

MASSES FOR APRIL 21-27

Monday, 21	8:30 am (SF)	No Mass Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday, 22	8:30 am (SJ)	Theresa Popp (Valerie Vukelic) Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday, 23	8:30 am (SF)	For the People Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35
Thursday, 24	8:30 am (SJ)	Evelyn Byers (CWC of Toronto) Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2a, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48
Friday, 25	8:30 am (SF)	Michael Sokol (Restifo Family) Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14
Saturday, 26	5:00 pm (SF)	Tony Foster (Carol Rogers)
Sunday, 27	9:00 am (SJ)	Mary Kay Westlake (Christine Augustynowicz)
	11:00 am (SF)	William & Mary McCloskey (Tom & Judy Koehnlein) Acts 5:12-16; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY:	Parish School of Religion
THURSDAY:	Choir Practice—7:00pm (SJ)
SATURDAY:	No Confessions

As of 04/22/2025: Trinity West.; Trinity East; Weirton Medical Center: Barbara Green. **Please remember to pray for all our sick, shut-ins, and those in nursing homes.** If a family member is admitted into a hospital, please be sure to contact the parish office so Father may go and visit them.



Storm Allese and Paul Hefner received the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter Vigil. It is with great joy that we welcome them into the Catholic Faith. Let us keep them in our prayers and by our good example help them to grow in the love of Christ.

A Note from our Pastor

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the parishioners whom I serve. Your kindness, prayers, and generosity help me each day in my ministry. A special thanks to Karen Shell and all of the volunteers in our Music Ministry. You do so very much to enrich our Liturgies. Also, a great thanks to the Mass servers in both parishes. Your dedication and reverence are greatly appreciated. Many thanks to the CWC for all your hard work and commitment to our parish community. I am also grateful to our parish staff for their help and support. Again, my sincere appreciation to each of you and the many ways you ensure that we remain a vibrant parish family.

2025 Diocesan Campaign: First of all, let me begin by offering my thanks to all who have responded to the D/PSC. We have already reached and exceed our parish goals. Please remember that all contributions above and beyond our parish goals are returned to the parish. The additional funds help us to attend to various maintenance projects for our churches. If you have not yet responded to the 2025 D/PSC Campaign, I encourage you to do so.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
St. Francis	\$22,747.00	\$24,535.00
St. Joseph	\$11,354.00	\$16,200.00

Again, thank you for your support.



CHURCH SUPPORT: St. Francis: Adult: \$3,775.00; Loose: \$267.00; Candles: \$63.00; Rice Bowl: \$55.00; Building Fund: \$966.00. St. Joseph: Adult: \$1,366.00; Loose: \$80.00; Candles: \$66.00; Rice Bowl: \$10.00; Building Fund: \$260.00. May God bless you for your goodness to His Church!
Weekly Mass Attendance for April 13th: 5:00pm: 78; 9:00am: 81; 11:00am: 125.

MASSES: For **Sister Theresa Sarich (Sr. Mercedes), Richard James Dayton, Peggy Comm, Grace Paris, Jim & Jean Dayton,** and **Angela M. Jones** by Greg & Gloria Zamborsky.

MEMORIALS: To **St. Francis Church** In memory of **Damien Gabis, Stella Westlake, Mary Ann Liddick,** and **Rosemond Garnick** by Greg & Gloria Zamborsky.



Hank Barto, a lifelong parishioner of St. Francis/St. Joseph parishes will celebrate his 100th Birthday on Monday, April 28th. If you would like to remember him on his birthday, please send greetings to **517 E. Fernwood Rd., Toronto, OH 43964.**

MINISTERS FOR APRIL 26 & 27, 2025

Altar Servers: 5pm: Hank Bodnar, Haley Bodnar; **9am:** Brody Winters, Wyatt Winters, Olivia Perdue; **11am:** Aiden Myslinsky, Luca Provenzano.

Lectors: 5pm: John Blosco; **9am:** Jennie Herrick; **11am:** Jenny Myslinsky

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

After years (and, for many of us, decades) of celebrating Easter, we may not be sensitive to the sheer peculiarity of the Resurrection accounts. But a close reading of today's Gospel prompts us to ask: If most of us were dreaming up the greatest event in history, wouldn't we have made it more exciting? A little fanfare would have gotten the message out to the world and nipped future skepticism in the bud. Yet this is not what God did. The account of Jesus' resurrection has no fanfare; in fact, it is not an account of a resurrection at all. It is a story of an empty tomb discovered by a woman from whom Jesus had cast out seven demons (cf. Lk 8:2), and two fishermen. Awestruck by the simplicity of these circumstances, we are inspired to adore the profound humility of God who invites – but never forces – us to respond to him in faith.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Although we cannot know exactly why God chose to arrange the events this way, today's second reading offers a hint: "For you have died," writes St. Paul, "and your life is hidden with Christ in God." This world which we consider home, and everything that comes to mind when we say "my life" – these are only shadows of the life that is found in Christ alone. Like the disciples in the Gospel, we are meant to gaze past the outward appearances of our mundane and sometimes pain-filled lives and, with the eyes of faith, place our hope in the true *life* that comes from God. But how often we forget! How often we live as if this world were all there was, without hope for eternal life! We are not alone in forgetting God's promises; Mary Magdalene and the disciples do not seem to expect Jesus' resurrection – even though he had repeatedly predicted it. At the tomb, they sought a dead body; but Jesus wished to offer them *his life*. We, likewise, must desire and seek his life by laying aside everything that does not lead us to him.

REJOICE: Alleluia! Christ is risen! Although we don't place our hope in this life, marking the Church's feasts in our homes and families can inspire us to seek "what is above" by giving us a foretaste of the joys of heaven. Today through next Sunday, as we celebrate the "Easter Octave," every day is Easter Day! Use simple reminders – decorations, an extra treat, an additional time of prayer – to rejoice each day of the Octave.