



EASTER 2024

LET US

rejoice

AND BE

glad.

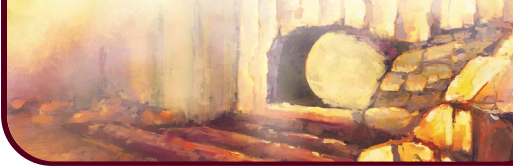
PSALM 118

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St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church

Reverend John Esper, Pastor

Go share the GOOD NEWS!



"On entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were utterly amazed. He said to them, Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised"

Mark 16:5-6

From The Pastor

Resurrection is life. New life. Transformed life in the power and the truth of Love. God is the essence of love given and fulfilled in the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus. Consider deeply this mystery of our faith. What do you actively believe about the Resurrection of the Lord? What happened between the events of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday?

The mystery of our redemption is a singular movement that begins with the creation of the world. The chaos and disorder of darkness is brought to order in the power of the Spirit of God who formed creation and 'saw it was good.' Creation evolves to the 'fullness of time' in the Incarnation of the Lord Jesus; 'and the Word became flesh and made his home among us.' A unity between heaven and earth is formed leading to a union of love between the uncreated God and the created flesh of humanity and all creation. The perfect essence of Divine Love chooses to dwell in the imperfect messiness of sinful humanity.

The death of Jesus was inevitable. The deception of evil and the lie of sin could not tolerate the tension and vulnerability of love that could defeat its reign of disorder and hate. The culmination of this tension put Jesus on the Cross. Lifted high, the evidence of sin and evil was evident for all to see. What was not seen in that darkest hour was the light of Divine love that could not be defeated by the lie of sin. Love is greater than sin and love is more powerful than all evil. Love transforms sin and death into new life.

The origin of our beginning is the will and desire of God to create out of love, sharing the Divine goodness flowing forth into all creation. We are created in love, for love, and by love. Divine love is our essence and our origin confirmed in the act of the Incarnation of God himself into a person like us in all things but sin. Any conscious parent would never let their child die due to fault or imperfection. How much more our Divine Creator Parent? How could God as the essence of love surrender his beloved creation to the lie of Evil and sin?

Sin disrupts the communion of love we share with God. God is not less God. God is not hurt, angry, or vengeful. God, in endless and various ways throughout human history sent messengers, prophets, plagues, and signs to try to alert and convert the waywardness of human sin. Nothing worked; no remedy could be found. God knows that God alone would be the remedy. The Incarnation was no afterthought. Jesus, the Word,

always preexisted in the Father with the Holy Spirit.

God needed a body as an instrument of sacrifice. Jesus is the pure and unblemished Lamb who freely and without bitterness or resentment offers himself for the forgiveness of sin. This is an eternal, everlasting gift. Taking in all sin, Jesus proves the transforming power of love, that while we were dead in the confusion of sin, he chooses to die for our sake. Realize this integral dynamic. Jesus becomes our sin, accepting all sin into his person and taking it to the Cross. No sin was left out, no sin forgotten. All sin nailed to a tree in an act of perfect undefended love, obedience, and personal surrender.

This means that Jesus has saved us not from our sin, but through our sin. It is the only way we would ever realize the reality and fullness of Divine love. Given free will, we are free to sin. In pure love, God chooses to heal and forgive all sin. Radical. Mind blowing. Prodigal. Reckless.

Notice the dynamic of Peter. Jesus allows Peter to betray him choosing to suffer this pain of rejection. Why? Peter needed to die to his ego and small self to realize the fullness of himself in Christ. In deep humiliation as Peter looked into the eyes of Jesus, he could see how deeply Jesus (still) loved him. Peter had only learned to love Jesus for his own sake. Now seeing the pure look of love in Jesus' eyes, Peter learned to love Jesus for Jesus' sake. His life was no longer about himself, but about Jesus who was his life.

That is the transformation of love and its power. We cannot just love God for our own sake and fully realize who God is. When we can love God for God's sake, we have turned the corner to realize that our lives are not about us, but about loving God and others.

Any resurrection or transformation is dependent on a death. Love is a surrendering, a giving up of what I want for the sake of loving another. If my life is only for and about me, I am lost. If I spend myself in the service of love, I will find deep happiness. If I sin along the way, admit my sin with honesty and sincere contrition, asking Jesus to forgive me, I will be made whole. Dying to self is an undeniable part of the process. It is the nature and the gift of both human and Divine love. Rejoice! He is risen from the dead and so are you in the mercy of Divine forgiveness. Love yourself and love God for God's sake. The natural fruit will become your love for others.

