He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. - Jn 20:5-7
Saint Maurice Church

Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
(203) 324-3434 • parishoffice@smcglenbrook.org

Liturgical Schedule

Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:00 PM
Sunday, 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Weekday Masses: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 AM
Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:00-3:00 PM
(or by appointment)
Baptisms/Weddings: Contact Parish Office

Parish Staff

Rev. James Bates, Parochial Administrator ................. ext. 701
frbates@smcglenbrook.org

Sandra Kluun, Faith Formation & Safe Environments ..... ext. 707
skluun@smcglenbrook.org

Monica Di Costanzo, Administrative Assistant............. ext. 705
mdicostanzo@smcglenbrook.org

Tony Recchia, Facilities Manager ......................... ext. 708
trecchia@smcglenbrook.org

Neil Flores, Director of Music & Organist ................. ext. 706
nflores@smcglenbrook.org

Members of the Parish Corporation

Steve Doran ............................................. (203) 324-3434
Mary Lamonte ......................................... (203) 348-6701

Parish Finance Council

Kathryn Jimenez ............................................. (203) 324-3434

THE EASTER PRAISE OF CHRIST

We should understand, beloved, that the paschal mystery is at once old and new, transitory and eternal, corruptible and incorruptible, mortal and immortal. In terms of the Law it is old, in terms of the Word it is new. In its figure it is passing, in its grace it is eternal. It is corruptible in the sacrifice of the lamb, incorruptible in the eternal life of the Lord. It is mortal in his burial in the earth, immortal in his resurrection from the dead.

The Law indeed is old, but the Word is new. The type is transitory, but grace is eternal. The lamb was corruptible, but the Lord is incorruptible. He was slain as a lamb; he rose again as God. He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, yet he was not a sheep. He was silent as a lamb, yet he was not a lamb. The type has passed away; the reality has come. The lamb gives place to God, the sheep gives place to a man, and the man is Christ, who fills the whole of creation. The sacrifice of the lamb, the celebration of the Passover, and the prescriptions of the Law have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Under the old Law, and still more under the new dispensation, everything pointed toward him.

Both the Law and the Word came forth from Zion and Jerusalem, but now the Law has given place to the Word, the Law has given place to the new. The commandment has become grace, the type a reality. The lamb has become a Son, the sheep a man, and man, God.

The Lord, though he was God, became man. He suffered for the sake of those who suffer, he was bound for those in bonds, condemned for the guilty, buried for those who lie in the grave; but he rose from the dead, and cried aloud: Who will contend with me? Let him confront me. I have freed the condemned, brought the dead back to life, raised men from their graves. Who has anything to say against me? I, he said, am the Christ; I have destroyed death, triumphed over the enemy, trampled hell underfoot, bound the strong one, and taken men up to the heights of heaven: I am the Christ.

Come, then, all you nations of men, receive forgiveness for the sins that defile you. I am your forgiveness. I am the Passover that brings salvation. I am the lamb who was immolated for you. I am your ransom, your life, your resurrection, your light, I am your salvation and your king. I will bring you to the heights of heaven. With my own right hand I will raise you up, and I will show you the eternal Father.

—From an Easter homily by Saint Melito of Sardis, bishop (circa 180 A.D.)
**Music for the Liturgy**

**Easter Day Prelude: Dietrich Buxtehude**
Toccata in F Major, BuxWV 157
Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne in C Major, BuxWV 137

**Easter Day & Vigil Postlude: Charles-Marie Widor**
Toccata, from Symphony V

We follow a very popular format for Easter organ voluntaries by opening with a joyful Baroque selection, and ending with Widor’s Toccata, extracted from his 5th organ symphony.

The choice of Buxtehude repertoire is based on both the postlude and the processional hymn. The Toccata provides one F Major “bookend” for the Mass, and the Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne in C Major is in a closely related key which also matches the tune of EASTER HYMN—better known as “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”.

Widor’s Toccata, on the other hand, is perhaps the second most popular organ piece of all time (behind BWV 565 by J.S. Bach). It represents the origin of the French toccata form, with a rapid arpeggio motif that modulates in fifths through all 12 keys, and a powerful melody in the bass, played on the pedals. Easter is one of the extremely rare occasions that you will hear this most exuberant piece as a postlude.

—Neil Flores, Organist and Director of Music

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**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, April 3—Holy Saturday**
7:00 PM Easter Vigil—All our parishioners

**Sunday, April 4—Easter Sunday**
8:00 AM All our parishioners
10:30 AM Joe DeFilippis

**Monday, April 5**
8:00 AM Emilia Mossa

**Tuesday, April 6**
8:00 AM Theresa & Alfred Riendeau

**Wednesday, April 7**
8:00 AM All our parishioners

**Thursday, April 8**
8:00 AM The Shepherd’s Staff

**Saturday, April 10**
4:00 PM All our parishioners

**Sunday, April 11—Second Sunday of Easter**
8:00 AM James Coe
10:30 AM Mary Fahey

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**Readings for the Week of April 4, 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [5b]/Jn 20:11-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-15, 16-18, 19-21 [21a]/Mk 16:9-15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Happy Easter!  Jesus is Risen!  Alleluia!  May this day bring you all blessings of love, joy, peace and hope.

