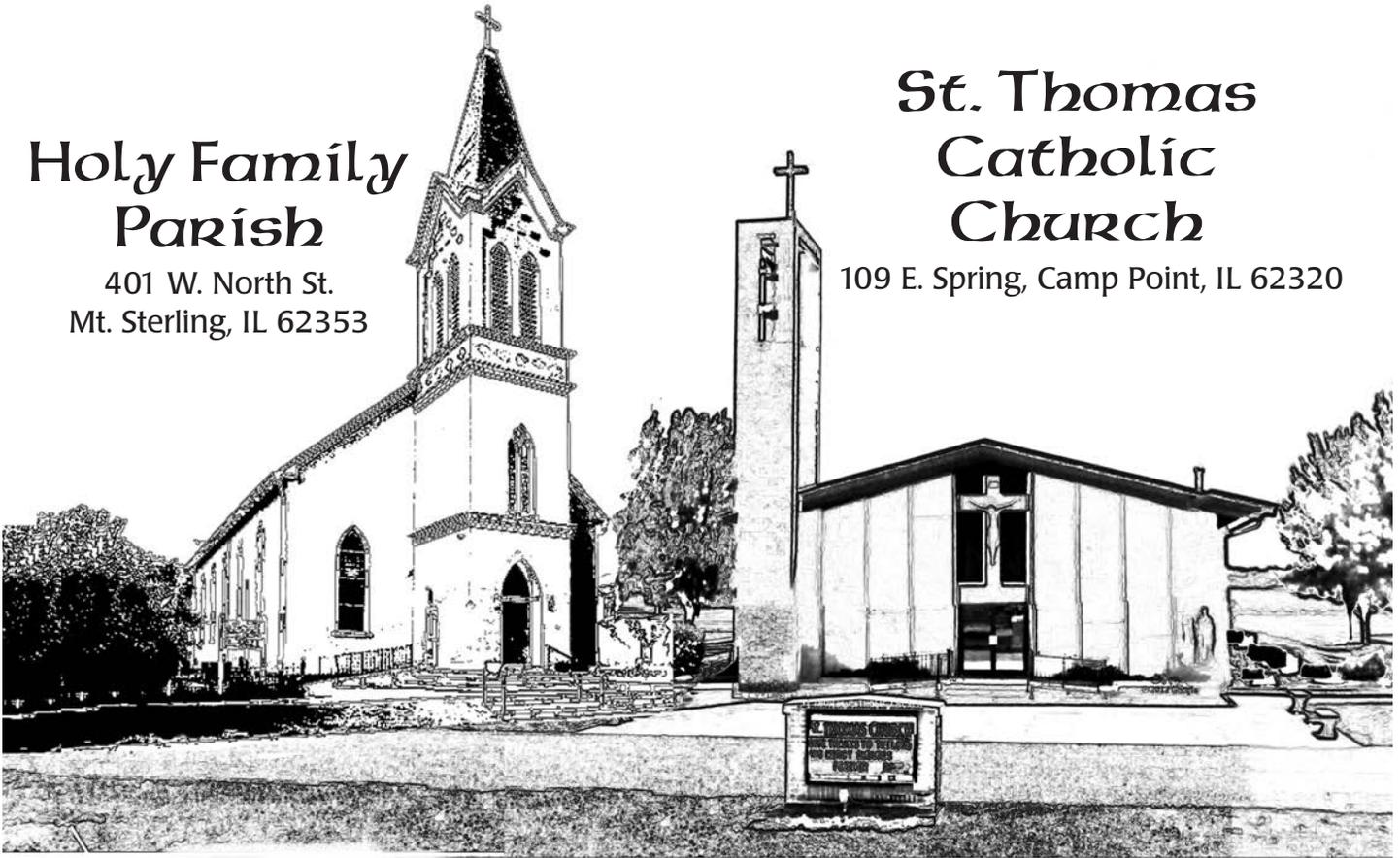


Holy Family Parish

401 W. North St.
Mt. Sterling, IL 62353



St. Thomas Catholic Church

109 E. Spring, Camp Point, IL 62320

Rectory: (217) 773-3233

E-mail: holy.family@smseagle.org

Parish Staff

Rev. Aaron Kuhn, Pastor – (217) 242-9669

Deacon Michael P. Ellerman

Ashley Guthrie, Bookkeeper

Tammy McKeown, Parish & School Secretary

Cheryl Dillard, Liturgical Music Coordinator

Ann O'Sullivan, PSR

D.R.E: Laura Evans – (217) 316-1734

School: St. Mary (217) 773-2825

Website: www.smseagle.org

Principal: Melissa Obert

Mass Schedule

Daily: 7:00 a.m. (Tues.-Thurs.)

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.

Holy days: 8:30 a.m. (during school year), 5:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

First weekend of month

Phone (217) 593-6685, (217) 773-3233

E-mail: stthomascp@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Pat Sharow – (217) 209-4765

Arts & Environment: Amanda Genenbacher – (217) 257-3184

Liturgical Music Coordinator: Anita Witt – (217) 440-9060

Renting of Hall: Cathy Holtschlag – 217-430-7493

Community for Christ Assistance Center Board Member:

Dorothy Obert – (217) 593-6520

Ministry Schedule: Bobbi Mock – (217) 430-2859

CHWC Director: Karen Janssen – (217) 242-5283

D.R.E: Laura Evans – (217) 316-1734

Sunday Mass 10:00 a.m.

Holy Day: 7:30 p.m.

First Friday Adoration of the Eucharist 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

First Friday Mass 6:00 p.m. also Reconciliation after Mass

Ladies Bible Study Wednesday 9:30 a.m.

PSR classes Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Men & Women's Society Meeting 1st Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – 2nd Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Website: www.stthomascp.org

<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, April 5 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15

Communion Service

Tuesday, April 6 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 2:36-41; John 20:11-18

Marilyn Esela

