

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
Prayer Gathering for Week of Easter

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**Jesus, you broke through the walls of your tomb
and walked out into the light of new and endless life.
Left behind in the dark were your burial shrouds... and the dank staleness of death.
Beckon us out of the darkness of our days of trial
and into your world of freedom and love and life.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, in union the Father, one God, forever. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

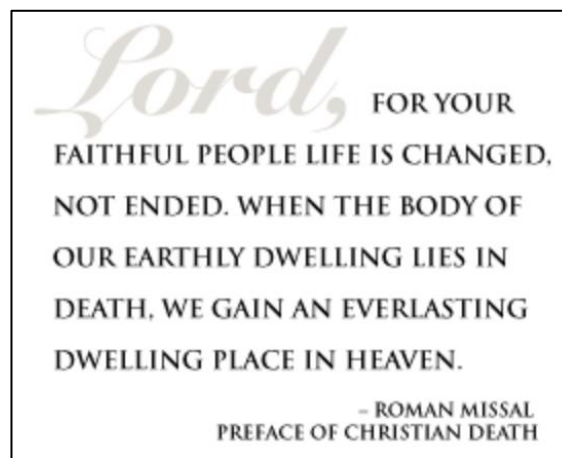
GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

*“Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough?
Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough...”*
Yeast is the “electricity” that energizes dough. Old yeast, then, could in one sense be something that we once got “a little charge out of,” but that we have come to realize no longer benefits us. What from your life journey comes to mind?

“Why do you look for the living among the dead?”
**Many of us pursue things in life that, in reality, are dead ends.
What from your life do you find yourself thinking about when considering this question?**

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

*“Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee?
...And they remembered his words.”*
This is a natural time to look back over all of Christ’s teaching and reflect on what has most guided you.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

For the brokenhearted who struggle with accepting that what once gave them life is now part of the past; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

For those who feel caught in a repeating pattern that is straining their relationships and ruining their lives; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

For all who find it hard to leave the tomb of a marriage that has ended in divorce; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

For those who can't stop thinking about the worst moments and worst choices of their life; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

For those who can't forgive... and who sit in the dungeon of resentment with the one who caused them pain; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

For the person who hides who they are, choosing untruth over the risk of rejection and abandonment; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

For those who mourn: who may have confused their attachment for the one who has died with their attachment to grief; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

For the grace to see that God makes every ending into a new beginning; we pray...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

OUR FATHER

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

CLOSING PRAYER

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:
Do you not know that
a little yeast leavens all the dough?

Clear out the old yeast,
so that you may become a fresh batch of dough,
inasmuch as you are unleavened.

For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us celebrate the feast!

...not with the old yeast,
the yeast of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

At daybreak on the first day of the week
they took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb;
but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

While they were puzzling over this, behold,
two men in dazzling garments appeared to them.

They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.

They said to them,

*“Why do you seek the living one among the dead?
He is not here, but he has been raised.
Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee?
That the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified,
and rise on the third day.”*

And they remembered his words.

Then they returned from the tomb
and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others.

The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James;
the others who accompanied them
also told this to the apostles,
but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them.

But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, bent down,
and saw the burial cloths alone;
then he went home amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ

John, chapter 20