



# Alleluia! Christ is risen!

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

1300 Junipero Serra Blvd.  
(off Brotherhood Way)  
San Francisco, CA 94132-2913  
Office: (415) 452-9634  
Fax: (415) 452-9653  
[www.stmchurch.com](http://www.stmchurch.com)

Easter Sunday

April 12, 2009

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.—*Psalm 118:17*

### **EASTER: From Sacrifice to Salvation**

Recently I was going through some of my classical CD's and I came upon Anton Dvorak's New World Symphony. I hadn't heard it for a while, so I popped it in and then reflected on the times that Dvorak was portraying in music. Dvorak was born in Bohemia in 1841. He became popular in Germany and then in England in the 1880's. In 1892 he became the Director of the New York National Conservatory. During this time he wrote his 9th Symphony which he entitled, "From the New World." He wrote from America at a time when thousands and thousands of people from Ireland, Italy, Germany, and Poland were migrating from the homes their ancestors lived in for centuries to find a new life and a new world.

My grandparents were part of this immigration. Perhaps your grandparents or great grandparents were also on those long lines on Ellis Island, still sick from the sea voyage, frightened by the sights around them, wondering what was going to become of them in this new strange land. It is hard to imagine the sacrifices they had to endure. There was the sea, the language, the search for a place to live, a job in a hostile job market. They were accustomed to receiving respect in their home towns and villages. They were belittled and insulted by many in America. Still, they endured all. Why? They wanted a better life for their children and grandchildren. It was more than their not wanting their children to go hungry. They wanted their children to be able to break out of the silent caste system of Europe. They wanted their children to become professionals if they could. They wanted their children to have the best of lives without any external limitations. So they sacrificed their own positions of respect in their community, their own homes, their own countries, their futures, for the sake of a new world for their children.

Jesus the Christ longed for a New World for God's children. He longed for a world where they would no longer be confined in a mortal prison by hatred, by paganism, by materialism. He grieved over people who were like sheep without a shepherd. Their lives were pointless. They wanted meaning but could not find meaning. They spent millions of dollars on self-help books. They went to gurus and practiced transcendental meditation. They gave the New Age a try depending on themselves to provide everything. And they ended up with nothing. They killed themselves to make enough money to own everything this old world could produce. And they ended with nothing of lasting value. Jesus would lead them to the New World, a world which would give meaning and happiness to their lives. But the journey to the New World would take sacrifice. A Tremendous Sacrifice from a Tremendous Lover. And so Jesus allowed the world to do its worse to him. The terrible sacrifice took place on the cross on Good Friday. The New World was proclaimed on Easter Sunday.

Jesus invites all to join him on the journey to the New World. This journey demands that we also sacrifice. It demands that we reject the old, dead way of life. The journey demands that we accept being alone in a world full of mockers. They tell us that we are wasting our time, our money and our energy on religion. We tell them that we would rather be in the minority with Jesus than in a majority that rejects him. We suffer from others. We suffer from our efforts to overcome our own selfishness. We suffer, we sacrifice, even to the point of death with Jesus. All so we can have the New Life in the New World of the Lord not just for ourselves, but for our children. For if we do nothing more in our lives than lead our children to the Lord, then our lives have been a total success and have had infinite value.

"Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Through baptism into his death we were buried with him so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father we too might live a new life." That is from the first New Testament reading during the First Easter Mass, the solemn Easter Vigil. I love this reading. It reminds us that it isn't easy being a Christian, but it is worth the sacrifice. Our lives have meaning, and purpose and beauty because we are not satisfied with the shallow existence of materialism and self-gratification. Jesus has called us out of this darkness and death and given each of us the ability to make his presence real for others. If we just allow God to work through us, if we just strive to be that unique reflection of his love he created each of us to be, then we will come out of the tomb of selfishness this world buries us in and live eternally.

The tomb is empty, Mary Magdalene, sinner who lived it up, but then found life by rejecting her life. The tomb is empty Mary. But the world is full. The Savior Lives. May his life change the world. May we let his life change the world. For the world craves his New Life. And we need a New World.

