

# *Easter Sunday*

## *April 20, 2025*

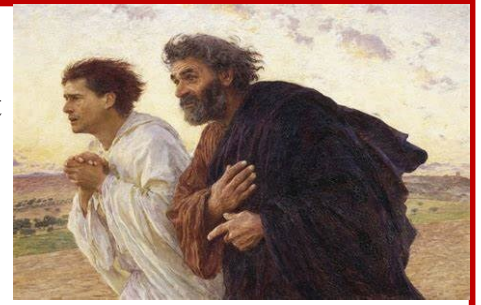


**JUBILEE YEAR 2025**

**WE ARE PILGRIMS OF HOPE**

## From the Gusset—Easter Freedom

**Happy Easter!** I have no idea why we have **trouble** believing that God **loves** us! I have been listening to Jesus all my **life** – I hear his voice every day in **the Mass** – the Lord tells me, “**I love you, Fr. Randy. I love you so much that I give you My body and blood to eat and to drink. Here It is – all the love My Father gave to Me, His only Begotten Son, and told Me, Jesus the Christ, to give It to you. Take and eat – take and drink – I wish to pour all of My love into you when you receive the Eucharist.**” I hear my tremendous **Lover** say this every day; but yet and still, I have **trouble** believing that God could **love** me so much. Perhaps my **unbelief** stems from how I am treated by the **world, sin, and Satan**. The **world** does not even know that I exist. My government knows me only by a **number** (my **social security number**), and I never hear from **the State of Illinois** unless it is time to **pay** for my car’s registration sticker or **pay my taxes**. **Sin** does not know who I am. My



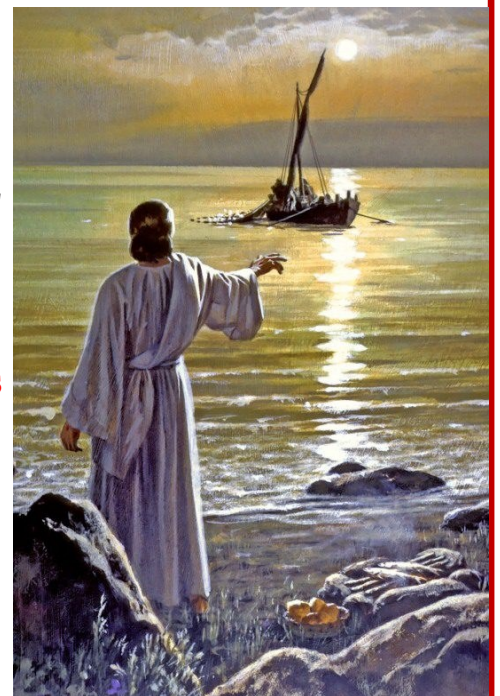
**sins** try to get me to do the exact opposite of what God wants me to do. **Satan** knows that God **created** me and **the Devil** knows exactly what God wants me to do with my **life**; but **the Evil one** **hates** me. With the **world, sin, and Satan** telling me things nearly every second of every day; perhaps, this is why I find it hard to believe that God **loves** me so much that the Almighty would send His Son to **die and rise from the dead**, so that I could have **eternal life**! Just as we spent **the 40 days of Lent** going out into **the desert** and journeying from **slavery to uncertainty**; now we will spend the next **50 days of Easter** making a

**pilgrimage to glory!** I told **the daily Mass goers**, who went on **retreat** with me this **Lent** – I told them that **Easter** is the **freedom** we are seeking – the **freedom** to **love** God as we **ought** – that is to **love** God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. I said that **Easter** is the **freedom** to experience the **love** God has always had for us! The great **BTB Bishop from Brownsville, Texas** said, “**recognition is the sweetest grace of the New Testament!**” This will be our battle cry for **Easter**. We will spend this **Easter Season** trying to **recognize** Jesus – most especially in the breaking of **the Bread** – but it will take us 50 days to fully **recognize** how much God **loves** us that the Almighty wishes **to pour** all of His **love** into us when we receive **Holy Communion**. During this **Jubilee Year**, we are **pilgrims of hope** – I hope you will **journey** with your **priest** this **Easter Season** that we might fully experience **Easter Freedom** – the great **love** affair that God wishes to have with you.

