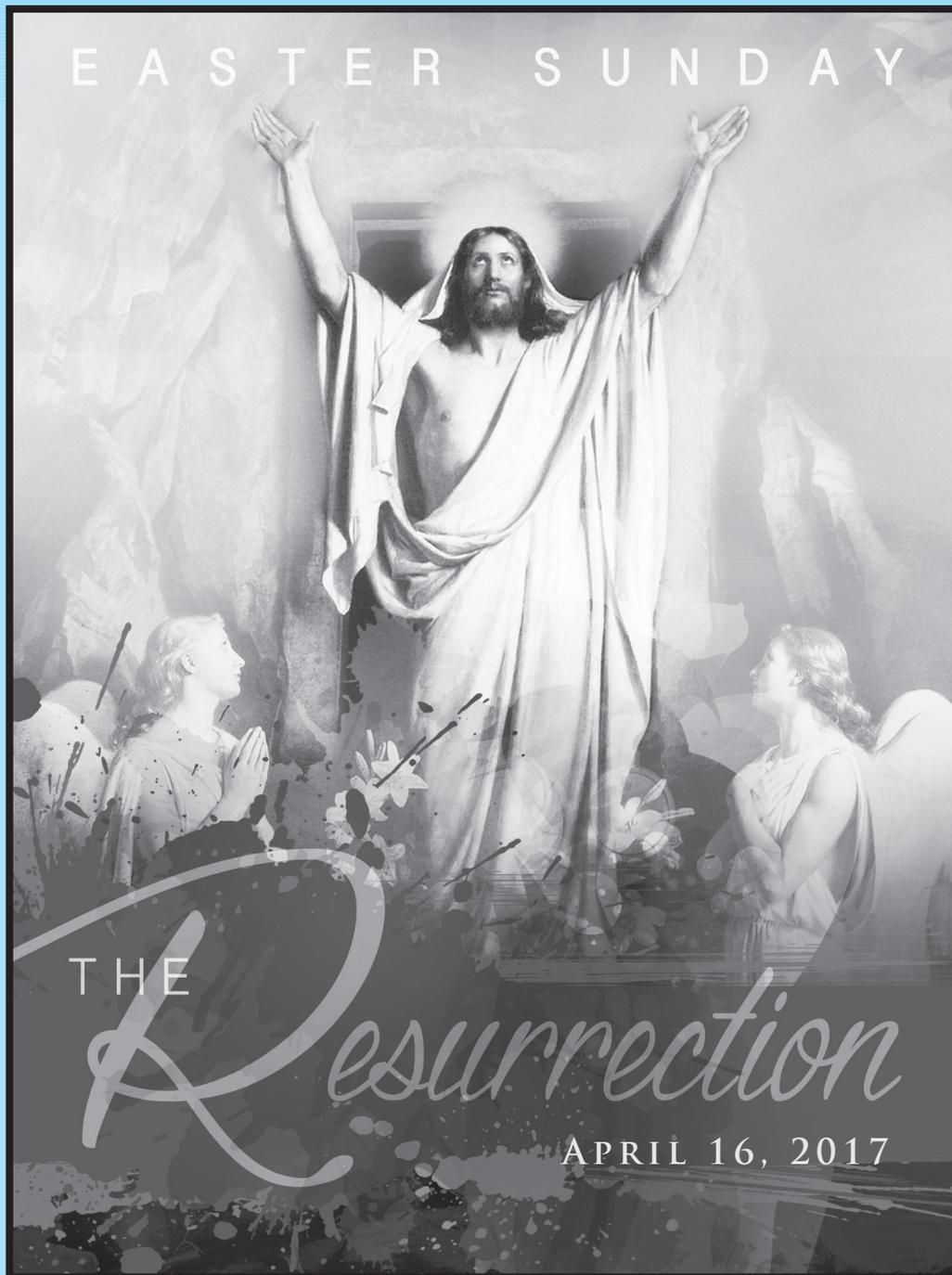


ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH

NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS CHAPEL

SHRINE OF ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA



MICHELLE FRANCESCONI
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
michelle@stmaryscheshire.com
E. LARY GROSSMAN
BOOKKEEPER