Father John Esper

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday thru Thursday

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 9:00am

Church doors open 1/2 hour before Mass begins

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm
in Adoration Chapel

Only one person allowed in chapel at a time. Persons seeking Sacrament of Reconciliation will be allowed in church to line up at 3:00pm



Live Streaming of Mass
Monday thru Thursday 8:00am
and Sunday 9:00am

Adoration on Tuesdays
8:45am to 10am

Livestream of Rosary on Thursday
following Mass

Search for St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (in Madison Heights) on youtube to find our channel or connect via our APP or website

CONTACT INFORMATION

ST VINCENT FERRER PARISH OFFICE

28353 Herbert St., Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-542-8720 Fax 248-542-8721
Website: www.stvincentferrer.net

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm,
Friday 9-Noon

Closed Saturday & Sunday

Parish Office Staff

Reverend John C. Esper, Priest in Solidum
Deborah Tourville, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator
Mary Ann Przybysz, Evangelical Charity Coordinator/
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA) Coordinator
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

Faith Formation Office

248-398-1743

Matthew Zinser, Childhood Faith Formation Coordinator

For information on Baptisms, OCIA and
Funerals contact the Parish Office 248-542-8720



MONDAY, April 1, 2024

8:00am Mass: Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom

TUESDAY, April 2, 2024

8:00am Mass: Jerry Gutowski† (Memorial Birthday) req. by Bernadette Gutowski

WEDNESDAY, April 3, 2024

8:00am Mass: Blanche Bugaiski† req. by Bernadette Gutowski

THURSDAY, April 4, 2024

8:00am Mass: Jerome Esper† req. by Family

SATURDAY, April 6, 2024

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer

David Rudy† req. by Regis Welsh

Intentions of Judy McCown & Mike Kairis (with thanks) req. by Bernadette Gutowski

Anthony Stephen Milko† req. by Family

Anthony Richard Milko† req. by Family

Elena Maulding (Memorial Birthday) req. by Regina Juska-Svoba

Marcus Maulding (Memorial Birthday) req. by Regina Juska-Svoba

SUNDAY, April 7, 2024

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer

Marcus Maulding† (Memorial birthday) req. by Regina Juska-Svoba

Leonard Vertel† (9th R.A.) req. by Bernadette Gutowski

Matthew Machota† req. by Trish Gadowski

Natale Tosto† req. by Virga Family

Joseph Dong Kim Pham† req. by Family

Lorraine Kuczborski† req. by Family

Leonard Kwapis† req. by Members of the SVF St. Vincent de Paul Conference

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MARCH 31, 2024

Sunday:	Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/ Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7
Monday:	Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday:	Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/ Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday:	Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday:	Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48
Friday:	Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday:	Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday:	Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31



Happy Easter

*Fr. John Esper
and the staff of St. Vincent
Ferrer Church wish you a
Blessed Easter Season.
The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, April 1st.*

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

In his speech, Peter places much emphasis on his personal witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. To whom this week could you witness your faith in the resurrection of Jesus?

Second Reading: Col 3:1-4

Paul taught the believers in Colossae to anticipate the return of the resurrected Jesus. How does your family celebrate Easter Sunday?

Gospel: Jn 20:1-9

Mary Magdala, Peter, and the Beloved Disciple were the first to experience the joy and mystery of the empty tomb. Do you recall when you first started believing in the resurrection of Jesus? ©LPi

**ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT
CEMETERIES PRESENTATION**

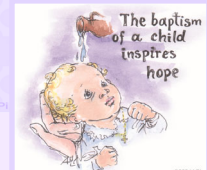
**After Masses Weekend of
April 13/14**

An outreach team from the Archdiocese of Detroit Cemeteries will be here to provide information on the Catholic Rites of the Order of Christian Funerals, the end-of-life options available and pre-planning benefits following the weekend Masses April 13 & 14.

The session will include a short presentation with question and answer opportunities and complimentary refreshments.

All Are Welcome.

**BAPTISM
PREPARATION**



Parents of infants and toddlers who desire baptism for their child must attend a Baptism preparation class. This class is held quarterly.

**The next class will be
Saturday, April 6th - 1:00pm
Admin Bldg.**

Call the Parish Office to register at 248-542-8720.



...all government leaders to seek wisdom in finding peaceful solutions to world wars and tensions.

...medical and humanitarian aid for those suffering from hardship due to catastrophic weather, fires, wars, floods, earthquakes and disasters.

...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.

...the homeless, the addicted and all who are suffering physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally.

...all who are sick, homebound, undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests.

