

***Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral APRIL 8TH SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
DIVINE MERCY***

A LOOK AT OUR STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS



As part of the 175th Anniversary Year, the fourth look at our stained-glass windows will take place on Thursday, April 19th, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cathedral Church. Our fourth presentation of the Cathedral's Munich stained-glass windows will feature the "Anointing of the feet of Jesus" window. This

window was donated by Mrs. Feliciane Schaub.

ALL ENCOUNTERS WITH CHRIST BRING ABOUT HOPE AND HEALING.

Healing plays a huge role in our society. We spend billions on healthcare, and rightly so. Alike our physical health, our spiritual health also needs attention. Throughout the Gospels, healing is one of the major characteristics of Jesus' ministry. Some are recalled in detail, others simply noted. Yet all these healings are signs of the kingdom of God. Here in Christ, God comes forth into our world in a new and dynamic way, fulfilling his promises and even at times turning the laws of nature upside down.

Today, we hear this ministry of spiritual healing being passed to the Eleven, through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Our Gospel passage today is the scriptural basis for the sacrament of reconciliation. John tells us that Jesus appears to the Eleven as they hid in the Upper Room. One can imagine the stale air and oppressive smell in a room shut away from the world. But Jesus appears among them like a fresh breeze filling the house, displacing that stale air of fear, gently blowing away the dust of disappointment and propelling the disciples to forgiveness and healing.

In this moment of encounter and empowerment, the Apostles are given a holy responsibility to share God's healing and forgiveness with others. They are now carriers of God's promises, and have the power to heal physically and spiritually in Christ's name. What they say about the risen Christ is no mere fantasy or delusion. They witnessed his death and Resurrection, and now they bear witness to his risen glory – becoming instruments of the very mercy and forgiveness that Jesus so abundantly and generously bestows on all who follow him.

John then shows us how Thomas receives this life-changing mercy. Thomas finds it hard to believe what the other disciples tell him, and so Jesus literally stands before him and shows him his wounds: he gently takes Thomas from doubt to faith. Using his own words, Jesus coaxes one of the great declarations of faith – *My Lord and My God*. In that moment, Thomas is both healed and changed – healed of his grief and pain, changed from doubt to belief.

The need for that mercy and healing is just as great today as it was in the first century. Perhaps that is why Pope John Paul declared today to be Divine Mercy Sunday. At the heart of our faith is this recognition that we need the risen Christ; we need his healing and above all his steadfast mercy. Without these we are lost, still in our sins – unable to be reconciled with God. As we continue to celebrate the Resurrection, let us each open our own hearts to that healing and then commit ourselves to be channels of that healing in our words and actions this coming week.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon Apr 09	Is 7:10-14; 8:10, Heb 10:4-10, Lk 1:26-38
Tues Apr 10	Acts 4:32-37, Jn 3:7b-15
Wed Apr 11	Acts 5:17-26, Jn 3:16-21
Thur Apr 12	Acts 5:27-33, Jn 3:31-36
Fri Apr 13	Acts 5:34-42, Jn 6:1-15
Sat Apr 14	Acts 6:1-7, Jn 6:16-21
Sun Apr 15	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 Jn 2:1-5a, Lk 24:35-48



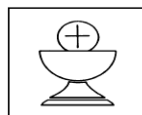
YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Regular Collections	\$	19,026.37
Capital Improve.	\$	340.00
Maintenance	\$	516.00
Nativity Elem.	\$	25.00
Misc.	\$	535.50
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$	20,442.87

RCIA

Sixteen new Catholics entered our Church at the Easter Vigil. They will now enter the period of Mystagogia, which ends at Pentecost. This final period is a time of deep spiritual growth and integration into the community. Please remember to keep these new Catholics and their Sponsors in your prayers.

COMMUNION VISITATION



Jesus says of you and me, "You are the salt of the earth". No one should be deprived of the Most Holy Eucharist because they are homebound, elderly, have no means of getting to Mass and/or sick in their home. Sister Jackie Tarrant, RSM will gladly bring the Eucharist to you in your home. Together we can be "salt of the earth". Sister can be reached at the rectory at 228-374-1717.

BINGO MANIA

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The following families are scheduled for April 10th: Kelly (Josh), King (Lee & Dannette), Koval (Ryan & Hailey), Kuluz (Devin & Bridgette), Bodin/Ladiner (Amanda & Adam), Lamey (Kevin & Dana) and Landry (Maggie). **REMEMBER! If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement.**

SECOND THURSDAY ADORATION

Our regular second Thursday adoration for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and committed religious life will take place on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Marian Chapel.

