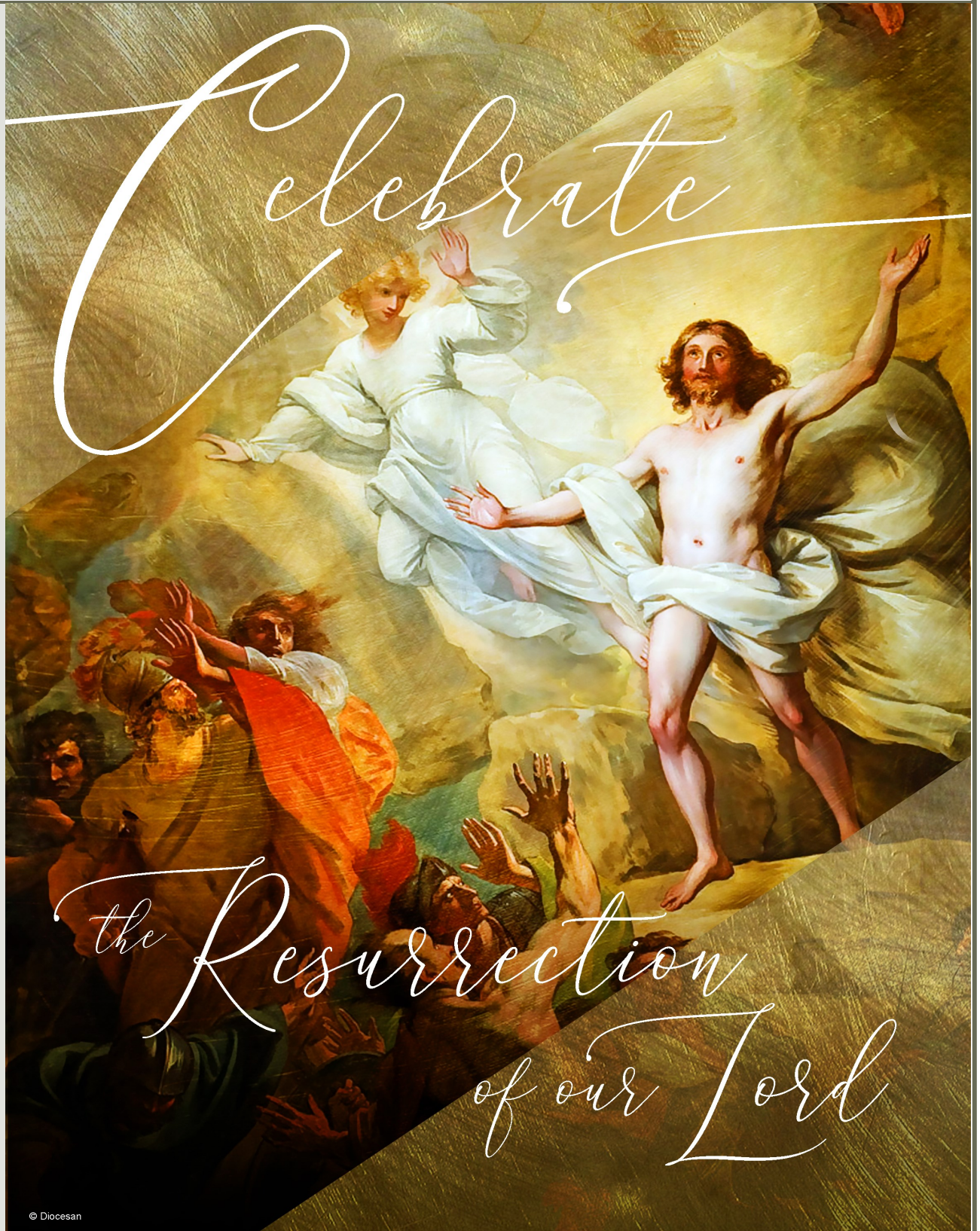


Saint Peter Church

4 South 5th Street • Coplay, Pennsylvania 18037



SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024



Celebrate

*the Resurrection
of our Lord*



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. David L. James V.G., J.C.L.
PASTORS EMERITI: Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin
Rev. Msgr. William E. Handges
PERMANENT DEACON: Mr. Thomas Reimer
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Mrs. Lina Abi-Samra
FINANCE MANAGER: Mrs. Michelle Ahern
DIRECTOR OF REL. ED.: Mrs. Linda Johnson