Lord Jesus,

You are the Divine Physician and Healer. To You, we lift up in prayer all who are lonely, homeless, sick or addicted; all who are unemployed or underemployed; all who are anxious or depressed and all who are suffering in any way spiritually, physically or emotionally. In their pain and brokenness, we ask that you bring them the comfort of your loving presence. In You, may they find strength for the day and hope for the journey. Amen

**VIRTUAL SOUP SUPPER
THANK YOU**



"As long as you did it to these. . ." Again this Lent, our parishioners continued to give generously of their financial resources in support of the

four charitable organizations which we chose for this year. We were able to send \$421.00 to "Song and Spirit" to help in their creative outreach efforts to those in need. \$374.00 was collected for "Better WAY Detroit" in their outreach effort whose mission is to provide dignity to people experiencing homelessness in the city of Detroit. \$352.00 was collected for "Angels' Place" in their effort to provide live-in group residences for adults with developmental disabilities. And lastly, \$389.00 was collected for our parish's Benevolent Fund that is used to assist persons unable to be helped by other charitable outreaches. . . "you did it to Me." Thank you!



MEMORIAL FLOWER DONATIONS



In Memory/Honor of

My Dad
Edward & Elizabeth Gauronskas
Louis & Greg Bail
Juanita Fant
Frances Ballantine
Cindy Bertolini
Fred Biber
Klein Family
Joe Bice
Our Parents
Helen Blizinski
Kathy Boguslawski
Robert Brunk
Donald Bush
Stefan Campa
Jean Tabone
Irene Ledesma
Richard Collins
Joan Marie Cooney
Gregorio Sr., Caridad, Gregorio, Jr.,
Dominador, Edgardo and Heide Diano
Honorata Villarba, Petra Palenzuela
Donna Dietrich & Family
Karen & Tom Kienie
Deceased Family & Friends
Flack & Miller Families
John & Stella Gadowski
Mary Ann & Matthew Machota
Aro J. Gallerani
Guc & Kutchev Families
Gerald Gutowski
Leonard & Eleanore Vertel
Helen & Edmund Gutowski
Michael Higgins
John & Ann Huddard
Leo & Jennie Ignasiak
Pranas & Stefaniya Juska
Elena, Marcus & Kristina
Maulding
Jonas, & Joana Svoba
Milda Svoba-Walters
Rimgaudas Svoba
Rimantas & Valentina Labieka
Vincas Mickevicius
Michael Kapolka
Dianne Karolski
Zig & Helen Karolski
Fred & Linda Karolski
John McConnell
Joe & Audrey Krieger
M/M James Roberts
Lorraine Kuczborski
John & Tresa Lamerato
Ray Family
Linda Lane
Stanley & Millie Sova
Jessica Magri
Michael Magri
Robert Lebioda
Felix & Veronika Malolepszy

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M/M Dan Ager
Mrs. Dolores Bail
M/M Sean Ballantine
M/M Sean Ballantine
Mr. Ron Bertolini
Mrs. Erna Biber
Mrs. Erna Biber
Mrs. Erna Biber
M/M Manuel Bionson
M/M Kevin Blizinski
Mr. Robert Boguslawski
Mrs. Ann Brunk
Ms. Kathleen Bush
Mrs. Jadranka Campa
Ms. Nancy Cleveland
Ms. Nancy Cleveland
Linda Collins
Michael Cooney

Ms. Asteria Diano
Ms. Asteria Diano
Mr. John Dietrich
Gerald & Michele Ernatt
Doug & Mary Ann Evans
M/M Paul Flack
Ms. Patricia Gadowski
Ms. Patricia Gadowski
Mrs. Genevieve Gallerani
Mrs. Mary Jane Guc
Mrs. Bernadette Gutowski
Mrs. Bernadette Gutowski
Mrs. Bernadette Gutowski
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M/M Stanley Ignasiak
M/M Stanley Ignasiak
Ms. Regina Juska-Svoba

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Ms. Regina Juska-Svoba
Ms. Regina Juska-Svoba
Ms. Regina Juska-Svoba
Ms. Regina Juska-Svoba
Mrs. Helen Kapolka
Mr. Tom Karolski
Mr. Tom Karolski
Mr. Tom Karolski
Bill & Jo Koerner
M/M John Krieger
M/M Ken Kronner
Mr. Stanley Kuczborski
Sam & Meg Lamerato
Sam & Meg Lamerato
Ms. Theresa Lane
M/M Gary Lentini
M/M Richard Magri
M/M Richard Magri
M/M Richard Magri
Mr. Jerome Malolepszy