**Happy Easter!**

**Yours on the Path**

**Fr. Randy**





## EASTER FREEDOM PRAYER

**Recognition** is the **sweetest grace** of the New Testament, and so we pray that the Holy Spirit be **poured** into our **hearts** this **Easter Season** – that we might hear Your voice whisper the words of **absolution** – that we might see Your Son in the elevation of **the Host** and in the breaking of **the Bread** – that the **sick** would feel Your gentle touch in **the anointing oils**; but most of all, may we all taste the **sweetness** of Your **love** when we receive You in **Holy Communion**. Fill our **hearts** to **overflowing** with Your **love** that we might **generously love** others as You, dear Jesus, **love** us! Help us to make **Spiritual Communions** for our family members, our neighbor, and the person who **sinned** against us last! Lord God, make us **Pilgrims of Hope** that we might **work** many **Plenary Indulgences** during this **Jubilee Year**. Give us the **Easter Freedom** that we have been seeking: the **Freedom** to **love** You, our God, with all our **heart**, and the **Freedom** to experience Your great **love** for us in **the Eucharist** of the **Mass**. Amen.



## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

We will work a **Plenary Indulgence** for **Divine Mercy Sunday** by **praying the Chaplet** before each **Mass**. Of course, the hard part in the working of any **Indulgence** is our going to **Confession**. Here is an **examination of conscience**, which prompts us to ask ourselves the question: **Why do I sin?** See, if this doesn't help you to be **contrite**, to **confess your sins**, and inspire you to do penance.

- Sometimes I **sin**, because I **want** something that God has no intention of **giving** me.
- I **sin**, because I want **something I don't need** or even because I want **something that is bad** for me.
- I know my **vocation** from God – how I am to

**imitate** Jesus with my **life**, but I **sin**, because I want to do what I **want** to do; not what Jesus would do.

- I **sin**, because I have **the power** to do good, but **fail** to do the good in my **life**.
- I **sin**, because I fail to see how much God **loves** me.
- I **sin**, because I fail to hear Jesus say, “I **love** you,” in **the Mass**.
- I **sin** when I am **stingy** with the **love** God has given me in **the Eucharist**.
- I **sin** when I fail to make a **Spiritual Communion** for others.
- I **sin**, because I still don't understand **the purpose of my life**. **The purpose of my life** is to make myself **a worthy receptacle** for Jesus to **pour** all of His **love** into – when I receive **the Eucharist**.





## THE MASS AND THE SAINTS

God **loves mathematics**! There are so many **numbers in the Mass**. Remember, **math** is just another **language** that God speaks to show us the dept of His **love** for us. **St. Albert the Great**, in talking

about **the fractioning of the Celebrant's Host in the Mass** – talks about how one fraction of **the Host** is eaten by **the priest**, who stands as the person of Christ in **the Mass** – this part of **the Host** represents the part of **the Mystical Body of Christ** that is already **in Heaven** – **the Saints** – who have passed wholly into Christ. The second part of **the Host** is put into the chalice, for the chalice signifies **the sufferings** of this life (**the Passion** our Lord endured in this **world**) – so this part of **the Host** represents you and I – the part of the Body of Christ still laboring amid **earthly pains**. The third part of **the Host** remains on the altar and is to be received after **the mysteries** have been concluded, to denote those who are in the tombs – **Purgatory** – and who will one day be incorporated into Christ and live with Him forever! **Note:** how **the priest** winds up receiving all the parts of **the Host**. Since **the priest**, represents our Lord, Jesus consumes that first part of **the Host** – representing those **in Heaven** for Jesus is the one who can freely enter into His Father's presence (**Heaven**). **The priest** also consumes the second part of **the Host** – for truly **the priest** celebrates **the Mass** for all of his people (***Pro Populo Mass***) – whether they come to **Mass** or **not**. Finally, Jesus (through His **priest**) eats the third part of **the Host** – the part that represents the souls in **Purgatory** – for we all celebrate **the Eucharist** for our **beloved dead**, who it turns out, need **the Sacrament** more than we do! I would have to show you in a **youtube video** or you can come to our next **RCIA meeting (April 15th)**, but with the thrice **breaking of the bread** – this means that **the Host** is broken into **five pieces** – this signifies the **five wounds** of our Lord on **the Cross** (see there is **the Math in the Mass** again). **Numbers** are all over the place in **the Mass**, and especially God's **favorite number**: three! **The Lamb of God** is prayed three times, because of the three-fold **evil** that surrounds us. There is **evil** that we have already **perpetrated** (for which we must **grieve** – we **grieve our sins**), and there is **evil** put before us by **the Devil** – **temptations** (for which we must fear) – these are **sins**, which we have not yet committed, but **the Devil** really wishes we would, and finally there is **evil** that prevents us from **growing in grace** – this is the **evil** we wish to be delivered from – the **evil** that we would commit **the worst sin**. And what is **the worst sin** you and I could commit? **The worst sin** is to **not** see (because **the world**, **sin**, and **Satan** have blinded us) how much God **loves** us! We pray: '**grant us peace, Lamb of God**' – when we ask to be delivered from this **sin**. One last (for this column) **fascinating fact** about **the old Latin Mass** (Pre-Vatican II) is that '**the sign of Peace**' was not offered in a **Funeral Mass**. **Dom Gueranger** says, **the dead** are no longer under **the power of the keys** of Holy Mother Church, She cannot give her **deceased children peace** – and neither can we, the living relatives of **the deceased**, offer our **beloved dead peace**. That is why it is so **critical** that we, the living, offer each other **peace** while we can – while we are all still **alive** – we wish to offer our brother and sister, our Mom and Dad, our spouse and our children, our neighbor and our enemy – we wish to offer them **the peace** of Jesus Christ now, because we will be unable to do so once **death** has **separated** us!