—Fr. Joseph Pellegrino, printed with permission from JSPaluch

**Celebrating the Year of St. Paul**

... For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign; until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

-1 Corinthians 15: 21-26

<p align="center"><b>Staff</b></p> <p><b>Pastor: Church &amp; School</b>          Msgr: Labib Kobti  <b>Parochial Vicar:</b>          Fr Andrew Johnson  <b>Priest Brazilian Community</b>          Fr. Sergio da Silva, (415) 454-8141  <b>Deacon:</b>          Khaled Abu Shaer  <b>Admin Assistant:</b>          Elvira Garcia  <b>Receptionist:</b>          Sr Teresa Malave, VDMF  <b>Campus Ministry:</b>          Verbum Dei Sisters          Sr. Su Fern Khoo VDMF          (415) 573-9062  <b>RCIC:</b>  <b>Kathy Sanford</b>          (650) 738-0646  <b>RCIA &amp; Music:</b>  <b>Suzanne Hockel</b>          (415) 826-6834  <b>STM School:</b>  <b>Principal, Joe Elsbernd</b>          (415) 337-0100</p>	<p align="center"><u><b>This Week's Parish Events</b></u></p> <p align="center"><b>Tue., April 14th</b>  <b>Legion of Mary,</b>          Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm  <b>Communion &amp; Liberation,</b>          Scanlan Hall, 8:00 pm</p> <p align="center"><u>Wednesday, April 15th</u>          International Food Festival Committee          Scanlan Hall, 7:00 pm</p> <p align="center"><b>Saturday, April 18th:</b>  <b>Bible Study Group,</b>  <b>Alma Via, 6:30 PM</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Campus Ministry</b>  <i>Regular meeting:</i>  <i>Thursday 7:00pm</i>  <i>at Burk Hall 252</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>MASS SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM</p> <p align="center"><b>Sunday</b></p> <p>8:00 AM Portuguese/Brazilian;          10:00 AM English          11:45 AM Arabic;          8:00 PM English</p> <p align="center"><b>Weekdays:</b>          8:30 AM          (Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.);          5:30 PM (Tue., Thu.)</p> <p align="center"><b>Holy Days:</b>          8:30 AM &amp; 8:00 PM</p> <p align="center"><b>First Saturdays:</b>          10:00 AM Burmese</p> <p align="center"><b>First Fridays:</b>          8:30 AM;  <b>7:00 PM</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament          Followed by Mass for healing at <b>8:00 PM</b></p> <p><b>Sacrament of Baptism (infants):</b> Parents and godparents must attend Baptism Preparation Class. Call the office for Schedule.</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</b> Sundays 9:30—9:45 AM; Saturday 4:30 PM. Any time upon request.</p> <p><b>Sacrament of Matrimony:</b> Contact us at least 6 months prior to wedding date.</p> <p><b>Communion to the homebound and the ill:</b> Anyone who is ill and unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion may call the office to schedule a visit.</p> <p><b>Anointing of the Sick:</b> Any time upon request. If a parishioner is seriously ill at home, please inform the parish office regarding a visit for anointing.</p> <p><b>Funeral arrangements:</b> Funeral Director should contact Parish Office.</p>
<p><b>For Children and Youth:</b> Under 6 years old, STM offers a “Crying Room” where parents can follow Mass, while children play away from the community. Over 6 years old, we have the “Children Liturgy”, RCIC and RCIA and FLA groups and Summer Camps</p> <p><b>For Adults:</b> English Charismatic group, Sundays 6:00 PM: young adults group (18-late 20’s) 2nd and 4th Saturday 2:00-4:00 PM; Arabic Youth groups, Fridays 6:30 PM; Brazilian Charismatic group, Mondays 7:00 PM; Burmese Youth group, Sundays 2:00 PM; SFSU Campus ministry, Thursdays 7:00 PM (on Campus)</p> <p><b>For Families:</b> Bible Study, Saturday at 7:00 PM; Couples For Christ: Saturday 5:00 PM; Legion of Mary, Communion Liberation, Perpetual Novena to the Sto. Nino; Prince of Peace and Friday adorations</p> <p align="center"><b>Holy Land Museum &amp; Shroud of Turin Exhibit</b>  <b>Open 9-4:30 Monday-Friday</b></p>		

**Regular Activities**

Parish Council Liturgy Committee Legion of Mary Communion & Liberation Charismatic groups for different ethnics	To Be Announced As Announced Tuesday, 6:30 PM Tuesday, 7:30 PM See schedule	Bible Study & Prayer AACC Youth Group Perpetual Novena: Sto. Nino Prince of Peace FLA Youth Group	Saturday, 7 PM at Alma Via Friday, 6:00 PM Last Friday, 7 PM Friday, 8:30 PM 1st & 3rd Wed. at 6:30pm
---	---	---	---

**Full Plate Program:** Thanks for your support of this program. Pls. bring your donations & place them in the green bins at the church entrance. Menu items: 1 container of 100% juice, 2 cans of vegetables, 1 canned meat, 1 bag of rice. No glass items, please. Thanks.

