



# The Monthly Visitor

## Catholic Community

### Of Lawrence County



Volume 2020, Issue 4

April 2020

#### A Message From Deacon Dave

*“Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me?”*

#### Contact Information

St. Vincent de Paul Parish 275-6539

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish 849-3570

Deacon Dave Reising 275-6539 278-1795

Deacon Tom 276-5062

If you know someone who has recently become infirmed or homebound please contact our parish secretary at 275-6539 so that we can add them to our visitation list.

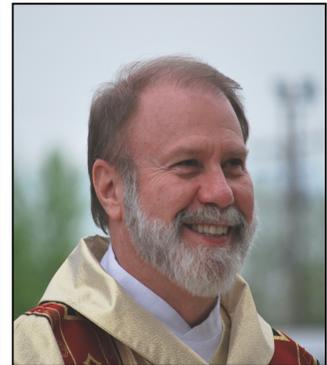
Greetings in the Lord Jesus Christ:

If you have not heard, I have some sad news to share: our good friend and shepherd Fr. Rick died on March 18, 2020. I had worked closely with him for 15 years and will miss him tremendously, like a lot of you. He touched a lot of people in a lot of different ways. He had a tendency to make you feel special when you were around him. He certainly was a people person.

Hopefully, you have seen some of the newspaper articles that have been written

about him. They all seem to say the same thing: he was a blessing to all he encountered. Fr. Rick will not only be missed by the Catholic Community of Lawrence County (CCLC) but also the whole Bedford and Mitchell communities. He was a pusher and a shover for getting things done both in our CCLC and in the Bedford and Mitchell communities at large.

Because of the state and church coronavirus-related restrictions, barring a gathering of over



Deacon Dave Reising

ten people at any one time, we have been unable to celebrate a funeral Mass for Fr. Rick. Once the coronavirus restrictions are loosened, we will be celebrating a Mass in order to celebrate his life.

However, Fr. Rick did have a committal (a gravesite service) at the burial of his body in Calvary

### **Anointing of the Sick**

The catechism says,

“The anointing of the sick is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death.

Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived”

### **Prayer Ministry**

Beginning with the Feast of Pentecost the Catholic Community of Lawrence County Prayer Ministry will be present at all weekend Masses. The Prayer Ministry will be in back of both churches making themselves available to pray for anyone who has a need. If your interested in having some members of this Prayer Ministry come to where you live, just give Deacon Dave a call at 812-278-1795, and they will set a convenient time with you.

Cemetery in Terre Haute, Fr. Rick’s hometown. There were only a very limited number of people who were present for the committal, again due to the coronavirus restrictions. On the morning of Fr. Rick’s committal, it was very quiet and extremely foggy. Fr. Dan Bedel from St. Patrick’s Church in Terre Haute was the presider at the service. He was dressed in the old fashioned priestly attire, with a long cassock which had the buttons running from his roman collar to the bottom of his cassock. He wore a simple purple stole around his neck. Fr. Bedel celebrated the committal with great reverence and sincerity since he personally knew Fr. Rick. He talked about Fr Rick being there for him in his time of need. Fr. Bedel said that if it were not for Fr. Rick, he would not have been a priest.

As he was finishing up the committal, Fr. Bedel read a paragraph from one of his favorite books that he related to Fr. Rick. He then shut the book, paused for a short period, then began to softly sing, in Latin of course, the Salve Regina, a hymn of joy for the Resurrection of Christ. It was beautiful and awe-inspiring by itself, but in the dense fog it was enchanting. Then in closing out the service Fr. Bedel offered all those present the opportunity to bless the coffin with holy water. Everyone present blessed the casket as we said our final farewells to a wonderful man and a dear friend. A man who was a caring, loving priest, but more importantly, a man of God.

May God Rest His Soul,

*Deacon Dave*



## Palm Sunday

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 26:14–27:66

*The birth of Christ brought God to humanity;  
the death of Christ brought humanity to God. —Anon.*

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*Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple, the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises,  
the simplest and the best. —Jennette Threlfall (1821-1880).*

Today is Palm Sunday. No doubt children were indeed singing — as verse 1 of the hymn “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” suggests. The little children sang! And why not? Jesus loved children. He didn’t mind that they were loud and noisy sometimes. He did not mind if they cried or fussed. I am certain that children were drawn to Jesus as iron to a magnet.

Today was no different. They waved palm branches; they danced and cavorted around the tiny donkey on which Jesus was riding, singing all the time. It was a carefree and joyful time. Jesus, of the lineage of David, was making a rare appearance in Jerusalem.