(By Tom and Nancy Schneider)

Wednesday, April 7 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 3:1-10; Luke 24:14-35

Lucille Wagner

(By Ken and Mary Koch)

Thursday, April 8 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 3:11-26; Luke 24:35-48

Beth Clark

(By Bill and Ann O'Sullivan)

Friday, April 9 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 4:1-12; John 21:1-14

Deceased Members of the
Leslie and Ruth Harper Family
(By the Geisler Family)

Friday, April 9 – 8:30 a.m.

(School Mass)

Friday, April 9 – 9:30 a.m.

(School Mass)

Saturday, April 10 – 5:30 p.m.

Acts of the Apostles 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15

John and Mary Margaret Bullard
(By the Family)

Sunday, April 11 – 8:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31

Richard and Margie Salrin
(By the Schenk Families)

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Jack Gronewold
(By Jim and Kim Gronewold)

St. Thomas – 11:30 a.m.

Parishioners of St. Thomas
and Holy Family

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 27-28, 2021

Holy Family: \$3,075.00

School Support: \$175.00

Sister Parish: \$70.00

Operation Rice Bowl: \$60.00

Catholic Relief Services: \$60.00

Catholic Home Mission: \$25.00

Seminary: \$50.00

Holy Land: \$35.00

Easter: \$20.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 28, 2021

St. Thomas: \$3,560.00

Sister Parish: \$14.00

St. Thomas weekly budgeted amount: \$3,000

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ **Knights of Columbus meeting** will be held at the KC Hall on Tuesday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m. with a light meal being served prior to the meeting.

Please contact Tammy at (217) 773-2825 or tmckeown@smseagle.org with any information you wish to have placed in the bulletin. I will need any information by Monday at 2:00 p.m. for insertion into the next weekend's bulletin.

OFFICE HOURS

School Office hours will be Monday-Friday – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Our phone number is (217) 773-2825.