No Faith Formation Classes
There are no Faith Formation classes on Sunday, April 4 and Tuesday, April 6 due to the Easter holiday and school spring break.

Confirmation 2021
The Confirmation retreat will be held on Sunday, April 11, 2021 from 1-5 p.m. Our focus will be on the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The retreat will include Eucharistic Adoration as well as a brief rehearsal.

The date of Confirmation 2021 has been set by the Office of the Bishop. Confirmation at Saint Maurice will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

Sunday Reading and Background: John 20:1-9
In today’s Gospel, Mary of Magdala, upon seeing that the stone had been removed from the tomb, ran to Simon Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved. She told them that the Lord had been taken from the tomb. Peter and the other disciple ran to see for themselves. The burial cloths were there, but the body of Jesus was gone. John's account makes it clear that Mary Magdalene was the first witness to the empty tomb. Like Peter and John, she did not at first understand that Jesus had risen from the dead.

In a time when women were not allowed to testify in a court of law, Jesus chose a woman to be the first witness to the empty tomb and to himself risen from the dead. The very next passage in John’s Gospel tells us how Mary Magdalene meets the risen Jesus, and how he sends her to announce to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord" (John 20:18).

For reflection and discussion: Why do you think Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John did not at first know what to make of the empty tomb? Name some of the things this reading reveals to you about these three disciples.

Like the first disciples, we are not always completely fearless and faithful witnesses to the Risen Christ. But he has chosen us just the same! Name one quality or skill you can use to help others experience the joy of following Jesus Christ.

Meet an April Saint—Saint Gregory XIII, pope
Born: January 7, 1502; Died: April 10, 1585
Feast Day: April 10

What the world was like
Pope Gregory XIII lived at the time of the Renaissance. During this time there was a resurgence of learning, affecting philosophical thought, science, and art. Leonardo da Vinci painted the Last Supper and the Mona Lisa; Michelangelo painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel and sculpted the Pietà. Pope Gregory XIII lived during a time of great exploration of the world. Vasco de Gama discovered a sea route to India; Magellan's expedition circumnavigated the world; Ponce de Leon discovered Florida; Francis Drake circled the world and claimed California for England. Martin Luther started the Protestant Reformation. Henry VIII renounced the Catholic Church and began the Anglican Church of England. The spinning wheel improved the production of fabrics.

Who he was
Ugo Buoncompagni was born in Bologna, Italy. He studied law. After he graduated, he taught law for many years. The pope made him a cardinal and sent him to attend the Council of Trent, a meeting in which Catholic rules were explained and revised. Later, the pope sent him to Spain to serve as an adviser to the king.

In 1572, he became pope and took the name Gregory XIII. He was able to deal with problems in the church because he was very intelligent and adept at working with people. He worked very hard to make the Church better and to follow the rules set at the Council of Trent.

Pope Gregory XIII worked closely with the Jesuit order of priests. He sent them on many missions to teach others about the Catholic faith. He also started many seminaries for training priests.

Pope Gregory XIII created the Gregorian calendar, the calendar we use today. The old calendar was too long and did not match with the seasons of the year and the cycles of the moon. This caused the date of Easter to be too early in the year.

What this saint means to us today
The Gregorian calendar, created by Pope Gregory XIII, is still in use today. The Jesuits are priests, teachers, and missionaries and have established many schools, universities and places of learning throughout the world.
Online Giving

Online Giving is a safe, secure, and easy way for you to make your weekly offertory and special collections and contributions in support of our Parish. The service is easy to set up and manage. To sign up, visit our Parish website and click on the Online Giving logo located on the main page. Thank you for your consideration.

Online Giving is also available as an app for Apple and Android devices. Scan the QR code to the right and enter Church ID 1376 when you register.

Parish Offering

Week of March 28, 2021

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<tr>
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<tr>
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Thank you for your continued and generous support and for your consideration in participating in online giving! May God bless you in your care and concern for the financial wellness of Saint Maurice Parish.

From the Diocese of Bridgeport

A Call for Renewal

The Diocese has launched the “Call to Renewal” website to serve as a guide to the Year of St. Joseph and overall renewal efforts. The website is designed to provide information related to the spiritual and pastoral renewal of the diocese as called for in Bishop Caggiano’s Pastoral Exhortation, “Let us Enter the Upper Room with the Lord.”