MASS SCHEDULE: DAILY: 8 A.M. ~ Chapel (*except Monday & Saturday*)

Saturday Evening: 4:00 P.M. Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Holy Days: 8:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

PENANCE: Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 P.M. and by appointment

During Advent and Lent, Communal Penance Services are celebrated.

BAPTISM: Contact the rectory for an appointment.

Baptism is scheduled on Sunday following the 10:30 A.M. Mass

Parents may be required to attend a preparatory instruction in the rectory.

MARRIAGE: Couples should contact the parish priest at least 1 year but no later than 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. Weddings are on Saturday between 10A.M. and 1P.M.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Notify the rectory when someone becomes seriously ill, or weak due to old age, so that the person might receive this Sacrament.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: The priest & Deacons perform this service monthly. Notify us when someone wishes to be visited.

HOSPITALIZED: Alert us whenever someone has to be hospitalized, especially when their admission is an emergency. The parish identification number is #171.

PARISH REGISTRATION: New members should make an appointment with the pastor.

HIGH SCHOOL: Allentown Central Catholic, 4th & Chew Sts., Allentown 18102; Phone 610-437-4601

ELEMENTARY: Good Shepherd Catholic School, 1300 Newport Ave., Northampton, PA 18067
phone: 610-262-9171 Mrs. Susan Parker, M.Ed. Principal

CCD PROGRAM: Classes conducted at the Holy Apostles Catholic Education Center,
3008 Ruch St., Whitehall, PA 18052

The program is from September to the end of April.

These classes are necessary for eligibility to receive the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Contact Mrs. Linda Johnson at 610-261-0144

BEQUESTS: Please remember St. Peter Church in your Last Will & Testament.

IN MEMORIAM FUND: After the death of a family member you are invited to have that person's name commemorated on the Church Plaque by suggesting that memorial offerings be donated to the Church in memory of the deceased person.


DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE Wendy Krisak, Direct Telephone 1-800-791-9209 Email: victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org


DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT Pamela Russo, MSW, MS 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204 Email: pruso@allentowndiocese.org


CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.



 www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com

 info@stpetersrccoplay.com

 610.262.2417

 610.262.2652

Mission Statement

We, as a Catholic parish under the patronage of Saint Peter, are a Eucharistic family, centered in prayer and worship, dedicated to self-sacrificing stewardship, and journeying together, Spirit-inspired, to the heavenly Kingdom.



Sunday March 31st Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a,37-43; 1Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20: 1-9
8:00 AM Dorothea Duncan
10:30 AM Easter Envelope Remembrances

Monday April 1st Monday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15
8:00 AM No Morning Mass

Tuesday April 2nd Tuesday Within the Octave of Easter

Acts 2: 36-41; Jn 20:11-18
8:00 AM Mary Ann Greb

Wednesday April 3rd Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35
8:00AM Jerome Dancheck

Thursday April 4th Thursday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48
8:00 AM Michelle Tomko

Friday April 5th First Friday Friday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14
8:00AM Frank Bodisch

Saturday April 6th First Saturday Saturday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

Vigil Mass

8:00 PM James Handwerk

Sunday April 7th Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

8:00 AM John Szerencits
10:30AM Margaret Beslanovits

Stewardship Corner

Sunday Collection Week of Sunday 3/24
Basket collection \$5414.00 plus online \$1324.00
Please continue your weekly or monthly giving to our parish. Your contributions are vital in order for us to meet our obligations. If unable to attend Mass, kindly send your envelopes through the mail or drop them in the rectory mail slot.
Your **support** to your parish is critical.
I thank you for your kind and generous response.
Please be assured that you and your family are always in my prayers
Monsignor James



