

On Line and On Point

MARY MOTHER OF JESUS INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
marymotherofjesus.org

CHRIST IS RISEN—"God's living Spirit acting on behalf of the crucified Jesus, transforming him to new life in glory."—*Elizabeth A. Johnson*. She also went on to further say, "Theologically, the resurrection refers to the act of God that transforms the whole reality of the crucified Jesus into new life in glory through the power of the presence throughout the world. Spirit, thereby releasing his

To underscore the obvious, it was raised from the dead but Jesus of under Pontius Pilate. In a basic and resurrection reverses the direction political judges who found the deserving of death. It makes clear capital punishment was right in his person. In the teeth of authoritative Jesus of Nazareth and everything news to the poor, to proclaim recovery of sight to the blind, to set oppressed, to proclaim the One.' " Luke 4:18-19



not just any person who was Nazareth who was crucified dramatic way, therefore, the of the human religious and words and deeds of his ministry that in God's eyes the victim of message, his actions, his very rejection, it signals God's yes to he stands for: "To preach good release to the captives, at liberty those who are acceptable year of the Holy

GOOD NEWS FOR ALL is good news for all human whole natural world, the risen in all his dimensions including the life systems that develop from it new heaven and a new earth. Karl

In the risen Jesus a piece of this earth, real to the core, is now forever with God in glory. Since everything is connected with everything else, the future will be on a cosmic scale what has already happened to him. In that sense, **Easter is the festival of the future of the earth.**—*Elizabeth A. Johnson*

HUMANITY—The Easter event beings, it is equally so for the cosmos itself. Since Jesus is the bodily, then matter and all are also destined to become a Rahner pens a telling phrase:

HAPPY RESURRECTION! HAPPY EMPTY TOMBS!

REFLECTIONS ON last weekend Liturgy—These past days, we journeyed along with Jesus in the week called "Holy." It began with our weekend celebration of the Passion, the blessing of the palms, getting in place and marching with Jesus. Michael was able to spell out in a few words the significance of our community participation in the ongoing "parade," that many of us are making a significant contribution —each in our own way, time and place. As Dotty and Joan further indicated in prayer: We join in the parade ... that celebrates the ministry of Jesus and we believe that ministry will be made real today in our world, through our efforts and the efforts of all believers.

OFFERINGS—Please remember to make your regular donations to MMOJ by sending your check to MMOJ % St. Andrew UCC, 6908 Beneva Road, Sarasota. FL 34238. We are grateful for your continued contribution toward the growth and development of our community. Again, tabulation of offerings and donations will be announced when they are received from St Andrew UCC. Remember: **MMOJ is**

Mary Mother of Jesus Inclusive Catholic Community Mission Statement

We are a Christ-centered community of equals, consisting of women and men, ordained and non-ordained, empowered by the Spirit whose mission is to worship, to serve, to promote compassion, justice and care for creation. Come join us.

Send articles/info by Wed to be published on weekend: rjbannerusa@gmail.com

donating 5% of all offerings received each month to Outreach, and will continue to focus on current food and hunger issues of our surrounding communities.

FINAL REMINDER—Johnny Zokovitch [pictured right], current Executive Director of Pax Christi USA, on Thursday, April 8 at 7 PM will provide a special update on PCUSA and also present a "Pax Talk" - The Beatitudes: A Blueprint for Non-Violent Living". Small group discussion included. Johnny, for a long time, was running a Catholic Worker center up in Gainesville and knows first hand his subject, living many years non-violently under a variety of situations. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYlfuyhrsqH9fWrGuh7n-mo93dDSMSd85c> On screen, you will see the many members of Pax Christi that are living and ministering in Florida. You are welcome to join them in welcoming Johnny back in our midst, even if that is via ZOOM.



OUTREACH—Our current recipient of financial support continues to be **All Faiths Food Bank of Sarasota**. All Faiths Food Bank is a member of Feeding America – a network of food banks across the country. All Faiths understands that hunger is a health issue and its mission is, "Together with our partners, we provide healthy solutions to end hunger in our community. AFFB seeks to equitably serve agency partners who distribute food to those struggling with hunger. AFFB focuses on the population in our community known as the Asset Limited, Income Constrained Employed [ALICE]. The ALICE population represents those among us who are working, but due to childcare costs, transportation challenges, high cost of living and so much more are living paycheck to paycheck. 37% of households in Sarasota struggle to afford their basic needs.



ALLELUIA!

PREPARATION for the coming weekend's Liturgy—We look forward to the Easter Vigil Celebration, a long-standing highlight of the Liturgical Year. Bridget Mary et al will lead us into the Light [hope you will have brought your candle], the Joy of song and prayer, the ministry of the Word and Sacrament, the uplifting of music and gathering. It will lead us to the joy of Easter!

SEEDS SOWN—Our short lives on earth are sowing time. If there were no resurrection of the dead, everything would come to nothing. How can we believe in a God who loves us unconditionally if all the love and pains of our lives are in vain, vanishing in the earth with my mortal flesh and bones? Because God loves us unconditionally, from eternity to eternity, God cannot allow our bodies—the same as that in which Jesus, [the Only Begotten One] and [Christ of the Cosmos] appeared to us—to be lost in final destruction. No, life on earth is the time when seeds of

the risen body are planted. *"This image of planting a dead seed and raising a live plant is a mere sketch at best, but perhaps it will help in approaching the mystery of the resurrection body—but only if you keep in mind that when we are raised, we're raised for good, alive forever! The corpse that's planted is no beauty, but when it is raised, it's glorious. Put into the ground weak, it comes up powerful. The seed sown is natural; the seed grown is supernatural—same seed, same body, but what a difference from when it goes down in physical mortality to when it is raised up in spiritual immortality!"—I Cor 15:42-45*

INVITATION—I would like to invite community members to share their thoughts/ideas on future Outreach targets, anticipating times when we may have extra money/resources for donation purposes. If you can help me plan ahead for extending Outreach, especially post-pandemic, please contact me, Cheryl Brandi, Outreach Coordinator, cherylbrandi@comcast.net

GET THE PICTURE—We don't go to heaven; we learn how to live in heaven now. And no one lives in heaven alone. Either we learn how to live in communion with other people and with all that God has created, or, quite simply, we're not ready for heaven. If we want to live an isolated life, trying to prove that we're better than everybody else or believing we're worse than everybody else, we are already in hell. We have been invited—even now, even today, even this moment—to live consciously in the communion of saints, in the Presence, in the Body, in the Life of the eternal and eternally Risen Christ. This must be an almost perfect way to describe salvation itself.—*Richard Rohr*