

Saint Dunstan's Church

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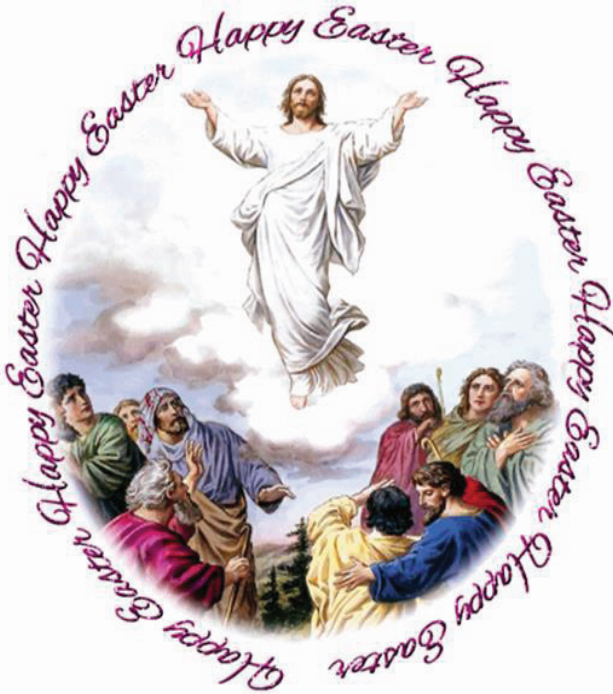
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Philip Allard

Secretary: Mrs. Jean Walsh



He is Risen!
Alleluia, Alleluia

EASTER MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Dear parishioners and friends,
Beginning with Ash Wednesday, our Lenten Masses as well as the Stations of the Cross each Friday were very well attended. During the Jubilee we are called to be “Pilgrims of Hope” (the motto for the 2025 Holy Year), following Christ along the path of this earthly life to our heavenly home to be with God for ever. God created us for Himself and He loves us so much He wants us to spend all eternity with Him. He loved us so much He sent His only begotten Son to die for us and open the gates of heaven. Now we can live “in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, God’s glory will shine eternally” (Jubilee Prayer). I want to thank parishioners for their fidelity to the Gospel and their generosity to the parish, the ShareLife appeal and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. I also want to thank everyone for their prayers and concern over my recent “close encounter” with the Cross just in time for Holy Week. This Jubilee Easter we have another reason

for rejoicing as we celebrate the canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint and model for Catholic youth (see the following article). May God bless all our parish family with peace, love and joy in the glorious Resurrection of His Son, Jesus our Saviour.

Father Jeff

A NEW SAINT

The eagerly-awaited canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991-2006) is fittingly scheduled for next Sunday, April 27 in Rome during a special Jubilee celebration for Catholic adolescents. Since his beatification in October 2020, the witness and example of this young follower of Jesus has taken the world by storm. Carlo’s life has inspired many, especially young people, to take up the challenge of the Gospel, reminding us all that sanctity is still possible and that holiness is our common vocation. Carlo, who attended Mass and received Communion almost daily since his First Holy Communion at the age of 7 until his death at 15, called the Eucharist his “highway to heaven” (in other words, the quickest and most direct means to gain paradise). He also said, “When we go out in the sun, we get a tan, but when we go in front of the Eucharist, we become saints”. As a computer whiz, Carlo had, in his lifetime, attracted the attention of the Vatican for the beautiful and professional exhibit he had produced on the subject of eucharistic miracles by which he hoped to promote and increase devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament. We hope St. Dunstan’s will be able to host this exhibition later this year.

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!).



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 27 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 indispensable 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.

REMINDER:

First Holy Communion

Sunday, May 11 at the 12:00 noon Mass

Confirmation

Saturday, June 7 at 5:00 p.m. Mass



<u>Monday</u>	21 April <i>EASTER MONDAY</i> Repose of Peter Gomes Req.by Joana, Owen & Lawrian
<u>Tuesday</u>	22 April <i>EASTER TUESDAY</i> 9:00 a.m. Repose of Anna Maria Tascione Req.by Family
<u>Wednesday</u>	23 April <i>EASTER WEDNESDAY</i> 7:00 p.m. In Thanksgiving Req.by Martin & Barbara Anthony
<u>Thursday</u>	24 April <i>EASTER THURSDAY</i> 9:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving Req.by Grace Ramirez
<u>Friday</u>	25 April <i>EASTER FRIDAY</i> <i>Friday is a day of penitential observance</i> 9:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory Req.by Helen Holmes
<u>Saturday</u>	26 April <i>EASTER SATURDAY</i> 10:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving for Edna Solancho Req.by Dennis <i>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</i> <i>(DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)</i> 5:00 p.m. Repose of Patricia de Rushe Req.by Paula Quintal
<u>Sunday</u>	27 April 10:00 a.m. Intentions of All Parishioners 12:00 noon Repose of Percilia Solomon-Copland Req.by daughter Anne Marie





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