

FROM THE PASTOR'S PRINTER

WAIT! DON'T YOU MEAN CHRIST HAS RISEN?

There is no greater feast than the one we celebrate today. The Church calls it the Mother of all Feasts, because without the death and resurrection of Jesus, we would not be who we are, at least in God's eyes. By the Paschal Mystery – the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of the Lord – we have been radically changed. We go from being people created by God but alienated from him by sin (of our choosing as the human race) and left with a ending that was complete death to being reunited with the Source of all good and eternal life, now not as His creatures but as His children. Christmas, Advent, the holy days, Sunday, and any feast have their meaning in what Jesus did not us through His Paschal Mystery. He has brought us from death to life through his death and resurrection. This is why we proclaim with alleluias that Christ is risen. Now non-believing grammar police would say, "No dear. If you are going to believe such rubbish [remember, it's a non-believer], you mean Christ *has* risen. It is an act accomplished completely (if it were true)." But a believing grammar police would disagree and say, "No, fellow grammarian, *is risen* is correct because in rising Jesus assumed a new way of being in his humanity, and that risen state continues for eternity." Now all of this may seem like the normal arguments for grammar police to engage in while we go about more important things like eating chocolate bunnies and opera crème eggs, but actually, the theological truth is something for us to think about.

ALLELUIA! JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY. ALLELUIA!

ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

I will be on vacation this week. You are in competent hands of Fathers Shine, Dorrman, and the pastoral staff (and may be better off than when I am here). For emergencies, call the emergency number 513-367-9086 x 5.

LET US GO TO THE ALTAR OF GOD

For those of you returning home or visiting, I am happy to announce at this is in all likelihood our second last Easter in the church building. By 2019 we should be in our new church which will be located at New Haven Road and Carolina Trace Road, behind Minges Funeral Home. Today's bulletin contains the plans for the church. This church has served us to well, and we have so many

That Jesus is in a risen state of being has great implications for us. Because through baptism we enter into his Paschal Mystery (since he comes to dwell in us), it means that we are to live in His risen state (or maybe for those of us who are not perfect, grow in His risen state. The Paschal Mystery did not simply wash away sin by the blood of Jesus, nor did it just give us a fresh start. It draws us who accept Jesus as Lord and Savior – into a whole new way of living. As St. Paul writes, "If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear in glory." (Col. 3: 1-4.) This life in Christ is lived out not by the "old" values of the world – our culture, the ideas and values of our own making – by rather by the values and reality of the risen Christ who has established a new way of being, thinking, and acting.

The question that we must ask ourselves is: "Do we come to celebrate this feast because Christ only *has risen* or because he *is risen*. In the case of the former, we are acknowledging that Jesus did something marvelous and it is finished. In the latter we are acknowledging that what Jesus did in rising affects us to the core of our being because we live in his risen life. This day we celebrate; everyday we strive to live it out.

MASS CHANGES FOR FIRST COMMUNION

On Saturday, April 29th, the afternoon Mass will be moved to 5:30 PM. On Sunday, May 7th, the 1 PM Mass will be a First Communion Mass (although anyone may attend).

attachments to it as our home of faith, but we are outgrowing it as Harrison continues to grow. If you would like to assist in this endeavor, please call Juliet Gore at 513-367-9086 x 222 or JGore@ccsfundraising.com.

A blessed Easter day and season for you. – Fr. Jeff