



EASTER 2023

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

“Christ, who, coming back from death’s domain, has shed His peaceful light on humanity who lives and reigns forever and ever.”

These concluding words of the Easter Proclamation that we hear at the Easter Vigil have an urgency about them these days because the risen Christ’s peaceful light seems to be shed so faintly on an unsettled world that is marked by violence, war, natural disasters and personal hostilities. Such darkness wears us down. Many find it difficult to be joyful this Easter.

Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. We must prepare the soil of our hearts for this gift. I heard someone offer three suggestions to help us do that. Call it **GPS—God’s Positioning Service**—directions to find Easter joy.

G—Gratitude. A grateful heart silences a complaining tongue. If I’m always griping or whining, how will the Holy Spirit fill my heart with joy? So, if we want more joy in our lives, we start by being grateful, being attentive to the blessings we receive. I might write down one thing every day for which I am grateful. It’s astounding after a month of doing this prayerful exercise, to see how our days are really saturated with blessings.

P—Prayer. I ask the Holy Spirit for the gift of joy. Joy is the fruit of our relationship with Jesus. Nurturing that relationship through daily prayer is critical. The Holy Spirit is the One Who makes Christ present to us. We might need to get to know the Holy Spirit better.

And **S—Sharing.** If I’m not feeling the Easter joy, I might try to bring joy into someone else’s life, and I’ll be pleasantly surprised to see what happens in my own heart. Call someone, smile at someone, do something kind and joy will flow from that.

So...**GPS—Gratitude, Prayer, Sharing.** Christ died for us, He rose for us, and He wants to bring us the joy of His Presence in the Eucharist. Joy is the best response to Jesus. Who could have imagined that death could be conquered? That’s what Easter means. Your death and my death are not the end. The world’s woes don’t have the last say. Just as Jesus rose from the dead, the faithful person will rise from the dead. Body and soul, we will live forever. Suffering does not have the last say. The love of God, given to us in Jesus Christ has the last word. When we embrace the gift of Easter, joy becomes truly the best response. We are so blessed. HE IS RISEN! Joyful and Blessed Easter to you and your loved ones.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry R. LaValley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

ST. CECILIA'S FLOWER GIFTS

EASTER FLOWER DONATION BY: IN LOVING MEMORY/HONOR OF:

Deacon Larry & Mrs. Ambeau	Robert Ambeau, Catherine Ambeau, Ronald Ambeau, & Christopher Ambeau
M/M Harold Abram	M/M Sherrill Osborn & the Abram family
M/M Steven Blevins	Helen Todd, Sandra Blevins & Mary Corrice
M/M William Borzansky & Brian	Harold & Doris Houppert, Joseph & Marjorie Borzansky, Walt & Daryl Houppert & Dora Zehr
M/M Stephen Casion	John, Ellen & Joseph Casion, John Tooker & Irene David
Mrs. Leona Chereshnoski	Deceased Chereshnoski & Hobbs & Creighton family members
Mrs. Lorraine Caramanna	Pat Caramanna, Edwin & Carmen Baron & Heppell family members
Ms Barbara Corey	
Mrs. Phyllis Conley & Family	Thomas Conley, Cathy Stich, the Stickel, Conley & Durant families
M/M Alvin Davis	Harold & Doris Houppert, Dora Zehr & Daniel J. Sorbello
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M/M William Eastman	Family and Friends
M/M Glen Fralick	Nikki Fralick
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M/M Leroy Gooding	Gooding & Fawdry families & Cathy Davis
M/M Jeff Hall	James & Patricia Howlett & James & Susie Hall & Nita & Daisy Glass
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Mrs. Linda Piddock	Piddock and Sinclair families, Sr. Cecilia Marie Hermon & Sr. Kathleen DeBouldt
M/M Robert Piddock	Piddock family
Mrs. Sandra Piddock	Bice, Piddock, O'Connor, O'Driscoll family & Murray Boys
Mr. Reilly Pierce	
Mrs. Bea Randall	Deceased members of the Ayerst & Randall families



QUEEN OF HEAVEN FLOWER GIFTS

EASTER FLOWER DONATION BY:

Deacon Larry & Vickie Ambeau

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M/M David VanBenschoten

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M/M Robert Williams

M/M Jeffrey Wisner

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IN LOVING MEMORY/HONOR OF:

Beverly Stone, Earl Stone & Robert Stone

Bruce & Dorothy LaLonde, William & James LaLonde & Ruth Bryant

Teri Cean Augliano, Steven Sagriff, Willard & Bertha Cean & James & Gerry Sagriff

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Lorraine Brewer, Jeanne Bickel, Harold Goodfriend Sr., Evelyn Goodfriend Heckeler, Arnold & Muriel Jacobs & Timothy Algie