The rectory phone number is: (217) 773-3233.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following in your prayers:

All Caregivers † The shut-ins of our parish and community † Matthew Bishop † For the

safety of all of our military † For a Special
 Intention † Gay Gunn † Don & Marie Hendren
 † Jolene Lawson † Sharon Johnson † Gavin
 McDaniel † Boyd Tenhouse † Donna Reische †
 Janice Leverton † Jack Pool † Gary Shields †
 Carroll Hedden † Bonnie Meats † Abby
 Schuhardt † Jack Cannon † Kim Koch † Betty
 (Koch) Atteberry † Jim Steinkamp † Pat Parker
 † Jenny Fox † Carrie Haskins † Heather Poppy
 † Stanley Harms † Pat Boylen † Michelle
 Baucom-Keller † Myles Keller † Maisy Keller †
 Faye Greenwell † Carol Eickelschulte †
 Kimberly Kestner & Baby † Sheila Thompson
 † Suzanne Forsythe † J. J. Gronewold † Jack
 Johnson † Rhonda Koch † John Norkus † Jim
 Wort † Marilyn Wort † Cal Noelke † Joe Ray †
 Arika Pipkin † Maryann Yeakel † Kimberly
 McKinny † Marilyn Kerr † Bryce Shank †

ST. THOMAS

St. Thomas Pastoral minutes March 25, 2021
 Brent Obert, Pat Sharow, Janice Brady, Claudia
 Coggeshall, Fr. Kuhn

Pastoral Council - Placing 4:40 for 40
 seminarians weekly reminder in bulletin.
 Changing sign with Father's name in front
 of church. Discussed resuming Doughnut
 Sunday in May. New sign up for committees
 discussed. Hopefully will see more events
 planned for our church this year. Pro Life
 section in bulletin discussed.

Youth Group - looking into possibility of
 bringing Totus Tuus program to parish next
 summer.

Men's and Women's - Fish Fry cleared \$1,600.
 Note placed in bulletin.

Liturgical Committee - Concern over talking
 while last song is being sung after Mass.

Buildings and Grounds - New garbage
 disposal for the kitchen is in the works.

Maurice Schmidt has sent out mowing
 assignments for the church yard this year.

Next meeting Thursday April 8, 2021.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

April 11, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Brent Obert

Lector: Kim Gronewold

Ushers: Denny Campbell, Jerry Herkert

April 11, 2021 - 11:30 a.m.

Lector: Tod Perry

Ushers: Lucas Likes, Malachi Perry

From the Pastor's Desk

A very Happy and Blessed Easter to
 each one of you. Indeed, Christ is Risen,
 Alleluia! It is hard to believe that we now
 embark on the Liturgical Season of Easter.
 Just a few weeks ago, we began our Lenten
 journey and hopefully be strengthened by
 our spiritual disciplines in those forty
 days. Now we celebrate the glorious
 Resurrection of Jesus. What a splendid
 celebration it is. As we begin this glorious
 celebration with great joy, I am reminded
 of and grateful for the joy you bring into
 my priesthood and into my very life.

Our joyous celebration is just
 beginning. Indeed, the celebration of
 Easter will continue for fifty days when
 we will then celebrate Pentecost. Easter
 is certainly not just a one-day celebration.
 It is a prolonged celebration and a time of
 intensified consciousness where we come
 to an even greater realization of God's
 presence and God's power in our lives.

In these first eight days of Easter, we
 celebrate what we call the Octave of Easter.
 This Octave celebration takes precedence
 over all other celebrations. The Second
 Sunday of Easter, the Octave Day of Easter,
 is April 11 this year and is designated
 Divine Mercy Sunday. Pope St. John Paul II
 made this designation on April 30, 2000.
 Please see the information below

concerning Divine Mercy Sunday at both parishes.

As we look at our Scripture passages for today, we hear in the Gospel from St. John of the finding of the empty tomb by Mary Magdalene and we're reminded by St. Paul in the Second Reading (the first letter to the Corinthians which is one of two options for today) that we are called to conversion...malice and wickedness replaced with sincerity and truth, free of any corrupting influences in our life.