Yes, it was rare. In fact, it was remarkable. Jesus was in Jerusalem knowing that it was here that he would die. Some people might think of Jesus as a wimp. But if you read the gospels, you know that rather than wait for his enemies to find him and drag him to Jerusalem, Jesus preempted such an action by going there first.

So here he is. As he told his disciples, no one would take his life from him. He was *voluntarily* laying it down. It is a critical distinction. Had Jesus waited for his enemies to capture him, it would weaken his claim to be our Savior. People would say that he was just putting the best possible spin on the worst possible outcome.

No, Jesus gave himself for us — *freely!* And Palm Sunday made sure of it. He rode as a king into a dark network of betrayal and hostility. Jesus understood completely what was going to happen.

*“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.  
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.*

—Jennette Threlfall (1821-1880).

—Melanie Silva

*Prayer: O God, on this Palm Sunday, we shout “Hosanna” as we acknowledge the King of Kings! We are full of praise because Jesus did not flinch, but “set his face toward Jerusalem” where he knew he would lay down his life. We thank you for this gift of supreme love. Amen.*

# Activity Page

Week of April 5, 2020

## Daily Gospel Readings

**Sunday:** Matt 26:14-27:66

**Monday:** John 12:1-11

**Tuesday:** John 13:21-38

**Wednesday:** Matt 26:14-25

**Thursday:** Luke 4:16-21

**Friday:** John 18:1-19:42

**Saturday:** Matt 28:1-10

## RIDDLE

A father is 62 when his daughter is 36. How many years has it been since she was exactly one-third his age?

(answer below)

WRITE THE PROMISE ISRAEL  
MADE TO JOSHUA HERE:

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Riddle:  
23. She  
was 13,  
he was  
39.



## The Promise

Find the missing letter in each row and write it in the space provided. Then read from top to bottom to hear Israel's promise to Joshua (See Joshua 24:24 [NIV]).

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHIJKMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHIJKMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHIJKMNOPQSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFECBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 BCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPOMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
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 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONLKJIHGFDCBA \_\_\_\_\_

## Easter Sunday

Scripture Reading: Acts 10:34-43, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-9

*Our old history ends with the cross;  
our new history begins with the resurrection. —Anon.*

Today is Easter Sunday, and if you were asked what Easter is all about, you probably would have an answer.

A certain Sunday school teacher was not so sure that her students understood the meaning of Easter. So on Easter Sunday morning, she asked the children if they knew what happened on Easter and why it was so important.

One little girl spoke up saying: “Easter is when the whole family gets together, and you eat turkey and sing about the pilgrims and all that.”

“Um, no, that’s not Easter; that’s Thanksgiving Day,” said the teacher.

“I know what Easter is,” a second student responded. “Easter is when you get a tree and decorate it and give gifts to everybody and sing lots of songs.”

“Nope, that’s not it either,” replied the teacher. “You’re thinking of Christmas.”

Finally, a third student spoke up, “Easter is when Jesus was killed, and put in a tomb and left for three days.” *Ah, thank goodness! At least one of my students understands what happened on Easter!* the teacher thought to herself.

But then the student went on to say, “Then everybody gathers at the tomb and waits to see if Jesus comes out, and if he sees his shadow he has to go back inside and we have six more weeks of winter.”

Oh dear! Perhaps, the child did not understand after all! Do *we* understand Easter?

Here’s are a few things to remember about Easter:

1. The resurrection is a “guarantee” that the promises of God will be fulfilled.
2. The resurrection is a glimpse of our own future eternal state.
3. The resurrection makes possible our own new life in Christ.
4. The resurrection means that the victory of sin, death and the Devil is won.
5. The resurrection means that we have nothing to fear.
6. The resurrection means that Christ is alive. He is Risen!

This is a lot to get excited about! No wonder, Easter Sunday is the biggest, “huge-est,” most important, most sacred and revered Sunday of the church year! Easter is the hinge-point of history. When Jesus was raised from the dead, *everything* changed! Thanks be to God!

