same faith-filled people then became devastated to the point that their hope turned to despair and their dream of a glorious future became a nightmare. Jesus was crucified. He was executed in perhaps the most gruesome way that anyone could die at that time in human history. The story of those hope-filled people now became a very dark one. It became instead a story of betrayal and abandonment. And then came the Gospel account we read today on Easter Sunday morning - an account that begins with words that reflect that gloom: "Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb." In the Gospel of John, darkness implies a lack of faith. It tells us that at that time, Mary had no faith, no hope. She was in a place of numbness.

And then she finds the tomb is empty! She's startled. She's bewildered. She doesn't know what to do. And so she runs. She runs to get Simon Peter and the other disciple Jesus loved. And together they run - right into that very same empty tomb. The Easter story now begins to

unfold in an entirely new direction. The darkness gives way to the bright light brought on by a sense of victory. Little by little, the earliest followers of Jesus begin to realize that what truly happened is something never heard of before in all of human history: God has raised Jesus from the dead! He is alive! He is risen! And the wondrous ending to the Easter story is what all four of the Gospels and St. Paul tell us repeatedly: Jesus is not only alive, but he is still here, still present, still among us. Only now he is with us in a whole new way. That's what the really good news for each of us is: We are not alone. The Spirit Jesus promised us is alive in the scriptures we read; alive in the Eucharist we celebrate; alive in the hungry whom we feed; alive in the gathering of two or more in his name. "They have taken the Lord from the tomb and we don't know where they have laid him," Mary of Magdala sadly tells us in today's Gospel. The ecstasy of this day is that we now know exactly "where they have laid him": inside each one of us; in our hearts; in our values; in our prayers; in our reaching out to the "least of these." That's why now we can truly sing together with full joy: Christ is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All powerful and loving God, grant us the grace and patient courage to understand what we proclaim and the faithfulness to see it through...for the mind of Christ...

A Prayer-Filled Wish...Happy Easter

Easter celebrates the perfect joy waiting for us when we and all creation are reborn with our resurrected Lord into the everlasting love of God. As we move through this Easter season, let us remember who has called us together and what we are called to do. We live in a world that would really like to forget – Easter joy, Easter hope, Easter love and Easter faith. Understand that Jesus is all of these for believers and that we celebrate this if we truly understand and try to live his message.

Happy Easter from all those who serve you – Fr. Tom, Msgr. Dave, Deacon Dan and Barrig, who makes it work so well. May this blessed day fill you with the gifts of renewed faith, hope, joy and the peace of the Risen Lord.