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**Saturday, April 19th Easter Vigil**

**8:00 pm, OLPH (+) Floyd Wilson/ Mr. & Mrs. Brian Wilson**

**Sunday, April 20th Easter Sunday**

**8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy**

**10:30 am, SMA (+) Rita Haefner/ Mr. & Mrs. James Halbmaier**

**Monday, April 21st**

**(+) Ruth Ann Payne/ Family**

**Tuesday, April 22nd**

**(+) Justin & (+) Anne Corcoran/ Fr. Randy**

**Wednesday, April 23rd**

**(+) Jean Ritola/ Bernie Roemmich**

**Thursday, April 24th**

**(+) Mary Zapf/ Mr. & Mrs. Ed Klein**

**Friday, April 25th**

**(+) Larry Leffelman/ Sam Russell**

**Saturday, April 26th**

**(+) Maryanne Saracco & (+) Geraldine Golf/**

**Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mixa**

**4:00 pm, OLPH (+) Floyd Wilson/ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vaessen &**

**(+) Frank Shepherd/ Mr. & Mrs. James Meznarich**

**5:30 pm, SMA Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy**

**Sunday, April 27th Divine Mercy Sunday**

**8:00 am, St. Patrick (+) Richard & (+) Mary Ann Cardot/ Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Burke**

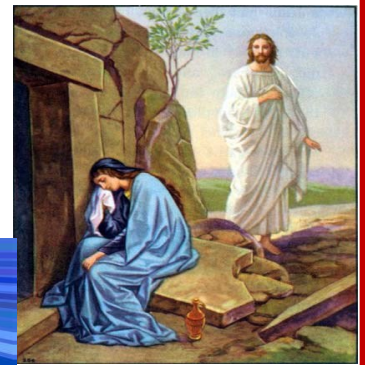
**10:30 am, OLPH (+) Cletus & (+) Betty Henkel/ Family**

## **Living Mass Intentions:**

**OLPH: Nancy Neal**

**SMA: Dan & Donna Stephenitch**

**St. Patrick: Shelly Rod**



## **Collection Amounts for the Month of March**

	<b>OLPH</b>	<b>SMA</b>	<b>St. Patrick</b>
<b>Loose Collection</b>	<b>\$674</b>	<b>\$70</b>	<b>\$84</b>
<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$4,185</b>	<b>\$1,120</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,859</b>	<b>\$1,190</b>	<b>\$1,584</b>
<b>Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>\$10,921</b>	<b>\$4,184</b>	<b>\$3,695</b>
<b>Diocesan Appeal</b>	<b>\$13,220/\$10,655</b>	<b>\$5,719/\$3,280</b>	<b>\$11,634/\$2,603</b>
<b>International Appeal</b>	<b>\$1,020</b>	<b>\$260</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Scrap Iron Fundraiser Total</b>			<b>\$2,722</b>

