

April 4th, 2021

Dear parishioners and Easter guests of St. Mary:

A joyful Easter greeting to all of you and to your families and friends! And thanks be to God that the pandemic *finally* seems to be receding, due of course in large part to many of us striving to abide by safe protocols and the availability of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines which started back in December. The glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ once again is a holy occasion for great joy!

And for me personally, it was another wonderful year (albeit a somewhat strange one with COVID) here at St. Mary. It continues to be my great joy and blessing to serve as your priest and pastor. I very much look forward to the many celebrations together with you as we continue along our pilgrim's journey of faith.

This Easter letter gives me the opportunity also for thanking all of you, our faithful parishioners, for your amazing support of our parish and school here at St. Mary. Even in the midst of pandemic and lockdown, so many of you have been stepping up to serve our parish and our fellow parishioners in need, whether it is with your financial sacrifice, your donations of necessities and supplies for people in need, or even volunteering to help with all kinds of things that still need doing, though much of the world was shut down. A truly amazing and miraculous response from all of you in making sure that the supreme majesty of God's love is made manifest to a world that is trapped in fear right now. May the Lord bless all of you with an abundance of grace for everything that you do for the greater glory of God and the salvation of souls!

And a very special welcome and joyous Easter greeting to our many guests! We here at St. Mary are honored and blessed to have you join us for your Easter celebration this holy season. We are a truly wonderful parish here at St. Mary, faithful and very active even in the midst of fear and turmoil. Our zeal for celebrating our Catholic Christian faith, both in our holy worship here and in the world out there, unites all of us in our common vocation: the universal call to holiness that belongs to all the baptized.

If you are parishioners here, or if you are returning here and you are joining us again after time away, or even if you are only visiting for a short while, I hope that our home here at St. Mary is a most welcoming encounter with the risen Lord and His Church.

My friends in Christ, may Easter Sunday (and *every* day) be a blessing to you, and may the glory of the risen Lord shine upon you all the days of your lives.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Jeffrey R. Lewis, Pastor