In Memory/Honor of

Thering & Malski
Wayne Maynard
Theresa Maynard
Deceased Perry Family
Deceased McCarthy Family
Janine Kairis
Jim McCown
Jaye Kairis
All deceased Family Members
Deceased Family Members
Thomas C. Moran
Daniel J. Moran
Joseph & Mary Novak
Gary & Albert Novak
All Deceased Family & Friends
Agnes Panek & Linda Panek
Debra Millsap & Al Panek
Sharon Panek & Patricia Allen
Tony & Nancy Giardina
Richard, Sr. & Norma Pasiak
Joseph Dong Kim Pham
Frances Przekaza
Gigi Cooper
SSG Jason Plumb
Michael Quackenbush
William Rearick
Krystle Rearick
Rickle Family
Peacock Family
Edward & Bonnie Riley
Michael Riley & H.I. Fletcher
Gaye & Jeremy Martiss
Kuzma Family
Sadowski Family
Edward & Josephine Sczempek
Robert & Virginia Smith
Robert J. Shaner
Robert P. Abratowski
Shonts Family
Raymond Hudy
Peter & David Stema
Mike Schuster, Nick Reisner
Schuster grandparents
Josephine Jadditz & Barbara Sills
Elizabeth Milostan
Mary Ann Balok
June Dixon
Darlene Berent
Szeliga & Lebioda Families
Ernest Szwarc
Pedro Tagalicud, Sr.
Leonora Tagalicud
Henry Tagalicud Sr.
Our Parents
Family & Friends
Guillermo, Filomena, Brigido,
Joel & Glicerio
Family
Anna & Izador Stanislawski
Babey Eddie

Donated by

M/M Brian Malski
Mrs. Angela Maynard
Mrs. Angela Maynard
Ms. Corrine McCarthy
Ms. Corrine McCarthy
McCown-Kairis Family
McCown-Kairis Family
McCown-Kairis Family
McCown-Kairis Family
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Mr. Joseph Novak, Jr.
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Ms. Barbara Panek
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Richard & Antoinette Pasiak
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Ms. Nancy Sadowski
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Lawrence & Barbara Sczempek
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Mrs. Charlotte Szwarc
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Fely Tagalicud
Ann Kresowski & John Tata
Ms. Barbara Thomson

Florecita Usita
Mr. Raymond Van Hall
Ms. Frances Vettraino
Ms. Frances Vettraino

MEMORIAL FLOWER DONATIONS

In Memory/Honor of

Deceased Miceli Family
 Deceased Virga Family
 Maria Nang
 Sam & Antoinette Gusmano
 Boris & Natalie Waskowski
 Yolkiewicz Family Members
 Celmer Family Members
 Deceased Mankowski Family
 Deceased Zukowski Family

Donated by

M/M Francesco Virga
 M/M Francesco Virga
 M/M Ryan Vu
 M & M Waskowski
 M & M Waskowski
 M/M Stanley Yolkiewicz
 M/M Stanley Yolkiewicz
 M/M Lawrence Zukowski
 M/M Lawrence Zukowski

GENERAL FLOWER DONATIONS

M/M Bill Majewski
 Mrs. Bernice Pawloski
 Phyllis Rarus
 Daniel & Bernadette Ravary
 M/M Neil Repke
 M/M Don Vu



Thank you to all who made memorial flower contributions to beautify our worship space. The contribution total was \$ 2,286.00

St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community



extends its deepest sympathy and support to the family and friends of

**Linda Karolski
 Leona Ingels**

Please remember them and the souls of all the faithful departed in your prayers.

May all the deceased be welcomed into paradise!

Prayer of Blessing

*Dear Lord,
 Pour your blessings upon us today, we who trust in your name and call upon you. Send us your Spirit, enlighten our hearts, fill our lives with your abundance. Amen.*

©LPi

Women's Sacred Journey

SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH

**FAITH FORMATION OFFICE
 SVF SCHOOL BLDG.**



All women in our Family of Parishes are invited to join other women to pray and reflect on Scripture passages. The gathering is every other Saturday. No registration or fee required.

Baby Shower



Our annual baby shower has been moved from fall to spring and will take place the weekend of April 13/14, 2024.

Please return unwrapped gifts to the tables in back of church the weekend of April 13/14 or drop them off at the Parish office before noon on Friday April 12th.

