

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

All the evangelists agree on the facts of "the first day of the week," the fact that the women who went to the tomb early in the morning and the fact of their confusion and fear. Mary Magdalene, Peter and the Beloved Disciple were the first ones to discover the empty tomb. Their fear and sadness will be transformed into joy and faith. First, one may notice the symbolism of "darkness." Mary Magdalene (with others) goes to the tomb while it was "still dark." This darkness is indicative of the disciples' sadness at Jesus' absence. This explains that Mary Magdalene went to the tomb not for anointing Jesus' body as it has already been done but to mourn. She did not see the tomb empty; she only saw the stone removed from the tomb and she thought that the body was stolen probably by enemies. She was ignorant of Jesus' resurrection because she never suspected that there could resurrection. Such was the darkness without any light of faith. Secondly the beloved disciples saw and believed. Both Peter and John saw the empty tomb with burial clothes, the linen cloths lying and the napkin folded and kept separately. There was no robbery. The empty tomb was a sign and challenge. But the disciples whom Jesus loved, that is who knows Jesus' love understood what had happened: bodily resurrection of Jesus according to His promise. To recognize the risen Jesus, then, one must have the soul knowing Jesus' love.

May God bless you and your families this Easter season and the whole year through.



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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SAVE THE DATE

July 23, 2018 to July 27, 2018 from 9:00am to 12:00pm Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a program which incorporates themed activities that entertain kids with the chance to learn about God. This Year's theme is "Shipwrecked - Rescued by Jesus". Children must be in Sr. Kindergarten through to Grade 5 to register. Anyone interested in volunteering to help out with this ministry may contact the Parish Office at 905 775 2065 for more information.

St ShareLife Our Goal this year is \$51,000.00. April 22 is the next ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously. Living the Gospel by evangelizing our faith in the greater world. Gia Lao Parish resides in the mountainous Diocese of Xuan Loc in Vietnam. Its parishioners, mostly poor, work on the hillside farms. The Pastoral Mission Fund, with the support of ShareLife, provided a one-time grant so the parish could acquire resources it could not otherwise provide. This includes bibles and hymnals, along with training for 60 catechists, who lead marriage preparation and catechism classes. With your support Gia Lao Church is bringing faith to a community in the greater world.



Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday April 2, 2018 and a reminder that Mass will be at 9:30am. Wishing all of you and your families a Blessed Easter Celebration!

TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY March 29, 2018 at 7:00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

GOOD FRIDAY

March 30, 2018 at 12:00pm and 3:00pm **Celebration of the Lord's Passion** (Celebration includes the Eucharist and Veneration of the Cross) Day of Fasting and Abstinence 7:00pm - Divine Mercy Novena 7:30pm Solemn Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY

March 31, 2018 (No Morning Mass) 10:00am - Blessing of Food 7:00pm - Divine Mercy Novena 8:00pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY

April 1, 2018 Mass Times as Follows: 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am 3:00pm - Divine Mercy Novena 4:45pm - Spanish Mass 6:30pm – No Mass

PLEASE NOTE: March 27 2018, Mass will be at 8:00am and there will be No Adoration.



DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Friday March 30th 7:00pm Saturday March 31st 7:00pm Sunday April 1st 3:00pm Monday April 2nd 10:00am Tuesday April 3rd 6:30pm Wednesday April 4th 6:30pm Thursday April 5th 6:30pm Friday April 6th 6:30pm Saturday April 7th 6:30pm

Divine Mercy Sunday in the presence of the Holy Sacrament in Song Sunday April 8th 3:00pm

RUN WITH IT

Wednesday April 18, 2018 at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall with Deacon Dave. Is there one God for all religions? Do we all go to heaven regardless of our religion? What is purgatory? Is it real? How do I teach this to my kids?



CWL General Meeting will be held on Monday April 9, 2018 at 7:30pm in the St. Joseph's meeting room. April 30, 2018 at 7:30 CWL Executive Meeting



WHAT: EDGE is a youth ministry

program designed to help youth learn more about their Catholic faith and develop a personal relationship with Christ. Come have fun, meet friends and play games in faith and fellowship!

WHO:	Grades 6-8
WHEN:	Mondays 7- 8:30pm
WHERE:	Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish Hall
COST:	FREE FREE FREE
APR 2	Easter Monday – No Edge
APR 9	Triumphant - Catechesis

INTRODUCING... ALPHA YOUTH SERIES The brand new Alpha YOUTH Series has been re-

imagined for today's youth culture, giving young people all around the world the chance to explore faith through Alpha. The Alpha Youth Series will be held on Sunday Evenings in the St. Joseph's Meeting Room every Sunday from 7:45p.m.-9:15pm. Alpha Series Dates: April 8, 15, 22, and 29. All high school aged students are invited to join us in the St. Joseph's meeting room for a small meal, video presentation and friendly conversation. If you have any questions please contact Ray Reitzel at 905-251-8151 or the office at 905-775-2065.



ALPHA

Holy Martyrs of Japan will be hosting the Alpha Series on **Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm in the parish hall**. The **series dates are as follows: April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22.** If you have any questions please contact Ray Reitzel at 905-251-8151 or the office at 905-775-2065.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

The parish confirmation program of preparation is called "Decision Point". The program will run on Thursday evenings in the parish hall downstairs from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. The participation of all candidates is anticipated. For those in public or private schools your attendance is particularly understood as part of your catechesis in preparation for Confirmation. You can access the program by visiting the website

https://dynamiccatholic.com/confirmation/program-view or download the app on Google Play or at the App Store for FREE. There is a textbook you can purchase or download the workbook onto your PC or mobile device.

Program dates are as follows:

Thursday April 5 "The Holy Spirit" Thursday April 12 "The Church" Thursday April 19 "Confirmation Thursday April 26 "Made for Mission Thursday May 3 "Holiness is Possible" Thursday May 10 "Wrap up"

We strongly encourage full participation in the program.



Saturday May 26 – 2:00pm Confirmation St. Mother Teresa