But Peter reminds us of something significant in our First Reading as well. Yes, indeed we celebrate Christ's glorious Resurrection and His victory over sin and death for each of us. But our First Reading reminds us that it's not just experiencing the joy of the Risen Lord but sharing that experience and joy with others...and not just with a few friends but with as many people as possible so that all may know the Risen Christ. Peter speaks of the witnesses chosen by God who ate and drank with Jesus after He rose from the dead. We are those witnesses today and we too eat and drink with Jesus every time we take part in the Holy Eucharist...and we don't just share a meal with Jesus, we truly receive His Body and His Blood in the Holy Eucharist, made present to us through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Indeed we receive the fullness of Christ in the Holy Eucharist...His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. What a remarkable gift we are given.

Indeed, today we don't just recall what happened some two-thousand years ago. We participate in this continuing sacrificial mystery. What a beautiful gift the Lord has given us, all so that we might share one day in that Eternal Life with the Father in Heaven. How could we not proclaim that to others?

Finally, we're reminded that Easter is a sign and a season of hope for us. Perhaps you have a particularly difficult struggle in your life right now...the loss of a loved one, an illness or disability, an addiction,

some devastating news, estrangement from family, financial distress, worries about your job, questions about your faith. Whatever it might be, we find hope in the Risen Lord whom we unite our sufferings to. Sharing in His suffering, we also hope to share in His Resurrection and in His gift of Eternal Life. And as we find that hope and joy in the Lord more and more each day as we journey through this life, may we too realize that we are those witnesses that are called to proclaim the Risen Christ to all people.

By dying, Christ destroyed our death and by rising restored our life. May we always recognize God's active presence in our life and the fullness of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. And may we be so grateful for that gift that God has given to us that we spend each day of our life so as to be worthy of so great a gift, the gift of Eternal Life.

And now just a few notes:

-DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - As I mentioned above, next Sunday, April 11, the Second Sunday of Easter and the Octave Day of Easter, is designated Divine Mercy Sunday. At Holy Family, after the 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday evening, April 10, I will have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament immediately after Mass until 7:30 p.m. and will close with Benediction. I will also pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet during that time, beginning shortly after the conclusion of Mass. At St. Thomas I will have the same immediately following the 11:30 a.m. Mass until 1:30 p.m. I encourage each of you to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this day, receive Holy Communion, and spend some time in prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

-UPDATE - As I've mentioned before, and has been going on now for several weeks, I have eliminated the sign-ups for Masses and the live stream of the Masses. I have also removed the tape/ropes from one side of each church that block off every other pew.

-VISITORS - I will have at least one seminary classmate visiting me this week and into next week. Fr. Viet Nguyen is a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas. We may have another classmate join us as well for a few days if he is able to. Fr. Agustin Garza is a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago. Both Fr. Viet and Fr. Agustin are not just classmates, but very good friends and I am looking forward to having them here for a few days.

-USHERS - I would like to compile a list of ushers for Holy Family. If you are interested, please let Tammy in the office or myself know. Please seriously consider helping with this.

-SERVERS - As I mentioned some time ago, I am also looking at having servers at both parishes again. I would like to have a list of those who are interested in serving and then set up some time for training. Again, if you are interested, please let us know.

-DOORS - I know we have included it in the bulletin before but just another reminder...if you visit Holy Family Church, please make sure the door is shut tightly when you leave.

-BOOKS - The books returned to the pews on Palm Sunday. If you would like to have one of your own to bring back and forth, you can certainly have one but please do not take the ones from the pews. Please take from the extras that we have. If you do not see extras, let me know, I may have some in the back. Please also help to keep the books neat and tidy in the pews by putting them back neatly and even straightening those that may have been missed. Thank you for your help and attentiveness to this.