ITEMS REQUESTED

- diapers (all sizes)
- baby wipes
- diaper bags
- wash clothes
- burp pads
- quilts, blankets
- receiving blankets
- pacifiers
- layettes
- bibs
- bottles
- shampoo
- body wash
- outfits
- rattles
- onesies
- socks
- booties
- nail clipper sets
- brush and comb sets
- light-weight sleepers

Baby gifts will go to Wee Care and Madison Family Planning

Ministry Schedule

April 6/7, 2024

Mass	4:00pm	9:00am
Sacristan	D Tourville	L Yolkiewicz
Reader #1	T Riley	A Goll
Reader #2	D Tourville	L Yolkiewicz
EME	M Simmons	A Goll
	T Riley	P Allen
	R Pasiak	M Waskowski
Greeters	L Collins	T Oparka
	J Ballantine	N Oparka
	M Smith	B Gutowski
	P Miles	T Lane

Traveling Chalice Host beginning week of April 6/7, 2024
 Frank & Nina Virga

**INSPIRATION
FOR THE WEEK**

Even as the disciples saw the empty tomb and the discarded burial cloths, they did not understand what had happened. But they kept faith, trusting that the Lord was at work. Let us keep that same faith when we do not find God where we expect Him to be. ©LPi

EUCCHARISTIC SAINTS SERIES

**ST. PASCHAL BAYLÓN
(1540-1592)**



St. Paschal Baylón was born in Spain to impoverished Catholic parents. He worked alongside his father as a shepherd from his childhood until his 20's. He often prayed while working in the fields, listening daily for the church bells that would ring at the point of Elevation of the Eucharist during Mass to remind him to spend time with the Lord. He was known for his work ethic and honesty among his neighbors and desired a religious life from a young age.

Baylón taught himself to read so he could pray the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin, a prayer popular in his time. He would give parts of his dinner away to those in need when it was brought to him as he was shepherding in the field. He also had great compassion for the sick.

At age 24, Baylón joined the Friars Minor and although invited to study to be a priest, he chose to be a brother. In this vocation he served his brothers in many ways, including as a chef, door man, gardener, and official beggar. As a Franciscan lay brother, he took a vow of poverty but remained generous to those poor who came begging at the monastery — to the point that the other friars sometimes tried to limit his giving.

St. Paschal found particular solace while praying before the Blessed Sacrament. His devotion to Christ in the Eucharist was tangible as he was known to spend most of his free time in adoration and would occasionally experience visions after all-night prayer. Because of this devotion, he is the Patron Saint of Eucharistic Congresses and Societies. He was also known widely for his spiritual council. People all over the region would visit him to talk about faith and life. St. Paschal Baylón, pray for us! ©LPi

What Would Mary Do?

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

This Easter morning, I am thinking of Mary Magdalene. I want to know her state of mind as she approached the tomb in the darkness. Was she afraid? Was she thinking clearly? Was she tired? Had grief and trauma robbed her of her sleep the last two nights? What did she intend to do? Anoint Christ's body, yes — but what else? Kiss his hands, trace the markings where the lash had fallen upon his skin? Say goodbye? Weep? Despair?

What were the words she planned to whisper into the cold, empty darkness that morning, as she wept over God's body?

I don't know anything about her state of mind that Easter morning, except that I know she wanted to be with Christ. Perhaps that was all she knew, too. Perhaps she had no other thought, no other desire, than nearness to him. She didn't need to understand everything, and she didn't expect answers — she didn't dare hope for that.

But everything and everyone had fallen apart around her, and in Jesus' presence she knew her heart would be able to rest.

If you have ever been in the midst of a crisis in your life and found yourself pacing the floors of your house when no one else is awake, muttering the words to a prayer you know by heart, you know what Mary Magdalene felt. In those moments, we do not always feel God's presence. Sometimes, when we look for Him, we only see an empty tomb.

When these dark moments come, I pray you will remember the faithfulness of this great saint. Be like Mary Magdalene. Look for Jesus, always. You may not always find him, but he will always find you.

“She ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, ‘They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him.’” — John 20:2 ©LPi

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP GIVING - WEEK ENDING MARCH 23/24

Fiscal Year 7-1-23 to 6-30-24	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	245	92		
Offertory (including loose cash)	\$ 5,293.00	\$ 4,777.00	(958.00)	(6,003.44)
Energy	289.00	53.00	(236.00)	(1,503.61)
Other: Coffee & Donuts, Flowers, Memorial Trees, Candles	\$ 1,115.39	442.00	(673.39)	(34,199.12)
Mass Intentions	n/a	80.00		4,550.00
Holy Days: Easter	n/a	125.00		683.00
Budget deficit donations		68.00		7,149.00
2023 CSA overage (pledges outstanding - 2,531.36)				7,239.64

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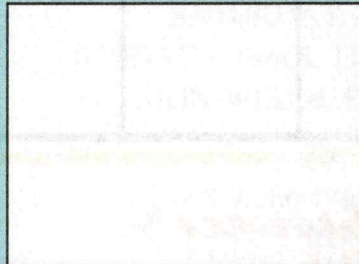
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