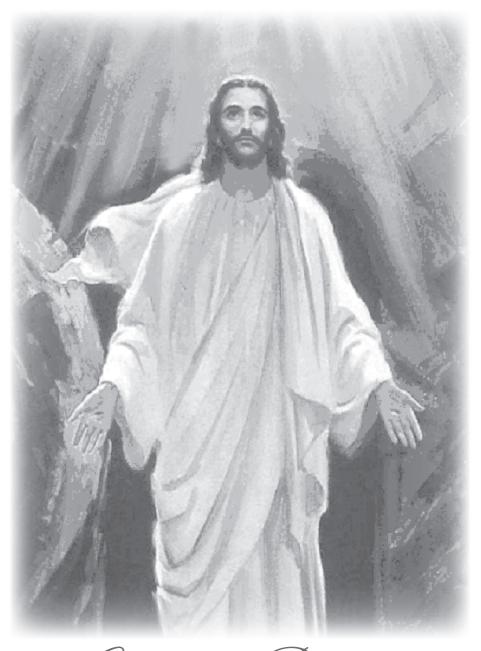
# Saint Dunstan's Church 3150 DANFORTH AVE., SCARBOROUGH, ON MIL 1B6

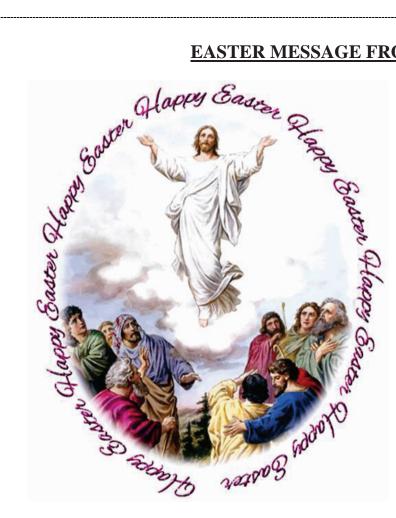
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> Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Masterson Deacon: Rev. Mr. Philip Allard Secretary: Mrs. Jean Walsh



Christ is Risen!

# EASTER MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



## **EASTER SEASON**

The seven weeks of the Easter season are celebrated as one great feast day. Saint Athanasius called the entire season "the great Sunday". These fifty days continue the Church's celebration of the Lord's Paschal Mystery. Jesus' suffering, death, resurrection, ascension and sending of the Spirit are celebrated as one event in God's plan of salvation.

The Paschal Candle, blessed at the Easter Vigil, is a reminder of the presence of the Risen Christ among His people and remains in the sanctuary near the ambo (lectern) until Pentecost. It is lit during the Easter season for all liturgical services. Thereafter it is placed near the font and is lighted for baptisms and funerals throughout the year.

The Easter water, also blessed at the Easter Vigil, is used for all baptisms in the Easter season. By ancient tradition, the Old Testament is not read during Masses of the season. The Church expresses the exuberant joy of this season by the much repeated cry of Alleluia! (Praise God!).

Dear parishioners and friends,

Each year, it is gratifying to witness the number of the faithful attending Mass grow throughout the season of Lent. I also want to commend all our parishioners who participated in the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings and those who gave generously to the annual ShareLife appeal and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. With hearts renewed and purified by our Lenten penance, may we rejoice in the salvation won by Christ's paschal sacrifice. In our troubled world, torn by war and violence and our society, disfigured by so much greed, selfishness and immorality, the Risen Christ offers hope of a new and better life. As His followers, let us strive to give our lives unconditionally to Him who gave His life for us on the Cross, so much did He love us. May Jesus, who triumphed over sin and death, bless St. Dunstan's parish family in this great celebration of our Redemption. I wish all our parishioners and friends a happy and holy Easter.

Father Jeff

#### **DIVINE MERCY**

The Divine Mercy Novena which began on Good Friday continues this week in preparation for Mercy Sunday which coincides with the Octave Day and Second Sunday of Easter on 7 April. Novena prayers and the Chaplet of Mercy will be recited after the weekday Masses this week. We will observe Mercy Sunday with special devotions at 3:00 p.m. next Sunday that include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The message and devotion of Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun (1903-1938) who received revelations from Jesus about God's Mercy. The message of Mercy is that God loves us and that we can always call upon and trust in His mercy. We too can be instruments of His mercy to others. This devotion was especially dear to Saint John Paul II who established this feast for the Universal Church in 2000.

## EASTER DUTY

The Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church lists five precepts "which are meant to guarantee to the faithful the indispensible minimum in the spirit of prayer, the sacramental life, moral commitment and growth in love of God and neighbour"(#431). All Catholics are bound in conscience to observe these precepts which are considered "necessary for salvation" (#430). Among these precepts are the following two which constitute our "Easter Duty": "to confess one's sins, receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year" and "receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season" (#432). To obey these precepts is a serious obligation for all Catholics. The time for fulfilling our Easter duty annually is from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost Sunday.

Jesus founded the Church and instituted the sacraments to convey His grace to the faithful. We should, therefore, always remember that we cannot bypass the Church and her sacraments. The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that "Individual and integral confession of grave sins followed by absolution remains the only ordinary means of reconciliation with God and with the Church" (#1497). Saint John Paul II entreated: "To those who have been far away from the Sacrament of Reconciliation and forgiving love, I make this appeal: come back to this source of grace, do not be afraid! Christ himself is waiting for you. He will heal you, and you will be at peace with God."

## PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

Parishioners are encouraged to remember the Holy Father's intention in their daily prayers. For the role of women, that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

#### **REMINDER:**

**<u>First Holy Communion</u>** Sunday, May 5 at the 12:00 noon Mass

<u>Confirmation</u> Saturday, May 18 at the 5:00 p.m Mass



<u>Monday</u>	1 April
	EASTER MONDAY
10:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
	Req.by Patricia Singh
Tuesday	2 April
	EASTER TUESDAY
9:00 a.m.	Special Intention
Wednesday	3 April
	EASTER WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m.	Jeffrey Burden
	Req.by Maria Bautista
Thursday	4 April
	EASTER THURSDAY
9:00 a.m.	The repose of Roland & Christina Gordon
	Req.by Patricia Gordon
<b>Friday</b>	5 April First Friday
	EASTER FRIDAY
	ersal day of fasting and abstinence
12:10 noon	Intentions of Jean Walsh
	Req.by Trac Ba Luu
7:00 p.m.	Mary & Anthony Albuquerque
	Req.by Margaret & Santan Lobo
Saturday	6 April First Saturday
	EASTER SATURDAY
10:00 a.m.	Helen & Fred Halloran, deceased
	relatives & friends
	Req.by Tardif Family
	COND SUNDAY OF EASTER
,	DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)
5:00 p.m.	Claire Brennan
	Req.by Andrew & Carol Cushing
Sunday	7 April
10:00 a.m.	Intentions of All Parishioners
12:00 noon	In Thanksgiving
	Req.by Anthony, Mamoni & Smia Gomes



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