CONFIRMATION AT NATIVITY

The Sacrament of Confirmation for our young people will take place on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please come and support our teenagers.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS
Apr 14 4:00 pm 1. Jim Coskey 2. Kathleen Coskey 3. Patrick Hall	Apr 14 4:00 pm Rose Anne Kimbell	Apr 14 4:00 pm Sam Burke Cole Burke
Apr 15 7:00 am 1. Jim Shugart 2. Linda Stewart 3. Nora Ziz	Apr 15 7:00 am Sr. Mary Jo Mike	Apr 15 7:00 am Wyeth Stewart Alex Stewart
9:00 am 1. Judy Trahan 2. Sharon Tash 3. Rocky Greathouse 4. Linda Bourgeois 5. Belinda Corley	9:00 am Maggie Landry	9:00 am Morgan Newman Rush Newman Rhys Newman Sophia Careon
11:00 am 1. Sandy Steckler 2. Judy Steckler 3. Sondra Williams 4. Johnny Williams 5. Ben Eastman	11:00 am Daliance Kirkland-Ross	11:00 am Chaz Byers Izabell Byers Justin Useforge Jamey Useforge
5:30 pm 1. Tricia Creel 2. Roland Creel 3. Angela Cannon	5:30 pm Kristy Arguelles	5:30 pm Samantha Sharplin Breanna Smith Taylor Yasar
	CANTORS	
	Apr 14 4:00 pm William Endicott	
	Apr 15 9:00 am Phil Frisby & Choir	
	11:00 am John Welter	

	6:30 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
Mon Apr 09	Chester Balius Fly.	Jack B. Hughes
Tue Apr 10	Brenda Sargent	Merle Sherman
Wed Apr 11	Collins-Sims Fly.	Raymond Egers
Thur Apr 12	Clare Hornsby	Dorothy Thibodeaux
Fri Apr 13	Hugh Kavanagh (S.I.)	Glenn & Joyce Pizarich
Sat Apr 14	8 Ben Wimberly	4 Bros Jordan & Gary (S.I.)
Sun Apr 15	7 Dick Smith	9:00 F.T.P
	11:00 am Noel Obert	5:30 Clay Goddard (S.I.)

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS

Nick Wiser, Rose Collins, Elie Hebert, Jerry Ellis, Linda Welter, Hugh Kavanagh, Gerrie Weldon, Lehmon Skrmetti, Buddy Pullen, Annette Luther, Macklin Holloway, Mary Wimberly, Pete Skrmetta, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Betty Hilton, Mary Lancaster, Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollotte, Greg Hotaling, Jack Joachim, Jr., Michael Zorich, Sr. Fatima Starks and Karen Skremetta.

NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The April drawing for the \$3,000 Nativity School Raffle will take place on Thursday, April 12th at 5:30 p.m.

*Registration for the 2018-2019 school year is ongoing. Although several classes are filled, openings remain in many grades. For more information about the school and its programs, please visit our website at www.nativitybvm.org or call the school office (432-2269) to set up a tour.

*Nativity school continues to collect Box Tops for Education, Community Coffee UPC codes and aluminum beverage cans. Please continue to help us with these projects.

MUSIC MINISTRY NOTES:

SANCTUARY CHOIR SCHEDULE:

April 8th: 11:00 a.m.
April 14th: 4:00 p.m.
April 22nd: 9:00 a.m.
April 29th: 11:00 a.m.

"Gloria In Excelsis" Choral Society Rehearsal will be held on Tuesday, April 10th at 7:00 p.m. We are working on our "Spirituals & Gospel Music" Concert for May. Our Cathedral Choir will resume rehearsals with this Wednesday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m. Our Choral Ensembles – the Cathedral Choir & our Choral Society - "Gloria In Excelsis" invites folks to prayerfully consider becoming members. All interested individuals wanting to inquiry/participate in the Music & Fine Arts Ministries Program should contact Terry Maddox – Minister of Music @ 251-406-1454 &/or @ terrydalemaddox@gmail.com

CCD

Classes will resume on Wednesday, April 11. Thanks for your support of our CCD program and for bringing your children to CCD! For more information or any questions, please contact Barbara Ziz, 228-918-9778.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 09 Women of Mary, 5:30 p.m.
Apr 10 Men of St. Joseph, 7:00 a.m. – SHC
RCIA Class, 6:00 p.m.
Bingo, 5:30 p.m.
Apr 11 Cleaning Team "B"
CCD Classes, 5:30 p.m., SHC
Apr 12 Greenbriar Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Adoration, 6:00 p.m.

MUSIC FOR THIS WEEKEND

ENTRANCE HYMN	#167
OFFERTORY	#567
COMMUNION	#471
SENDING	#177

NATIVITY B.V.M. CATHEDRAL'S 6TH ANNUAL UNCORKED AND UNCAPPED WINE AND BEER TASTING!

It's time to purchase your tickets!!! Nativity BVM Cathedral's 6th Annual uncorked and uncapped wine and beer tasting is Saturday, April 28th, 2018 – Exotic Wines – Craft Beers – Gourmet Food – Silent Auction and Live Entertainment. Tickets are \$45.00 per person, \$80.00 per couple and \$400.00 for a reserved table of 10.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

We are looking for artsy items for our upcoming Beer and Wine Tasting Event scheduled for April 28, 2018. If you have something of interest – an antique item, artwork, crafts, jewelry – that you would like to donate, please call Fr. Colten at (228)374-1717. All proceeds from your donated auction item will go to the support of Nativity Cathedral Parish.