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Almighty, thank you for your power! The tomb is empty! He is risen! Amen.*

# Activity Page

Week of April 12, 2020

## Daily Gospel Readings

- Sunday:** John 20:1-9  
**Monday:** Matt 28:8-15  
**Tuesday:** John 20:11-18  
**Wednesday:** Luke 24:13-35  
**Thursday:** Luke 24:35-48  
**Friday:** John 21:1-14  
**Saturday:** Mark 16:9-15

## The Bible Code

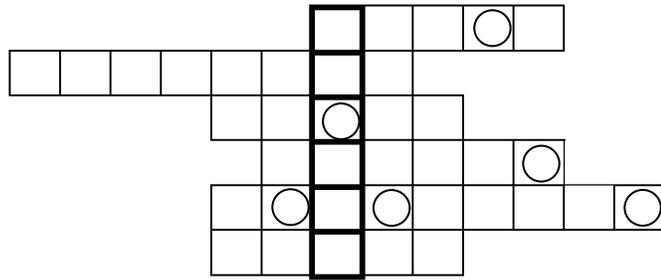
If D=A and E=B, etc., decode this advice from Joshua 1:8 (NIV):

GR QRW OHW WKLW ERRN RI WKH ODZ GHSDUW IURP BRXU  
 PRXWK; PHGLWDWH RQ LW GDB DQG QLJKW.

Write the Bible Code answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

## TODAY IS EASTER SUNDAY! Let Us Rejoice!

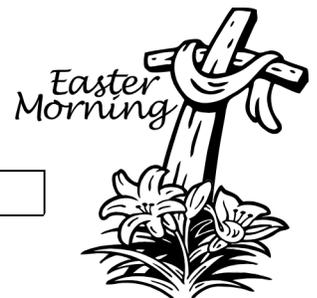
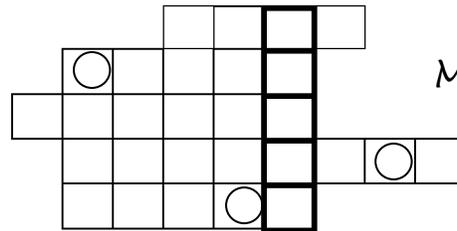
1. What Jesus was wrapped in
2. The site of the crucifixion
3. The king
4. He washed his hands of Jesus
5. Followers of Jesus
6. He denied Christ



7. A large hill
8. The feast celebrating escape from Egypt



9. Mother of Jesus
10. A teacher
11. The doubting disciple
12. Jesus was mistaken for this
13. One of Peter's names



Using the circled letters, unscramble the secret word:

\_\_\_\_\_

- Answers:**  
 1. cloth  
 2. Golgotha  
 3. Herod  
 4. Pilate  
 5. disciples  
 6. Peter  
 7. mountain  
 8. Passover  
 9. Mary  
 10. rabbi  
 11. Thomas  
 12. gardener  
 13. Simon
- Secret word:**  
 resurrection

April 19, 2020

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:42-47, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

*You have succeeded in life when all you really want  
is only what you really need. —Vernon Howard*



On a certain Sunday morning, it was time for the Prayers of the People — that time when the members of the congregation verbalized their joys and concerns. The pastor then wove the threads of thankfulness and trials into a tapestry of prayer. He called attention to the folks on the prayer list as noted in the bulletin and then asked, “Who has a joy to share?”

His question was met with not a clamor of voices but rather absolute silence. Two seconds turned into more than five, which is a lot of silence in a church service.

“Surely someone has something to be joyful for,” the pastor said. More time elapsed.

“My mother-in-law celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this past week,” someone said.

The pastor prayed for those whose names had been mentioned, and for the community at large — and then this: “O God, let us not take for granted the small joys that are ours.” Wow! He verbalized it so well I had to smile.

Why didn’t I suggest the pleasure of the aroma of coffee or the smile on the face of a child I love?

I recalled the story of a friend who related a conversation he had with his granddaughter: “In all my ten years,” the child said, “I have never had an ordinary day.”

My friend looked at me and smiled: “Isn’t that wonderful? I have never forgotten it.”

Nor have I.

—Melanie Silva

*Prayer: Help me loving God to find the extraordinary in the ordinary and grant me the grace to keep looking, especially when I don’t feel like it. Amen.*

# Activity Page

Week of April 19, 2020

## Daily Gospel Readings

Sunday: John 20:19-31

Monday: John 3:1-8

Tuesday: John 3:7-15

Wednesday: John 3:16-21

Thursday: John 3:31-36

Friday: John 6:1-15

Saturday: Mark 16:15-20

## FISHY WORDS

There's something fishy about these words. What is it?  
See answer below.

CARPET

CODES

SPIKED

SOLEMN

## RUTH

Last week, we read the book of Ruth. Let's review. It is a very moving love story. The words to the right are in the Word Search and they are all from the book of Ruth. Can you find them?