-K of C MEETING - There is a Knights of Columbus Meeting on Tuesday evening, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mt. Sterling. I'd ask all members to try to attend.

-ORDINATION - On Friday, April 9, Bishop Paprocki will ordain two young

men to the Diaconate. It is anticipated that these two men will be ordained to the Priesthood next May, 2022. Please keep them and all our seminarians in your prayers.

-DAILY PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - I want to encourage you to join folks around the Diocese at 4:40 each day in praying one Hail Mary for our Diocese to have 40 seminarians. This was begun some time ago and I hope that you will join us in this.

-FISH FRY AND DRAWING - The Mt. Sterling Knights of Columbus will be hosting a fish fry on Friday, April 16 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mt. Sterling. This will include the annual big drawing. Let me know if you still need tickets.

-BISHOP'S LETTER AND DECREE - I included the following information from the Bishop in last week's bulletin but it is important to continue to make sure folks are aware. Please share this with others as well:

-Bishop Paprocki recently issued a decree modifying the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The information found in the decree and the letter from the Bishop can be found in the Catholic Times and on the Diocesan website (www.dio.org). I want to pull out a few things from the Bishop's letter and decree and share them with you here:

-“The moral obligation to keep holy the Sabbath (the Lord's Day) is a matter of divine law (cf. Exodus 20:8-11). The Church specifies that one of the ways that Catholics are normally obliged to keep holy the Lord's Day is by participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. While a dispensation from ecclesiastical law may be given for the good of the faithful, a dispensation is a temporary measure that is to cease when the motivating cause ceases.”

-“...it is so important to be physically present celebrating with the community of

faith and receiving the incomparable gift of the Real Presence of Our Lord into our hearts in the Eucharist.”

–“...our faith is not a “virtual” faith; our Lord Himself became incarnate and gave us the sacraments, with their physical signs and hidden but real effects. Our Lord said, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day” (John 6:53-54). Our faith is a tangible, physical, and communal reality. We simply cannot properly practice our faith apart from one another and separated from the physical realities of the sacraments (Hebrews 10:25)...the suspension of the Church’s liturgical and sacramental life can only be temporary and cannot last indefinitely.

–“In consultation with the Diocesan Pastoral Council and the Presbyteral Council, I have chosen to lift the general dispensation on Sunday, April 11, 2021, celebrated liturgically in the Church as Divine Mercy Sunday on the Second Sunday of Easter, beginning with the Saturday anticipated Masses the evening before. The Easter season is a very fitting time to renew our commitment to worship Our Lord every weekend in commemoration of His Resurrection and to pray for God’s Divine Mercy to heal the sick and bring an end to this pandemic.”

–“As the general dispensation is withdrawn, it will still be applicable for people in certain categories,...Others, such as those who are sick, do not need a dispensation, but are automatically excused...”

–The decree maintains a particular dispensation in the following cases: “Those 65 years of age or older; Those at risk for severe illness due to underlying medical conditions as described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Those who care for the sick, homebound, or infirmed; Those women who are pregnant; Those who cannot be

accommodated at Mass because the church was at safe-distancing capacity.”

–“The following persons do not need a dispensation, but are morally excused from attending Mass...: Those who are currently ill; Those who have a fever or exhibit flu-like symptoms; Those who have good reason to think they might be asymptomatic of a contagious illness (e.g., those who were in recent contact with someone who tested positive for a contagious illness such as COVID or influenza).

–“In those cases where a person may not have been dispensed or excused from the obligation to attend Mass in one of the categories described in my decree, but may have significant fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass,...such persons should speak to their parish priest, who may grant a dispensation in individual cases.”

–“Those who are dispensed or excused from the obligation to attend Mass must still fulfill the divine command to keep holy the Lord’s Day and are encouraged to do so by participating in a livestream broadcast of the Sunday Mass, spending time in prayer, reading the Bible, praying the Rosary, and/or meditating on the Lord’s passion, death and resurrection.”