Henry Kaupp

George LaSage, Marjorie LaSage, Donald Fisk & Madeline Fisk

John & Ellie Toper, James & Beverly Maguire, Jimmy John Maguire

Jayne McGowan & Signe McGowan (in Honor)

Dorothy Cobb, Doris Moreton, Leona Draper & Iva Bartlett

Joan O'Conner & Shaen O'Conner

Callahan & Randall families

Edna Verrilli, Frank Verrilli, Sara Martin & ErnestCherie

Deceased members of the Borruso & Wallace families

Lewis Wescott & Howard & Laura Berry

Ed Henry, John Bellmore & Eugene & Tillie Williams

Rose & James Chiodi, Angelo & Betty Caputo, San & Mary Croscenzi & Thomas Berkey Jr. & Sr.,



—————→ *St. Cecilia's Continued from other side*

EASTER FLOWER DONATION BY:

M/M Rudy Salisbury

Mrs. Carolyn Shelmidine

M/M Robert Simpson

M/M David Stamps

M/M William Stowell

M/M Joseph Truesdell

M/M Dean Wheeler

M/M Douglas Winchester

M/M Ben Wood

IN LOVING MEMORY/HONOR OF:

Shelmidine family

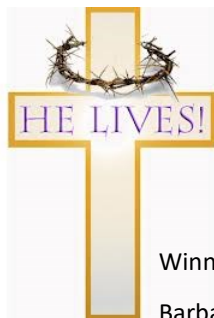
Teresa Simpson

Winnett & Anzalone families, Charles & Tera Truesdell, Shirley & Gordon Nichols

Barbara Mayne, Claude Mayne, Barbara Clement & Anna Conway

Maria Isabel Galan Ramirez & Faye "Lucky" Woody

Jonathan Wood, Homer & Isma Pritchard, Lorraine Wood & Robert Thomas, Sr.,



HAPPY EASTER



TOP TEN REASONS TO COME BACK TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1. **Because they hunger for the Eucharist.** It happens when they attend a wedding, baptism, funeral or sometimes it happens when people are alone or facing difficulties in life. They describe a deep hunger for the spiritual nourishment that comes when they receive the Body and Blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ.
2. **Because they want to help other people.** There are lots of opportunities within the secular world to volunteer. What's missing is the spiritual dimension that service within the Catholic Church provides. It's more than just a "feel-good" activity. It's part of the great commandment ; "to love God and to love your neighbor as yourself."
3. **Because they want to be part of a faith community.** Many people seek a sense of belonging.
4. **Because they want their children to have a faith foundation.** Raising children in a culture that promotes "doing your own thing" can lead to disaster. Children need to experience the spiritual dimension of life. They need a firm moral foundation upon which their children can build their lives.
5. **Because the Catholic Church has the fullness of truth and grace.** Many who leave the Catholic Church are blessed by the experience of worshiping for a while in another Christian denomination. But, some people come back when they realize Catholicism has the fullness of truth and grace.
6. **Because they want to be healed.** Some people carry deep spiritual wounds. They struggle with anger at God over bad things- - terminal illness, a debilitating injury, a broken relationship, mental or emotional problems, the death of a loved one, or some other deep disappointment. The Catholic Church cannot change these situations but the Church can assist in spiritual healing and help you get on with your life.
7. **Because they need to forgive others.** Sometimes people hold on to anger or resentment toward individuals who have hurt them deeply. Maybe it was a family member or a friend. Our modern culture condones and encourages anger and revenge. But, hatred and bitterness are spiritual cancers that eat at the heart "Will God ever forgive me?" of a person. The Catholic Church provides the opportunity to seek God's help in forgiveness. The ability to forgive is a gift that opens a person's heart more fully to god's love and peace.
8. **Because they made a mistakes.** Sometimes people become burdened with the weigh of accumulated sin. They want to get rid of the guilt of having hurt themselves or others. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation you can ask for God's forgiveness and the grace to start over again with a clean heart.
9. **Because childhood memories surface.** Some people say childhood memories of feeling connected to God surface in later life. They begin to ask themselves, "Is it possible to recapture that simplicity of faith?" Can I ever believe that God is watching out for me? The secularization of our society leads people away for the spiritual side of themselves. The Catholic Church offers religious and mystical experiences that feed the heart, mind, body, and the soul.
10. **Because they want meaning in life.** In the hustle of today's busy lifestyles, or in the quiet of this COVID pandemic, lots of people suddenly realize that their lives have lost a sense of meaning or purpose. They begin to ask themselves, "What is my life all about? Why do I do what I do?" There is widespread of confusion with regard to morality and truth. The Catholic Church offers a beacon of light that gives meaning to our existence and leads to eternal life.