B A W O N N I W S L S Z D R V  
D E B O T B A O M H X Q A I R  
X W T Q Y R L M C X G G V O P  
N A A H A R V E S T E B I Z B  
P O V M L S L A D N A S D N B  
O G V N Z E R F I R I L S B F  
N A N O M U H V L M M K S E J  
L G O I M D L E O C F G H I J  
C L L L H L Y A M B H L O Y A  
E E H I F S N A E T F R B O D  
S A A K F B E G U G P W E P S  
N N M W X E V R R A A R M M J  
E I G D J U D A H J E E W S G  
A N X P E M Z I S T W K V H O  
W G L H V I Z N U C I T V H K



Barley, Bethlehem, Boaz, David, Elimelech, gleaning, grain, harvest, Jesse, Judah, Kilion, kinsman, Mahlon, Mara, Moab, Naomi, Obed, Orpah, Ruth, sandals, threshing, vinegar, winnow.

## RIDDLE

What is greater than God,  
more evil than the devil,  
the poor have it, the rich need it,  
and if you eat it, you'll die?

**Fish:** carp, cod, pike, sole; **Riddle:** Nothing is greater than God, and nothing is more evil than the devil. The poor have nothing, while the rich need nothing. Finally, if you eat nothing, you will die. This riddle is known as Paul Harvey's riddle.

April 26, 2020

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:14-23. 1 Peter 1:17-21, Luke 24:13-35

*Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow.  
It empties today of its strength. —Corrie Ten Boom*

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“No, I am absolutely not going up there. I don’t like heights and I don’t like the fact that the elevator goes up on an incline and the compartment is small with two small benches and did I tell you I DO NOT LIKE HEIGHTS. You go. I’ll wait here.”

These are the words of the Rev. Faith Conklin as she stood with two friends at the base of the famously gigantic St. Louis Arch. On a break from their national church gathering, her two companions were unsuccessfully trying to get Faith to join them in traveling to the top of the Arch.

It was at that very moment, Faith said later, that a man approached their small group with his young son. He was shaking his head. His manner and attitude suggested that his son was a child with special needs. He didn’t want to go to the top either. The father was trying to be encouraging. The boy was resistant.

After a brief standoff, the boy suddenly turned to Faith, grabbed her hand and said, “I’ll go if she goes.”

In Faith’s words, “What could I do? We clung to each other on the way up, hardly breathing. And then we got to the top. The view was breathtaking.”

Faith’s adventure reminded me of the times I started something reluctantly, like when I was at a conference and invited to have lunch with a table full of people I didn’t know. Then, there was the time I was asked to join the neighborhood book club. Once, friends pleaded with me to join them in a board game. In each instance, although I was initially reluctant, I had a surprisingly good time.

How many other things am I missing out on because of my reluctance to try something different?

— Melanie Silva

*Prayer: Grant me, O God, the willingness to try something new, especially when I really don’t want to. Help me to step forward in gratitude and grace with a sense of expectation and a dose of courage. Amen.*

# Activity Page

Week of April 26, 2020

## Daily Gospel Readings

**Sunday:** Luke 24:13-35

**Monday:** John 6:22-29

**Tuesday:** John 6:30-35

**Wednesday:** Matt 11:25-30

**Thursday:** John 6:44-51

**Friday:** Matt 13:54-58

**Saturday:** John 6:60-69

## INCOMPLETE COUNTRIES

**Directions:** The numbered column (1,2,3, etc.) contains a list of countries, each with the **first two and last two letters** missing. Supply the missing letters and write the country in the blank provided. Match the **country** with its scrambled **capital** found in the column to the right. Hint: **Unscramble the capitals first, and then try to find** the country with the missing letters. The first one is done for you.

COUNTRY	CAPITAL		CAPITALS
GrEEce	Athens	1. EE	TATAOW
_____	_____	2. LGI	SMAABAILD
_____	_____	3. AZ	RENB
_____	_____	4. NA	RIOAC
_____	_____	5. NMA	TREMSAMDA
_____	_____	6. Y	NESHTA
_____	_____	7. STRAL	SCARACA
_____	_____	8. RA	XECIMO IYCT
_____	_____	9. XI	ELT VIAV
_____	_____	10. THERLAN	GNEHANEOPC
_____	_____	11. RW	SLOO
_____	_____	12. KIST	SELSSBRU
_____	_____	13. RTUG	RREBAANC
_____	_____	14. ITZERLA	IALSIRAB
_____	_____	15. NEZUE	BOSINL

**Answers:**

2. Belgium (Brussels); 3. Brazil (Brasilia); 4. Canada (Ottawa); 5. Denmark (Copenhagen); 6. Egypt (Cairo); 7. Australia (Canberra); 8. Israel (Tel Aviv); 9. Mexico (Mexico City); 10. Netherlands (Amsterdam); 11. Norway (Oslo); 12. Pakistan (Islamabad); 13. Portugal (Lisbon); 14. Switzerland (Bern); 15. Venezuela (Caracas).