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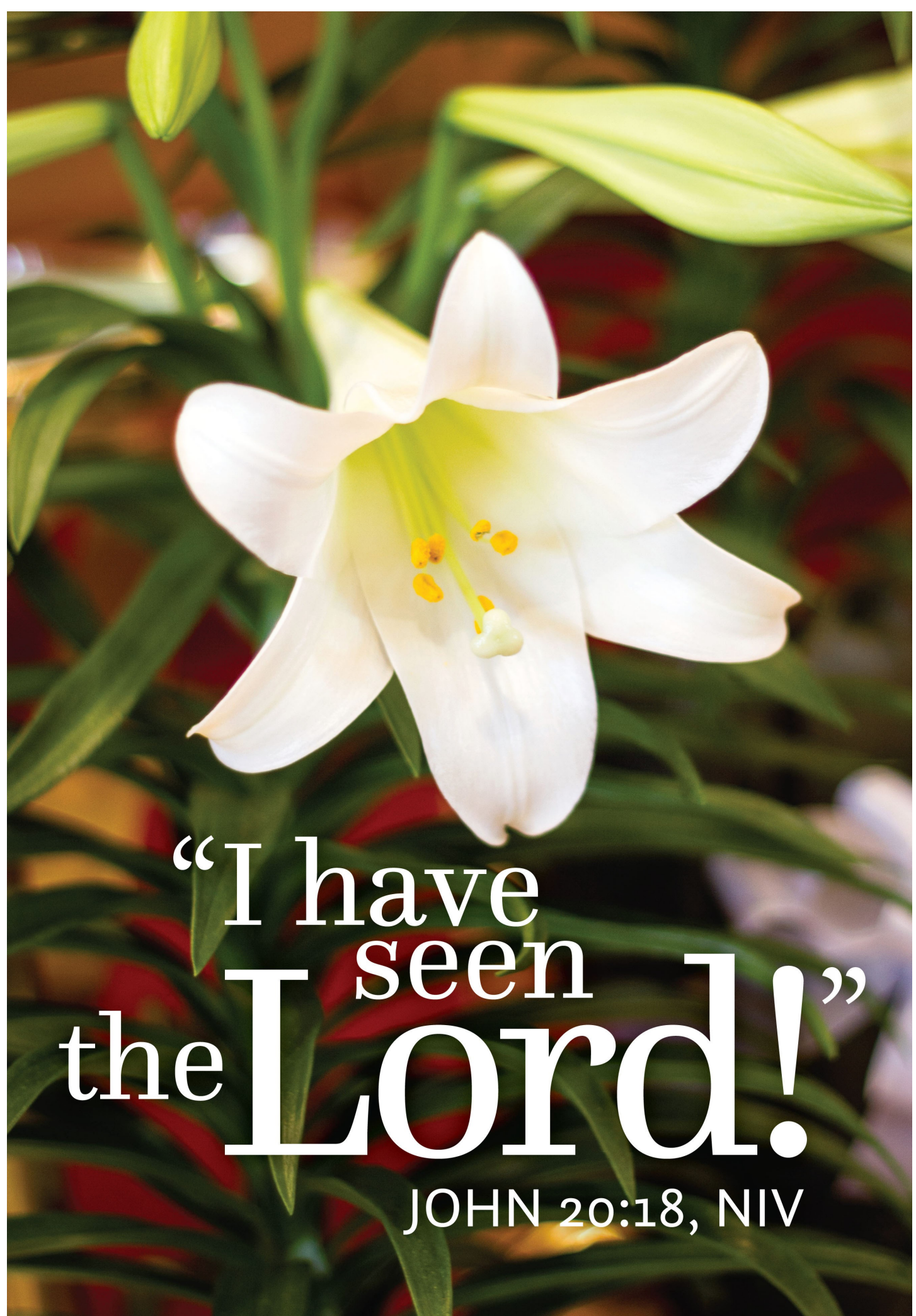

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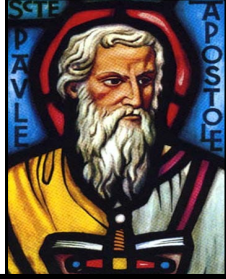

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“I have
 seen
 the **LORD!**”
 JOHN 20:18, NIV



St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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EASTER SUNDAY

Gospel Summary

Upon seeing that the stone had been removed from the tomb, Mary of Magdala ran to Simon Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved. She told them that the Lord had been taken from the tomb. Peter and the other disciple ran to see for themselves. The burial cloths were there, but the body of Jesus was gone. The disciple whom Jesus loved believed, even though neither Peter nor he understood the Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.

