

GLANCING THOUGHTS



The Psalm for Easter Sunday says, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Above all days, Easter is a day of joy.

But what is joy? The answer St. Francis gave to this question is famous. St. Francis said to his Brother Leo, "When we come to St. Mary of the Angels [our house], soaked by the rain and frozen by the cold, all soiled with mud and suffering from hunger, and we ring at the gate of the place and the brother porter comes and says angrily: 'Who are you?' And we say: 'We are two of your brothers.' And ... he does not open for us, but makes us stand outside in the snow and rain, cold and hungry, until night falls—then if we endure all those insults and cruel rebuffs patiently, ... oh, Brother Leo, ... perfect joy is there!"

Whatever we may think of St. Francis's explanation of perfect joy, Easter reminds us that Francis's kind of joy is not the end of the story. At Easter, we celebrate the other kind of joy, the kind each of us longs for, when every tear is wiped away, and there is no sorrow anymore—no more suffering from weather or hunger or hurtful human

beings. As we sing in the much-loved hymn by Fr. John Foley, SJ, at Easter there is only "the cross and passion past; dark night is done, bright morning come at last!"

When we ourselves rise to meet our risen Lord, in that bright morning we will hear him say, "come away, beloved. The winter is past; the rain is gone, and the flowers return to the earth" (Song of Songs 2:10-12). In the loving union of that encounter, all the heartbrokenness of our lives will be redeemed. That will be perfect joy.

If all we had was the joy St. Francis describes, our courage might fail us in this life. Easter celebrates now the perfect joy waiting for us when we and all creation are reborn with our resurrected Lord into the everlasting love of God. This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Eleanore Stump
The Sunday Website

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear Lord, may I realise afresh today what Your death and resurrection mean for me. Forgiveness, freedom, and the ability to walk with You through this fallen world into eternity. May I always find my satisfaction in You and Your willingness to offer Yourself to me. In Jesus' Name,

Amen



THE PARISHES OF ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 17th April 2022 - EASTER SUNDAY

He is Risen! Alleluia!

Today we join with the followers of Jesus Christ throughout the world in the celebration of His Resurrection from the dead. In our Collect today we pray that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by the Spirit, rise up in the light of life. This 'rising up' gives us a new way of looking at our world, our troubled world, to see the presence of the risen Lord in our midst and receive the grace to be witnesses to Him to our families, friends and our world. May every joy fill you today and during this Easter Season - remember it lasts 50 days! After the fast - enjoy the feast!

Many thanks to all who participated in our Paschal Triduum at St. Joseph's this year. I am extremely grateful to all who worked behind the scenes to help prepare for the liturgies - our sacristan(s), welcomers, singers, readers and organist - Your help truly made them very prayerful and worthy celebrations! I will offer Holy Mass for your intentions.

Thank you also to all who have prepared our three churches for this Easter Sunday - the flowers are beautiful!

Fr Michael

PARISH WEBSITE
www.lunevalleycatholics.org.uk

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PARISH DIARY

Sunday 17th April Easter Sunday White	09.00 St. Joseph <i>Mass Arnold Shields Roscoe</i> <i>Refreshments after Mass in the St. Joseph's Room</i> 11.00 Our Lady Caton <i>Mass People of the Parish</i> <i>Please note the venue for the 11.00 am Mass</i>
Monday 18th April Easter Monday White	09.30 St. Mary <i>Mass Pope Benedict XVI</i> [h&i]
Tuesday 19th April Easter Tuesday White	<i>No Mass in the parish this evening</i>
Wednesday 20th April Easter Wednesday White	09.30 St. Mary <i>Mass Fr Peter Groody</i> [h&i]
Thursday 21st April Easter Thursday White	18.00 St. Joseph <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> 18.30 St. Joseph <i>Mass Annie Brown</i> [h&i]
Friday 22nd April Easter Friday White	09.30 St. Mary <i>Mass Queen Elizabeth II</i> [h&i]
Saturday 23rd April Easter Saturday White	11.00 St. Mary <i>Latin Mass Frank Wallbank</i> 17.30 Our Lady <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> 18:00 Our Lady <i>Mass Private Intention</i>
Sunday 24th April Second Sunday of Easter Day of Divine Mercy White	09.00 St. Joseph <i>Mass People of the Parish</i> <i>Refreshments after Mass in the St. Joseph's Room</i> 11.00 Our Lady Caton <i>Mass Mary Wells</i> 17.30 Lancaster University <i>Mass Private Intention</i>

THE CHURCHES OF THE PARISH

St. Mary - 59 Main Street, Hornby, LA2 8JT

Our Lady Immaculate - Station Road, Caton, LA2 9QL

St. Joseph - Back Lane, Kirkby Lonsdale LA6 2AP

University Chapel of St. Thomas More - Chaplaincy Centre, Bailrigg, Lancaster LA1 4YW

PARISH NOTICES

Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday 5th June at 2.00 pm at Lancaster Cathedral. Classes begin on Wednesday 4th May at 7.00 pm in the Social Centre of Lancaster Cathedral. Children/Young people of Year 6 and above. There are four sessions in total. Application forms are available on request. Weekly attendance at Holy Mass in the parish is an essential part of the preparation.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes is planned for 22nd July 2022. For more information visit <https://lancasterlourdes.co.uk>

Hospital Visitors

Father Chapple the Chaplain at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary is seeking volunteers to help with the provision of Catholic patients in the hospital. This will involve the general visiting of Catholic patients and to take Holy Communion to those who wish to receive. Days for volunteering can be flexible in consultation with Fr Chapple. In order to meet conditions currently laid down by the Trust, volunteers must be under 70 years old and be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Please speak to Father Chapple if you are interested in this ministry. He can be contacted by email : schapple@lancastercathedral.org.uk , or by telephone at the Cathedral: 01524 384820.

Chaplaincy HMP Lancaster Farms

There is currently a vacancy for a Catholic chaplain (lay or ordained) at Lancaster Farms for approximately 26 hours per week. Details are at the Ministry of

Justice's jobs site: jobs.justice.gov.uk with a reference of 56531. This is a Band 5 permanent post. This will be a very rewarding pastoral care role for the successful candidate. Applications close on 24th April.

The Easter Offering

In the Diocese the collections of the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday are personal to the clergy and form a part of their annual allowance. This is additional to any standing orders you may normally have in place which contribute to the general upkeep of the parish.

World Youth Day 2023

The Youth Service have now launched the package for World Youth Day 2023. It's happening next August in Lisbon, Portugal and the diocese are taking a small group of young adults. Check out castleriggmanor.com for more details.

LIT (Open Confirmation Retreat)

Castlerigg Manor are holding the first ever in-person open confirmation retreat this May (25-27th). It's open to anyone who has been confirmed recently, or anybody who is about to be. Check out castleriggmanor.com for more details.

Lourdes 2022 Youth Section

Lourdes is back this year and once again there will be a huge section led by the Youth Service. Check out castleriggmanor.com for more details

Castlerigg Open Day

July 17th, 1pm to 5pm, with Mass at 4pm. Fun for all the family, and a chance to help Castlerigg raise some money to help its work with young people. Save the date.