

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION Recognizing the Risen Lord Rejoice, the Lord is risen, truly He is risen! Today is the Solemnity of Solemnities, the most holy day in the Church's calendar. Let us take a moment to rejoice in the glory of the resurrection. These past forty days we've been preparing for this great feast where we will be met with the risen Christ. However, let us ask ourselves, how often do we fail to recognize Him in our daily lives? In the Gospel today, we hear the account of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene. Mary is face-to-face with Jesus risen from the dead and yet she didn't recognize Him. She has spent the last couple years of her life following Him and now she cannot even identify Him as the man before her. While we may be quick to judge Mary, we should remember that Christ makes Himself present to us in countless ways that we often don't perceive. One way that Jesus comes to us is through our neighbour. St. Teresa of Calcutta says "I see Jesus in every human being. I say to myself, this is hungry Jesus, I must feed him. This is sick Jesus. This one has leprosy or gangrene; I must wash him and tend to him. I serve because I love Jesus." This Easter, let us rejoice in Jesus' resurrection and seek to find Him in our neighbours. The same way that we would run to serve Christ, let us serve Christ dwelling in those around us and fully live out our call of stewardship. These past forty days we've been preparing for this great feast where we will be met with the risen Christ yet how often do we fail to recognize Him in our daily lives? St. Teresa of Calcutta believes that we encounter Jesus through our neighbour as she says "I see Jesus in every human being. I say to myself, this is hungry Jesus, I must feed him." This Easter, let us rejoice in Jesus' resurrection and seek to find and serve Him in our neighbour by being good stewards.

Taken from excerpts of the Archdiocese of Toronto website.



**Easter Sunday
Resurrection of the Lord
March 31, 2024**

Embrace Jesus' love and compassion through giving.

Jesus' love and example inspire us to extend a helping hand to others, especially those facing the greatest challenges. ShareLife agencies continue to reach out to the most vulnerable members of our community, offering essential services made possible by your compassion and generous contributions.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

**EASTER IS THE GREATEST FEAST
OF THE CHRISTIAN YEAR**

St. John Chrysostom called Easter the "Feast of feasts." Whereas Lenten fasting takes forty days, Easter feasting takes a full fifty days! What does it mean to feast? Feasting is not just about what we eat, although there are many wonderful foods associated with the Easter feast. According to the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council, feasts are religious anniversaries commemorating the great events of salvation history and the communion of saints. Feasts are to be observed with rejoicing. It is our religious duty to feast, that is, to rejoice during the holy days of Eastertime as surely as fasting is our religious duty during Lent.

VOCATION REFLECTION The glorious Feast of the Resurrection of Christ proclaims, forever, that life is greater than death. Jesus commanded us to preach this good news to all peoples in all places at all times.

If you feel God is calling you to minister in His Church as a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca



This year's Passover Seder Meal will be held on **Saturday, April 13th after the 4:30 pm Mass.** Doors will open at 5:30pm.

Tickets: Adults - \$25.00/person
Children 12 yrs. & under - Free

Tickets will be available from the back of the church during all weekend Masses, or you may also call the parish office at 416-767-7054.



During Easter, the Maltese enjoy a variety of traditional foods, each with its own symbolism:

- ◆ **Figolli:** These are almond-flavored pastries that are often shaped like Easter symbols such as lambs, fish, or hearts. They represent the coming of spring and new life.
- ◆ **Sfineg:** Fried treats filled with anchovies and olives, typically consumed on Good Friday, symbolizing the end of Lent and the preparation for Easter celebration.
- ◆ **Easter Eggs:** Often dyed red, these symbolize the blood of Christ and are placed inside homes for protection and blessings.
- ◆ **Lamb:** Served during the special Easter lunch, lamb is a significant symbol of Jesus Christ as the "Lamb of God".
- ◆ **Qagħaq tal-Apostli (Apostles' Rings):** These are ring-shaped bread that are typically broken and shared, symbolizing the fellowship and unity among the Apostles and the breaking of bread by Jesus at the Last Supper.

An Easter Prayer



O glorious God, we fix our gaze upon you as we rejoice in Christ's triumphant victory over sin and death. With hearts full of gratitude, we ask for your blessings and give thanks for the food that is set before us at this first Easter meal. May all of us who come together at the Lord's Table continue to celebrate the joy of his resurrection. As our family gathers to share this meal, we remember and deeply appreciate the sacrifice you made for us. May this Easter season bring us renewal, joy, and an abundance of peace and love. In the name of Jesus, our Risen Savior, we humbly ask this. Amen.