The website includes updates on the Year of St. Joseph, the Diocesan Ambassadors Program, opportunities for Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration, and more. “I pray that you will find these resources helpful as we seek to renew our Church in Fairfield County,” said the bishop. For additional information please check out the Diocese of Bridgeport website.

www.bridgeportdiocese.org/call-to-renewal/welcome/

Bereavement Group for the Widowed

A support group for women and men who have lost a spouse or significant other. The meetings are held in Doran Hall. For detailed information, including dates and times, contact Donna Hughes at (203) 595-0603 or donnahuz@aol.com.

In your prayers...

Remember the men and women in the Armed Forces and all who protect us and put themselves in harm’s way on our behalf; may they be shielded from danger; and for their families and loved ones. In particular, Andrew Anderson, Christopher Blasius, Nick Carella, Ian Francis, Samantha Krom, Christian Legaspe, Steven Nolan, and Dylan Schneider.

Important Notice for All Volunteers—Virtus

Continuing Education on abuse prevention is critical in maintaining Safe Environments into the future. The Diocese of Bridgeport Office of Safe Environments has issued “a newly revised Policy and Procedures Relating to Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons or by Lay Employees or Volunteers.” This policy is contained within the 2020 Safe Environments Handbook. All volunteers, especially those who will be returning to parish ministry, are required to review the revised handbook, found on your Virtus account profile. Following the review, the “2020 Safe Environments Handbook Executive Summary for Lay Volunteers” must be signed and submitted to Sandra Kluun, Coordinator.

Prayers for the Sick

**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

Who are you? This question was most assuredly asked of Jesus on the day of resurrection and it is a question asked of each of us. Our identities can be described in so many ways. We can start with our gifts and our talents, expertise and unique personality expressions. We can describe things we like and things we prefer to set aside. As descriptive and captivating as these can be, none come close to our essence, our real and true self. While accurate in their own right, the self who lives and interacts with the world is the self we want others to see, the one we project. But there is much more to us just as there is much more to Jesus.

Jesus could describe himself based on all of the same criteria we use for ourselves. After all, Jesus is totally human. With all that people witnessed and all that Jesus knew about his physical human self, his divinity also shined forth. There was so much more to know about him. Whereas once Jesus was transfigured on top of a mountain before his disciples’ eyes, so today he is transfigured before our eyes as he reveals his resurrected self as the Christ. Alleluia, Christ is risen! His glorified presence stands before us showing us that we are all much more than we see ourselves to be and show to others. We have a depth, purpose, and essence that go way beyond the superficial treasures of our existence to the very core of who we are.

Within each one of us is a spark of Divine Love where creature and Creator meet, and we are known uniquely by the name God whispers to us. It is not the earthly name that was given to us but the one that flows from Divine Power and claims us as one who is special and chosen in God’s eyes. This is the self that will rise one day with the eternal Christ of God and live eternally as God provides. This is the self that when free from all superficial constraints layered upon it in this life can discover and know freedom in a way never possible before. This is love lifting us up and transforming us into who we really are, not who we want or need ourselves to be. Who are you? A special, unique child of God who has been fashioned in God’s image, sustained by the power of God’s love and kept eternally with the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Get to know this deeper, truer self as it is who you really are.

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**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

**A Happy Ending Isn’t the Whole Story**

“Is there a happy ending?” When my kids were young, we never made it past the first whiff of any narrative tension before I got this question. As soon as whatever princess or furry woodland animal was the hero of the story got into any small scrape, they wanted that reassurance, “Is there a happy ending?”

I can’t say I blame them. Don’t we all feel that way sometimes? We enter into a relationship with someone or some situation, and we just want to protect ourselves. We want to know it’s not going to go badly—or, if it does, that we will be able to come back from it. It’s a human instinct, a reflex. Our inclination to protect ourselves makes it so that we sometimes want to press fast-forward on the bad stuff and skip straight ahead to the happily-ever-after.

Easter is the ultimate happy ending. It’s the day of miracles. The day when all the stones roll away and all the sins are forgiven. It’s the day that puts everything right. But if we learned anything from this week — from the Passion and death of the Lord — it’s that we can’t press fast-forward on the hardships of life. That tension, that loss, that fear — it’s crucial, isn’t it? As Catholics, we are who we are because of Easter. But Easter doesn’t happen without Good Friday.

So, does the story of salvation have a happy ending? We know it does. But we also remember that the ending isn’t all that matters.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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**COVID-19 POLICIES**

**COME JOIN US...NO SEAT RESERVATIONS NEEDED!**

Online and call-in reservations are no longer necessary to attend regular weekend Masses.

As we have been doing since June 2020, you will arrive and sit in a pew marked with yellow tape. Once all marked spaces are occupied, the greeter will inform you that the church is full. Please do all that is possible to either shift to the middle of the pew or allow someone who needs a seat to enter your pew.

Please be patient with greeters and ushers who will help get you seated in a safe manner. Masks, hand-sanitizing, and social distancing are still required.

As the pandemic continues, these guidelines may be subject to change. Visit www.diobpt.org and click the Coronavirus banner at the top to see the latest information and updates for the Diocese of Bridgeport.