

**Third Sunday of Easter**  
**April 15, 2018**



Even though we do not hear any readings from the Old Testament during Easter, in a way we do not hear what is written there. Both the first reading and the Gospel has brought the words of the prophets to fulfillment in the person of Jesus. Peter explained that the Messiah suffered just as the prophets had said he would. Jesus tells his disciples that everything written about him had to be fulfilled, including his suffering, death, and resurrection.

Another commonality between Peter's and Jesus' speeches is that they called their audiences "witnesses." Obviously, they were, as these people had seen Jesus before his passion, had seen him crucified, and at least some had seen him firsthand after he had risen. But how can we be witnesses? How can we "who have not seen and have believed," as we heard last week, witness to what the early church had seen? It may be helpful to note that the early Christians had never met Abraham or Moses or Isaiah, yet they knew them intimately through scripture and preaching. So too do we learn about Jesus. But more than that, we know that Jesus is with us always, so we can always witness to him.

A final constant of today's readings is repentance. Why is repentance emphasized so strongly today, when the penitential season of Lent has ended? Perhaps because sin has not. As sinners, we are always called to repentance. Fortunately, as John says in his letter, Jesus is expiation for our sins and the sins of the world. Repent, and our sins may be wiped away.

**Question of the Week**

How can I be a witness? How do I explain what the presence of Jesus in my life mean?

**Saturday, April 14, 2018**

**Vigil of Second Sunday of Easter/Sunday of Divine Mercy**  
**4:00p.m.** Darrell and Elodie Gabriel – Bruce Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Leonard Belton – Peter Phi Van Nguyen – Intentions of Herman Mitchell – Tu Tran

**Sunday, April 15, 2018**

**Second Sunday of Easter /Sunday of Divine Mercy**  
**8:30a.m.** Darrell & Elodie Gabriel – Bruce Gabriel – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – France Hai Cao –Earthy B. Lazard – Walter Banks, III – Lawrence Miller, Jr. – Melvina Kepp – Corrine Singletary – Nathaniel Wilson, Sr. –Eugene and Yolande Ganier – Paul and Gloria Andoh – Peter Phi Van Nguyen – James St. Charles – Louis and Rosita Reddick – Louis and Delorita Reddick – O'Malley and Jane Garrison Eugene and Lovenia Barthelemy – Antoine & Alvernia LaFrance – Intentions of Tu Tran

**10:30a.m.** Lamar & Shirley Smith – Lordeas Glapion Nix – Shirley Dejan – Intentions of Reggie Woolery, Jr. – McKinney Family – Herman Mitchell – Dawn Richard – Leontine Coleman

**12:00p.m.** Intentions of Charles and Gloria Larche – Herman Mitchell – Andrew Joseph, III – The Parishioners of St. Maria Goretti Parish

**Monday, April 16, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Mr. Charles Winchell, Sr. – Beverly Wilkerson – Peter Phi Van Nguyen – James Young – Shirley Dejan – Intentions of Donya Ralph – Tu Tran –Herman Mitchell

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Peter Phi Van Nguyen – Beverly Wilkerson – Lordeas Glapion Nix – Joseph Cong Cao – Mary Kham and Peter Nguyen – Shirley Dejan – Intentions of Herman Mitchell – Tu Tran – Tamerle Young

**Wednesday, April 18, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Anthony Pierre – Beverly Wilkerson – Peter Phi Van Nguyen – Shirley Dejan – Intentions of Tu Tran – Herman Mitchell – Dawn Richard

**Thursday, April 19, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham –Peter Phi Van Nguyen – Joyce Jones – Shirley Dejan – James Armelin, Sr. – Intentions of Tu Tran – Herman Mitchell – Dawn Richard –

**Friday, April 20, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Dennis & Rita Washington – Beverly Wilkerson – Peter Phi Van Nguyen – Shirley Dejan – Intentions of Tu Tran – Herman Mitchell – Dawn Richard

**Saturday, April 21, 2018**

**8:30a.m.** Intentions of Peter Phi Van Nguyen – Herman Mitchell – Tu Tran – The Living and Deceased Benefactors of the Catholic Negro American Mission.

**Announcements**

“You say, it’s impossible.” “God say’s, all things are possible.” “No matter what.... Trust God.” Eucharistic Adoration Monday – Friday, 9:00a.m. – 12:00 Noon and Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 3:00pm.

**Rejoicing in Hope**

The Bible Study theme for the **Third Sunday of Easter** is: **Be a Witness! What is an “authenticating second”? How are you a witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ?** The Bible Study is based on the readings for, **The Third Sunday of Easter, Reading I: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Responsorial Psalm: 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9; Reading II: 1 John 2:1-5a; Gospel: Luke 24:35-48..** The bible study can be found on the parish website at: [smgnola.com/BibleStudy](http://smgnola.com/BibleStudy), and it can be downloaded for your personal use. **Come and be warmed by the word of God. Join us every Monday in the Center at 7p.m.**

The St. Maria Goretti CYO is sponsoring a Bake Sale at all Masses on Sunday, April 22, 2018.

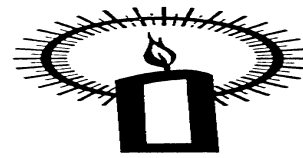


Thursdays, 8:00p.m. in the Center where you might win and have some fun with friends & family.

**RCIA**

As we embrace the Resurrection of our Lord, we also embrace the need to renew and strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ. The St. Maria Goretti (Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults) continues to welcome all who wish to know more about the Catholic Faith. Come and join us. Sessions for the next two weeks are a continuation of the discussion of how God reveals Himself to us entitled: **What does the sacrament of the Eucharist have to do with the Resurrection of Jesus? Did Jesus really rise from the dead? Why do we keep Holy Sunday and not Saturday? Is Jesus’ Resurrection a historical fact?** For more information contact the RCIA Team: Deacon Terrel J. Broussard, Harold Broussard, Sheila Thompson, Byron Martin, Dianne Wiltz-Huntley or any member of the RCIA Team at (504) 242-7554, or by email at [tbroussard@smgnola.com](mailto:tbroussard@smgnola.com), or visit the website at <http://www.smgnola.com>.

We welcome everyone into our parish. If you have not filled out a census card, the cards can be found on the table at the entrance of the church.



**Sanctuary Lamp**

The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church for this week will burn in memory of Shirley Dejan  
The Sanctuary Lamps in the chapel this week will burn in memory of Chester Boutte, Sr. and Mary Maudrie



*The Week Ahead*

**Monday, April 16, 2018**

6:15p.m. Confirmation Rehearsal – Church/Center

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

6:15p.m. Confirmation – Center  
6:30p.m. Kenilworth HOA – Rm. 7  
7:00p.m. First Place Class – Rm. 10  
7:00p.m. Confirmation – Church

**Wednesday, April 18, 2018**

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center  
7:00p.m. Liturgical Dance – Center  
7:00p.m. Catholic Men’s Fellowship – Library

**Thursday, April 19, 2018**

6:00p.m. Bingo – Center

**Friday, April 20, 2017**

12:15p.m. Low Impact Excerise – Center  
7:00p.m. Holy Name Social – Rms. 3 & 4, Kitchen

**A Prayer for Healing  
Victims of Abuse**

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just: You gave your only Son to save us by his blood on the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters who have been gravely harmed, and the cries of those who love them. Soothe their restless hearts with hope, steady their shaken spirits with faith. Grant them justice for their cause, enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people’s wounds and transform brokenness into wholeness. Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace, to act with justice. Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors. Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.