Online Giving

****Start giving online today!****
Visit our parish website at
<https://www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com>
Click on the online giving link
Create an account.
Schedule your recurring gifts



Flame of Love

On Tuesday, April 2nd 2024



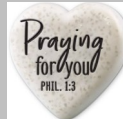
Holy Hour

Wednesday, April 3rd in the Church at 7PM



DEVOTIONAL LAMP Sanctuary Light

Will burn in memory of
Frank Bodisch
Offered by Kathy Bodisch



PRAYER GROUP

If you would like your name or the name of a family member to be added to the list please call the office at 610.262.2417

OFFICE CLOSING

In celebration of the Lord's Resurrection, the office will be closed Easter Monday

Happy
Easter !!



CEREAL COLLECTION

It is that time again, we will be collecting boxes of Cereal (hot and cold) in support of Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative. Containers are located in the main vestibule and the elevator vestibule. This collection will take place on the last weekend of each month.

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY



will be hosting their annual bus trip to visit the Missionary Sisters in Reading on 4/14. The bus leaves Saint Peter at 12 Noon. This trip is open to all parishioners and the

cost is covered by the Altar and Rosary Society. Collection bins will be in the vestibules beginning March 30th. We are in need of snacks, candies, stationery, stamps, facial tissues, soaps & lotions. Seats are limited, if you are interested please call Debbie at 610.462.4687 or Marie at 267.890.9828 to reserve your seat.

Our next meeting will be held on April 21st following the 8AM Mass.

All are welcome.



As we celebrate the Resurrection, I want to take this opportunity to thank the many parishioners who assisted in preparation and celebration for the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter:

Saint Peter choir and cantors, under the direction of Kathy Alonzo; the ushers, who kept our services orderly; the altar servers, lectors, and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, who faithfully fulfilled their roles during the liturgies; Bev and Mike Sobchak, who took care of the all the flowers and decorating making the frequent changes required because of the various liturgies; our Deacon Tom Reimer who assisted me in his usual diaconal role and who served as the de facto master of ceremonies; Larry and Pat Duncan for their assistance with the statue covers and Betty Kern for making some last minute covers; and the Holy Name Society members who carried the canopy during the procession on Holy Thursday, and lastly the rectory staff who were doing behind the scenes work with programs, altar linens, moving tables, etc. God grant you a blessed Easter and few days rest to recuperate!

Monsignor James

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Congratulations to our 5th – 8th Grade students that earned Principals List, 1st Honors & 2nd Honors! GSCS will be closed March 28th – April 2nd. School will reopen April 3rd.

We are selling Family Prayer Cards. Each card is \$5.00. You can enroll deceased family members or friends, or someone for health and blessings. Prayer cards are available for purchase during school hours, and before and after our school Masses. They will be acknowledged in the following ways: A votive candle will be lit in their honor. Their name will be written in our intention book. They will be remembered every day in the prayers of all the children during morning Prayer, and at every School Mass.

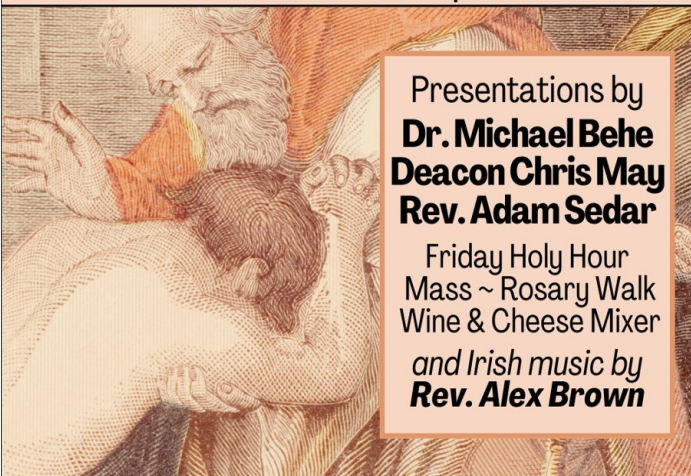


Holy Apostles RE

*610.261.0144 or holyapostlesre@holyapostlesre.org
Office Fall Hours : M-Th 3-8PM; closed Fridays
March 18 Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity Church at 6pm All classes attend
3/20 No Classes, Easter Break until 4/01
4/3 Wednesday Classes reports*