FATHER MATTHEW GUIDI
PASTOR
fathermatthew@stmaryscheshire.com

ANN CAIN
ORGANIST
CHOIR DIRECTOR
TOM ROMANIAK
MAINTENANCE

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION
159 CHURCH STREET, CHESHIRE, MA 01225
WWW.STMARYSCHESHIRE.COM
413-743-2110
Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

DEACON BOB HITTER
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
deaconbob@stmaryscheshire.com

MASSES
ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION
Saturday 4:00 p.m., Sunday 8:45 a.m.
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.
NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS CHAPEL
Saturday 5:45 p.m., Holy Days 7:00 p.m.


PMASS
INTENTIONS
APRIL 16, 2017

St. Mary of the Assumption

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2017 - HOLY SATURDAY

8:00 p.m. Deacon Bob's 30th Diaconal Anniversary

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017 - EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Patricia Haun
Req. by Her Mom & Dad

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2017

8:00 a.m. Priscilla (Pat) Bialas
Req. by The Richardson Family

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017

8:00 a.m. The Parishioners of the St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Community

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017

8:00 a.m. George Douillet
Req. by Eva Douillet

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017

8:00 a.m. Michael Fitzgerald
Req. by Mary, Mother of Hope Parish Community

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017

8:00 a.m. No Mass

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

4:00 p.m. Stanley & Suzanne Skubel
Req. by Leo Skubel

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017 - EASTER SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. Stanley & Phyllis Poplaski
Req. by The Family

North American Martyrs Chapel

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017 - EASTER SUNDAY

11:00 a.m. Bill & Mary Jane DiLego
Req. by Lori & Regina DiLego

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

5:45 p.m. Mary Jane DiLego
Req. by Lori & Regina DiLego

ALL GIFTS GIVEN IN HONOR OF
DEACON BOB'S
30TH DIACONAL ANNIVERSARY

EASTER VIGIL & EASTER SUNDAY

THE EASTER VIGIL MASS

A vigil Mass is held after nightfall on Holy Saturday in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This is called the Easter Vigil, the most glorious, beautiful, and dramatic liturgy for the Church. The vigil is divided into four parts: 1) the service of light, 2) the liturgy of the Word, 3) the liturgy of Baptism, and 4) the liturgy of the Eucharist. This is also the Mass where many adults are brought into full communion with the Catholic Church.

CELEBRATING EASTER FULLY

Easter Sunday is what we've all been waiting for! The 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent was in preparation for this day, when our hearts and souls can drink in deeply the culmination of the Pascal mystery: the Resurrection. "Therefore Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts', the 'Solemnity of solemnities', just as the Eucharist is the 'Sacrament of sacraments'. St. Athanasius calls Easter 'the Great Sunday' and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week 'the Great Week'. The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him." (CCC #1168, 1169)

THE EASTER EGG & MARY MAGDALENE



According to tradition, after Jesus' Ascension into heaven, the Magdalene - a wealthy woman of some importance - boldly presented herself to the Emperor Tiberius Caesar in Rome to proclaim the resurrection of Jesus Christ, with an egg in hand to illustrate her message. Holding the egg out to him, she exclaimed for the first time what is now the universal Easter proclamation among Christians, "Christ is risen!"

The emperor, mocking her, said that Jesus had no more risen than the egg in her hand was red. Immediately, the egg turned red as a sign from God to illustrate the truth of her message. The Emperor then heeded her complaints about Pilate condemning an innocent man to death, and had Pilate removed from Jerusalem under imperial displeasure.