Again, a very Happy and Blessed Easter to each one of you. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for the Universal Church, for our parishes and school, for one another, and for me. You remain in my prayers each and every day. May you have a most blessed week and Easter Season.

–Fr. Aaron

**Bulletin Short for
Easter Sunday of the
Resurrection of the Lord
At the Mass during the Day
– Sunday, 04 April 2021**

“Clear Out the Old Yeast.” St. Paul speaks these words to us today. Get rid of old yeast to make a fresh batch of dough. Shed, he says, the old yeast of malice and wickedness and use, he says, the new yeast of sincerity and truth. For Christ is risen.

- What do I need to shed?
- What truth will I tell - kindly yet boldly?
- My new yeast will be _____?

FROM THE DRE

Parish Wide Couples Study

Do you rarely get a date night with your spouse? We have taken care of that for you! Make plans for date night every Saturday after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday at Holy Family. Plan to head to the K of C Hall afterwards for a meal and a study where, together with your spouse, you will discover why marriage matters, the truth about the commitment in love, God’s plan for true spiritual and physical intimacy, skills for communicating, and resolving conflict, the importance of forgiveness and healing, ways to thrive in marriage, and so much more! We are hoping to provide childcare if it is needed! Join us April 24, May 15 and 22, June 12, July 24, and August 14. Contact Laura Evans to sign up at 217-316-1734 or levans8783@gmail.com. This is for **BOTH** Holy Family and St. Thomas Parishioners! *Laura will be on maternity leave starting March 8, so any early registration that could occur would be much appreciated!*

EASTER FLOWERS

Holy Family Women’s Guild is accepting donations for Easter flowers in memory of loved ones. Donations may be placed in the collection (checks should be made payable to Holy Family Women’s Guild). Please include a note with the name of your loved ones.

IT ALL WORKS FOR GOOD!

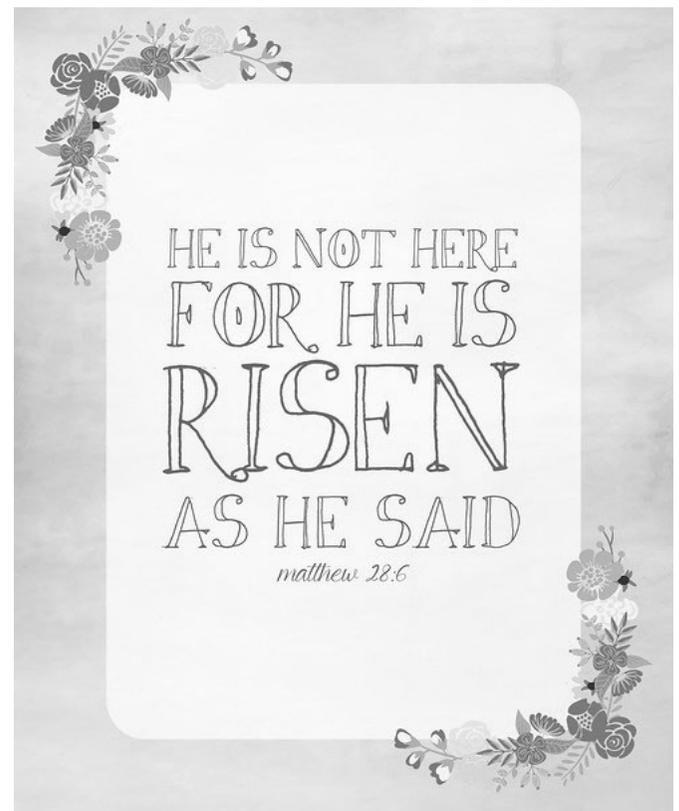
Welcome back singers! Our Missal and Music Issue are in the pew. Please sing the hymns with us. The numbers are on the board.

If you aren’t comfortable singing, **read** the words to yourself as they are sung. The

hymns are chosen to enhance the liturgy of each Mass.

Thanks!

Your Church Musicians



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