St. Monica Ministry Retreat

for families and friends of lapsed Catholics



Presentations by
Dr. Michael Behe
Deacon Chris May
Rev. Adam Sedar

Friday Holy Hour
Mass ~ Rosary Walk
Wine & Cheese Mixer
and Irish music by
Rev. Alex Brown

Friday, April 19 - Sunday, April 21
Peace Retreat House, Weatherly, PA
Email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com before April 7

CONVENT UPDATE

As you all know by now, we are in the process of cleaning the convent and getting ready to start the renovation to bring it up to code and ready for the sisters to move in.

Parishioners are welcome to take any of the items on the side porch for free.

Any questions please call the office at 610.262.2417



The *Because We Are Catholic* goal for 2023 for Saint Peter Parish was \$45,867.00. Your generous support raised \$47,895.00 exceeding our goal by \$2,028.00

The parish received a rebate check for \$507.00 or 25% of the amount raised over the goal.

Again thank you for your support. The 2024 BWAC Campaign opens after Easter, our goal For 2024 is \$46,881.00 Let's make this year our most successful year yet.

Save the Date: Saturday, May 18, 2024 1st Annual K of C Corn Hole Tournament Egypt Memorial Park



Check-in/practice begins at 11 am

Tournament Play: 12 noon – 7 pm

Prizes for top three teams:

\$60 per team of 2 (max 48 teams)

– includes lunch & 2 drink tickets per team

– must be 16 yrs. or older to compete

Food, snacks and beverages available for purchase,

Kids Corn Hole area, 50/50 and basket raffles.

Fun for the entire family!

SPONSORED BY THE NFP TASK FORCE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BISHOP'S COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

mother-daughter TEA



AUTHOR OF "THEOLOGY OF STYLE:
EXPRESSING THE UNIQUE &
UNREPEATABLE YOU"

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS (AGE 9-13) ARE INVITED
TO SPEND AN AFTERNOON CELEBRATING THE
GIFT OF FEMININITY!

FEATURING PRESENTATIONS ON THE PHYSICAL AND
EMOTIONAL CHANGES GIRLS EXPERIENCE AND
EMPOWERING TIPS ON MODESTY, VIRTUE,
AND PERSONAL STYLE.

DAUGHTERS ARE WELCOME TO INVITE OTHER
SPECIAL WOMEN IN THEIR LIFE.

\$25 PER FAMILY



FERTILITY AWARENESS EDUCATOR

RSVP APRIL 7



SUNDAY | 28 APRIL | 1-4PM

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH HALL
1046 W. CEDAR STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA 18102

CONTACT: KOSENBACH@ALLENTOWNDIOCESE.ORG

Diocesan ALTAR SERVER

Mass



APRIL
SATURDAY 13 11AM
2024

The Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena
Allentown, Pennsylvania

EASTER

THE SEASON OF NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

In the Catholic Church Year, the two major cycles of seasons, Christmas and Easter, are far more than a single day of observance. Like Christmas, Easter itself is a period of time rather than just a day. It is actually a seven-week season of the Church year called *Easter tide*, the fifty days that begins at sundown the evening before Easter Sunday (the Easter Vigil) and lasts for six more Sundays until Pentecost Sunday. For the newly baptized, this is a period of *mystagogy* (being “led into mystery”), a time for prayerful reflection on the experience of their sacramental journey. The symbols and rites of the Easter season are channels of this grace.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE