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**April 12 — April 18, 2009**

04/12 Sun 10:00am Joan Carew†  
 8:00pm People of STM  
 04/13 Mon 8:30am Raul Santos†  
 04/14 Tue 5:30pm Josephine Ryan †  
 04/15 Wed 8:30 am All Souls in Purgatory†  
 04/16 Thu 5:30pm Edwin Vitug†  
 04/17 Fri 8:30 am Emilio Chavez†  
 04/18 Sat 8:30 am Velez Family (Sp. Int.)  
 5:00 pm Joseph Samier†, lvg family members

# Happy Easter

\*We wish each of you a very blessed and happy Easter.



© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

*Please call the office to schedule your Mass. Attending the Mass you offer is appreciated.*

**PROCLAIM THE RISEN CHRIST**

On Easter morning everything—the spring weather, the flowers, birds and butterflies, the people around us in their finery, the beautiful liturgy and music—everything seems to bear witness that Jesus Christ is risen today! Like the eyewitness accounts in today's scriptures, the glorious and joyful life all around us helps us to believe the good news of the Resurrection and sing "Alleluia!" In the scriptures today we hear from Peter and Paul and John. All three speak with conviction about witnessing the resurrected Christ. John's Gospel account includes Mary of Magdala, who also was privileged to witness the Resurrection and tell others the good news. On this glorious Easter Sunday can we ourselves give eyewitness accounts that Jesus Christ is risen today, alive and active in our lives? © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

celebrated on the first Sunday that occurs after the first full moon on or after the vernal equinox. However, a caveat must be introduced here. The "full moon" in the rule is the ecclesiastical full moon, which is defined as the fourteenth day of a tabular lunation, where day 1 corresponds to the ecclesiastical New Moon. It does not always occur on the same date as the astronomical full moon. The ecclesiastical "vernal equinox" is always on March 21. There, Easter must be celebrated on a Sunday between the dates of March 22 and April 25.

● **The Lenten Season**

Lent is the forty-six day period just prior to Easter Sunday. It begins on Ash Wednesday. Mardi Gras (French for "Fat Tuesday") is a celebration, sometimes called "Carnival," practices around the world, on the Tuesday prior to Ash Wednesday. It was designed as a way to "get it all out" before the sacrifices of Lent began. New Orleans is the focal point of Mardi Gras celebrations in the U.S.

● **The Easter Bunny**

The goddess, Eastre, was worshipped by the Anglo-Saxons through her earthly symbol, the rabbit. The Germans brought the symbol of the Easter rabbit to America.

● **The Easter Egg**

The exchange of eggs in the springtime is a custom that was centuries old when Easter was first celebrated by Christians. From the earliest times, the egg was a symbol of rebirth in most cultures. Eggs were often wrapped in gold leaf or, if you were a peasant, colored brightly by boiling them with the leaves or petals of certain flowers.

*Pray for ...*

**All the sick people in our parish**, especially Patricia Colburn, Barbara Cunningham, Carmel Desmond, Collin & Sara Fernando-Noguera, Catherine Moynihan, Mac Nuqui, Marie Paynor-Cia, John Schulz, Lourdes Tam, Filemon Trinidad, Alejandro Villavicencio, Ruby Jimenez, Gordon Lu, Rosauo Tan, Jean Lu, Bridget Suazon, Rhona Palencia, Annika de Leon and for all who are ill in our parish.

**All the deceased** from our parish.

**Weekly Offering**



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**Due to the observance of holy week, this bulletin is sent to press early. Offering amounts will be posted in next week's bulletin.**

**Thank you for your patience and your generosity. Happy Easter!**



*If you are new to the area and not yet registered at Saint Thomas More Parish, we invite you to fill this out, cut it out and return it to the parish office/rectory or drop in the collection basket.*

I choose to become a member of St. Thomas More and commit myself to building a community that seeks to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God. I will commit myself to this mission by my active & consistent presence at worship financial giving even when I can't be present.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ I want to 5 the envelopes and commit myself to a weekly contribution.  
 Yes, please \_\_\_\_\_ No, thanks. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Subscribe to our mailing list by e-mailing us: stmchurch@aol.com