

## Our Easter Celebration Continues and Deepens

As described in last week's bulletin we celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ for **fifty days** in the Catholic Church. This celebration takes us far beyond the joy of Easter dinner with those we love; the bright decorations bringing a smile; the candy basket with special treats; the special Adoration we gave to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament after Holy Thursday Mass; the heart-wrenching remembrance of our Lord tortured, ridiculed, and crucified on Good Friday; the light of Christ dispelling the darkness of our hearts and minds through the Easter Vigil. We continue to celebrate God's gift of mercy given to us through Jesus Christ. Last week's bulletin also referred to the prolonged joy of the Easter Octave - those eight days following Easter Sunday; the Easter Octave concludes today. Before we leave the Octave behind, let us pause to examine the Gospel reading from last Tuesday here....

**Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" She thought it was the gardener and said to him, "Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him. Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, "Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father." John 20:15-17**

Mary Magdalene had been outside Jesus' tomb weeping because she didn't know what had happened to His sacred body. Jesus appears to her suddenly in her grief and she is overwhelmed, crying out "Rabbouni!" You have read that Jesus tells her to stop holding on to Him. Why would Jesus say this? What did He mean? As we can imagine, this was a very emotional moment for Mary. She was present for the entire Crucifixion. She knew Jesus well and loved Him dearly. She watched Him die and now, all of a sudden, Jesus was alive and in her presence. Her emotions must have been in high gear. Know that Jesus was not being critical of Mary when He told her not to hold on to Him. He was actually giving her beautiful advice and direction in her spiritual journey, about her relationship with Him. Jesus was telling Mary that their relationship was going to change, to deepen. In this passage we hear Him telling her to not to hold on to Him because He had "not yet ascended to the Father." Mary's relationship with Jesus was primarily on a human level. She had spent lots of time with Him, in His physical presence, and loved Him with her human heart. But Jesus wanted more. He wanted her - and all of us - to now love Him in a divine way. He was soon to ascend to the Father, and *from His heavenly throne He could begin a new relationship with Mary, and with each of us, that is **far more than on a human level.*** From His throne in Heaven Jesus could now be part of Mary's soul; He could enter into a new and much deeper communion with her - same for us, here on earth. **He can live in us and we in Him. He can become one with us. We only have to trust in Him.** By letting go of the more human and emotional aspects of her relationship with Jesus, *Mary could actually cling to Jesus in a way that wasn't possible through all of her human interactions with Him.* This is the divine marriage, the divine communion to which each of us are called. Yes, each of us. This goes beyond our intellect but speaks to our will, every time we make a choice.

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### *In Memory of Anita Stenersen,*

*There will be a Funeral Mass on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.*

A luncheon hosted by the Altar Society will follow in the Parish Hall.

A sign-up sheet for salads and desserts is in the Church entry or call Marietta at 208-756-7769

### **Altar Society Installation Dinner**

The Altar Society Installation Dinner and Blind Auction is on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Shady Nook. Bring a beautifully wrapped or bagged gift for the auction. Proceeds will go to Beatriz and Marina Enriquez' medical expenses. Both are recovering!

### Notes from Pastoral Council:

~Thank you to Tri-State Brothers Roofing for the new roof over the Office.

~Manufacturing and installation of the Altar Rail and Sanctuary Guard have been delayed until summer. Please be aware of the fall hazard while in the Sanctuary.

~2022 Fair Booth preparations are underway. How will you help this year?

~Thank you to Godfrey Electric. Gary informed us that each outlet in the serving kitchen can safely take only one appliance.

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Let us reflect on our own clinging to Jesus. He is now fully resurrected and ascended, and as a result we can experience the full fruits of the Resurrection, that is: God's Divine Mercy. We, with Mary, can now hold Him tight in our soul because - whether one acknowledges it or not - He is primarily the one holding on to us. Let us pray to be reminded of His love, His yearning for us:

*My exalted Lord, may I cling to You as You cling to me. **May my heart, mind and soul be Yours. Come live in me so that I may live in You.** I give my life to You, dear Lord, help me to offer You all that I am. **Jesus, I trust in You.***

copied from: <https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/2022/04/18/holding-on-to-jesus/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 24:** RE classes resume after Mass. Pastoral Council Nominations accepted through April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**April 30:** Funeral Mass for Anita Stenersen at 11:00 a.m. followed by a luncheon.

**May 2-6:** No Daily Mass this week.

**May 8:** Mother's Day. No RE class.

**May 9:** Altar Society Installation Dinner.

**May 14:** Spring Clean-Up.

### Special Days This Week:

April 23: Whit McKinney (B)

April 26: Krysalynn Freitas (B)

April 28: Fr. John Gathungu (B)

Tom & Katie Bonn (A)

*Happy Birthday and Anniversary! May you be richly blessed as you celebrate your special day!*

### 2022 Idaho Catholic Appeal

St Charles Borromeo's goal is **\$12,316**.  
As of 4/14/2022 twenty-seven of our 80 registered Parishioners have pledged \$8,510 (69.10% of goal).  
Contribution envelopes are in the Church Entry!