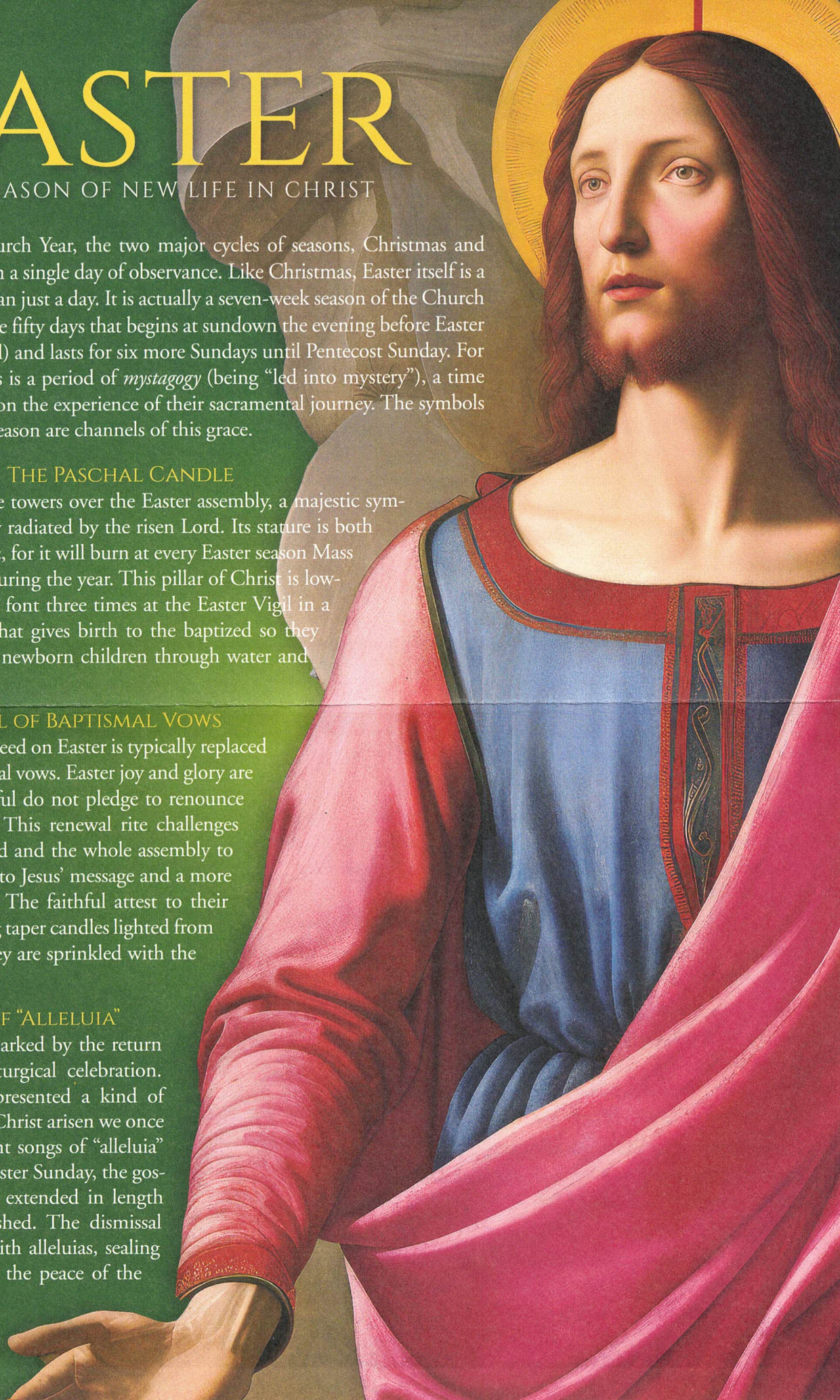
The new Paschal candle towers over the Easter assembly, a majestic symbol of the joy and glory radiated by the risen Lord. Its stature is both inspiring and pragmatic, for it will burn at every Easter season Mass and every funeral rite during the year. This pillar of Christ is lowered into the baptismal font three times at the Easter Vigil in a symbolic relationship that gives birth to the baptized so they may “rise to the life of newborn children through water and the Holy Spirit.”