Reflection for Parents

Things aren't always as they seem. A spilled bottle of laundry detergent wasn't mischievous behavior—it was your child's attempt to surprise you by doing his or her own laundry. Secrets whispered behind your back weren't an attempt to hide a wrongdoing. They were an effort to plan a surprise for you. In today's Gospel reading, Mary of Magdala's discovery of the empty tomb did not mean that Jesus' body had been stolen - it was evidence that Jesus had risen from the dead! As Christians, we are invited to look beyond the surface, beyond the obvious, and to search for the deeper meaning—the deeper truth—that God is trying to reveal in the everyday occurrences of life.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Gather your family together to decorate your family prayer table for the Easter season. Place upon the table a white cloth, a candle, a Bible, a cross, and signs of the Easter season such as fresh flowers, an Easter egg, a butterfly, and anything that symbolizes new life to family members. Talk about ways you can be signs of new life to each other and to neighbors and friends throughout the Easter season. Even the smallest signs of thoughtfulness and caring can be Good News to those in need of Easter joy.

Discussion Starters

1. My favorite Easter symbol is ... because...
2. Mary Magdalene recognized Jesus' voice when he called her name. One time I know Jesus called my name when...
3. Someone I will share the Good News of Easter with is ... because ...

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Visit Our Website!

You can register for Sacraments, become a member of our parish community, get information on upcoming events, and much more. Visit our website at stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org or simply scan the QR code below:



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 30

8:00pm

Holy Saturday

Sunday, March 31

The Resurrection of our Lord

9:00am

10:30am

12:00 noon

Monday, April 1

Easter Monday

- +Natasha Misud

Tuesday, April 2

- Thanksgiving to Jesus

Wednesday, April 3

- +Emanuel, Carmela, Tessie & Joseph Psaila

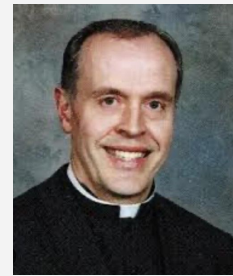
Thursday, April 4

- +Doris Micallef

Friday, April 5

- +Nina Schembri & Schembri & Grech Family

From our Pastor's Desk...



Dear families of St. Paul the Apostle Parish,

It's truly remarkable that I compose my second Easter message at St. Paul the Apostle Parish. As Easter approaches, embrace the gentle breeze and savor the tranquility that comes with the season.

Easter Sunday is a day of unparalleled significance. It is the solemnity of all solemnities. This is the day Christ our brother broke the chains of death and rose in the triumph from the tomb.

We recall the words of St. Luke, " He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'"

Can you imagine what it must have been like for Mary and Martha along with certain other women to hear those words from the Angel at the tomb of Jesus? The range of emotions went from the lowest of the low to the highest of the high as the news of the resurrection of Christ registered first in their minds, then it moved to their hearts and finally made its way to their feet as they soon would run to tell the disciples!

The Good News of the Gospel is much the same way in that we receive it in the head and the heart, then we do our best to share the Gospel with people around us who need to hear about the Lord.

Did you know many people would attend church if someone simply invited them?

Thom Rainer, a Christian blogger and researcher, recently polled over 300 non-churched people, and found that ninety-six percent of them are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited!

What an opportunity that is! Especially during these days of Easter when people are seeing things about it already! It could be your phone call or Facebook private message, or perhaps an email or note that not only encourages someone to attend church, but also accept Christ as Lord and Savior!

The one thing that separates us from all the religions of the world is the resurrection of Christ.

Be sure to take some time to make a list of people you will invite to attend church with you on Easter Sunday. You may even want to offer to pick them up if they need a ride!

The message of Easter is that nothing can destroy us- pain, sin, rejection, death-because Christ has conquered all these and we too can conquer them if we put our faith in Him.

As Catholics, the focus of Easter is the celebration of the Eucharist. The Mass is the greatest prayer, the supreme experience we have of being brought in contact with the Lord's saving work on Good Friday and Easter. May Christ in the Eucharist always have special meaning in your lives.

On behalf of the pastoral staff, I wish you and your families a joy- filled Easter.

Ghezziez parruccani ta' San Pawl nixtieq niehu din l-okkazzjoni biex nixtieq lilkom u lill-familji taghkom l-Ghid it-Tajjeb mimli barka u sliem. Il-festi t-tajba!

Blessings in Christ!
Father Roy



March 31, 2024