Painting boiled Easter eggs is a beloved ancient tradition. The eggs are often dyed red to represent the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross. Historically, Christians would abstain from eating eggs during Lent, so Easter was the first chance to eat eggs again after a long period of abstinence. The egg represented the sealed Tomb of Christ, and cracking the shell represented Jesus' resurrection from the dead. *-Adapted from The Catholic Company*

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STMARYOFTHE0039

PARISH EVENTS & DATES ALL EVENTS ARE AT ST. MARY'S UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

SATURDAY, MAY 13TH

First Holy Communion - 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 21ST

Deacon Bob's 30th Diaconate Anniv. Brunch - 10:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH

Deacon Barrent Pease's Ordination

St. Michael's Cathedral - Springfield, MA - 10:00 a.m.

NEWS

FROM FATHER MATTHEW . . .

"I am pleased to announce that on April 4th, 2017, Bishop Rozanski has named me Pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish. I thank God for this grace and blessing and I ask that you pray for me everyday. Please pray that God may give me the grace and blessings needed to fulfill my priestly and pastoral duties. I want to do everything I can to minister to the people of this parish and reach out to those inactive Catholics who no longer worship with us on a regular basis."

WHAT IS A PASTOR VS. ADMINISTRATOR?

A parochial administrator is a temporary position, implemented in a parish when the pastor role has been vacated for one of a variety of reasons. Although an administrator has many duties similar to a pastor, he is limited by the bishop. The bishop may also, at any time, transfer or remove an administrator which is not the case with a pastor who has certain rights that are protected under Canon Law.

The Code of Canon Law stipulates, "For the office of pastor to be conferred on someone, it is necessary that his suitability be clearly evident by means of some method determined by the diocesan bishop, even by means of an examination" (No. 521.3). Therefore, in deciding the appointment of a pastor to a vacant parish, the bishop should make a judgment based on his knowledge of the priests character and abilities, and on the advice of other priests and laity (No. 524). As such, the bishop may obtain this knowledge and advice during a priest's time as administrator of a parish.

The bishop appoints the pastor as "the proper shepherd" of the parish. The pastor must care for the souls of the faithful entrusted to him. He must fulfill his duties to teach, to sanctify, and to govern the faithful with the cooperation of the priests, deacons, religious, and lay members of his parish. A special emphasis is placed on the pastor's obligation to provide for the Catholic education of his people, particularly children and young adults, and ensuring that the most holy Eucharist is the center of parish life (cf. No. 528). In all, a pastor must be a priest "distinguished for his sound doctrine and integrity of morals, and endowed with a zeal for souls and other virtues" (No. 521.2). -Adapted from *catholiceducation.org*

UPDATED PARISH SOFTWARE

St. Mary's is thrilled to announce the implementation of a new parish management software. Over the past months, work has been done behind the scenes to enter over 600 parishioners into the new system. The new software, called "Breeze", will enable us to more effectively and efficiently manage our parish census data, schedule volunteers, register new members, and track offertory giving.

Online giving is part of the system and is now active on our website, www.stmaryscheshire.com. Offertory envelopes are also now being recorded through the new program. Parishioners will, if interested, have the ability to access their own data through a personalized, secure account, sign up for events, manage volunteering, track their giving progress, give online, print receipts, and much more!

If you are new to the parish or did not fill out and submit a census form last year, please contact the office for further instructions. Additional information about the program will be available in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please contact Michelle in the office with any questions. - *Thank you!*

YOUTH MASS

Our next Youth Mass will be held on Sunday, April 30th at 8:45 a.m. All Religious Education students, grades Kindergarten through 10th, are invited to join us. Students and their families will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parish hall. Light refreshments will be served following Mass in the parish hall.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Two outdoor Divine Mercy Masses will be celebrated at the National Shrine for the Divine Mercy at Eden Hill in Stockbridge, MA. The Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 22nd at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 23rd the Solemn Liturgy at 1:00 p.m. at the Outdoor Shrine. Visit thedivine Mercy.org or call 413-298-1114 for more details.

OUR GIVING

WEEKEND OF APRIL 8TH & 9TH

WEEKLY GIVING DATA FOR THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 8TH & 9TH WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PRINTING.