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The recitation of the Creed on Easter is typically replaced by a renewal of baptismal vows. Easter joy and glory are diminished if the faithful do not pledge to renounce sin and follow Christ. This renewal rite challenges both the newly baptized and the whole assembly to a more faithful witness to Jesus’ message and a more Christ-like way of life. The faithful attest to their spoken vows by holding taper candles lighted from the Paschal flame as they are sprinkled with the waters of baptism.

THE RETURN OF “ALLELUIA”

The Easter season is marked by the return of “Alleluia” to the liturgical celebration. Its Lenten absence represented a kind of spiritual fast, but with Christ arisen we once again feast on exuberant songs of “alleluia” or “Praise God!” For Easter Sunday, the gospel procession is often extended in length and musically embellished. The dismissal rite is also enhanced with alleluias, sealing our call to go forth in the peace of the risen Christ.



CUSTOMS OF THE EASTER SEASON

The Easter Season, which follows the celebration of Easter Sunday, is a time of joy and renewal in the liturgical calendar. It lasts for 50 days, culminating on Pentecost. During this season, various customs and traditions are observed:

Easter Octave: The Catholic Church observes the eight-day period known as the Easter Octave, beginning on Easter Sunday and ending on the following Sunday, often referred to as Divine Mercy Sunday. The entire octave is celebrated as a single solemnity, and each day is considered a continuation of the Easter celebration.

Veneration of the Crucifix: During the Easter Octave, there is a particular focus on the veneration of the Cross, continuing the reflection on Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. This devotion is often seen during the Good Friday liturgy but extends into the Easter season.

Easter Water: The Easter Vigil features the blessing of water, which is then used for baptisms and for the blessing of people, homes, and other objects throughout the Easter season. Holy Water fonts are often replenished with the newly blessed water.

Easter Candle: The Paschal Candle, which is lit during the Easter Vigil, remains in the sanctuary throughout the Easter season as a symbol of the risen Christ's presence and is typically used in liturgical processions and ceremonies.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises: Catholics often renew their baptismal promises during Mass on Easter Sunday and other occasions throughout the Easter season, emphasizing their commitment to the faith.

White and Gold Liturgical Vestments: Clergy wear white and gold liturgical vestments during the Easter season to symbolize the purity, joy, and glory of Christ's Resurrection.

Easter Sunday Processions: In some parishes, especially in certain European countries, there are processions on Easter Sunday, often led by clergy, with the faithful following behind. These processions can be elaborate and may include the display of religious statues or icons.

Easter Hymns and Liturgical Music: Special Easter hymns and liturgical music are sung during Mass throughout the Easter season, reflecting the joy and celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

These customs and traditions enhance the celebration of Easter and the Easter Season, emphasizing the central importance of Christ's Resurrection in the Catholic faith.

JESUS' RESURRECTION

What happened on Easter was a complete surprise to the disciples. The Jesus that they had known and who had died was suddenly experienced as alive again. This new life, described as resurrection, was not just a restoration of one's former life—a resuscitation from the dead. The prophets Elijah and Elisha had brought people back to this life, as had Jesus for the daughter of Jairus, the son of the widow of Nain, and Jesus' beloved friend Lazarus. Although their return from the dead left them temporarily alive, they would die again. But Jesus' resurrection was a new life that would not be subject to death again. It was eternal life, permanent and undying existence in the presence of God forever.



THE RESURRECTION MYSTERY

“O truly blessed Night,” sings the *Exsultet* of the Easter Vigil, “which alone deserved to know the time and the hour when Christ rose from the realm of the dead!” But no one was an eyewitness to Christ's Resurrection and no evangelist describes it. No one can say how it came about physically. Still less was its innermost essence, his passing over to another life, perceptible to the senses. Although the Resurrection was an historical event that could be verified by the sign of the empty tomb and by the reality of the apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, still it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something that transcends and surpasses history.

—*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #647

