

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



APRIL 28, 2019



**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

10688 Shadow Wood Drive | Houston Texas 77043 | p. 713 467 8170 | f. 713 467 7149 | stcatherine-houston.org



Second Sunday of Easter

Dear Friends,

A special welcome to Fr. Brian Eilers who will be your presider at all the Masses here this weekend. Fr. Brian serves at St. Mary's Seminary as a formation director where he helps young men get ready to be ordained priests. On weekends he assists in parishes around the Archdiocese. He grew up in Fredericksburg, Texas, and went to Texas A&M where he began considering the call to the priesthood. He was ordained 15 years ago for the diocese of Austin where he served in several parishes before joining the formation faculty at St. Mary's six years ago.

I am, as you can imagine, more than thankful to him for helping out. It allows me to take a break after all the celebrations of Easter and to escape across the pond to, hopefully what will be, pollen-free air and cooler weather – hope springs eternal! I will be joining the latest sibling, one of my sisters, who has just come of age; she has hit the great 65th birthday mark, and I will be helping her celebrate this momentous occasion (and my birthday too) in Florence, Italy, along with a side trip to where else but Siena! The birthday person always gets to choose the celebration destination, and the rest of us just “suffer in silence” (ha, ha!). I firmly believe it is important to do these things while you can; we are not getting younger (well, most of us anyway!), and who knows what will go “bump” in the night!

As a consequence, there will be no daily Mass this coming week, so I suggest you check out the local parishes and come back with lots of good ideas for St. Catherine of Siena parish. Please take note of the office hours which are on the calendar across the page in the bulletin, and they are on-line on our parish webpage. If there is an urgent need, please e-mail Janie, Betty or me (I will check my emails, but there will be a few hours delay), and we will point you in the right direction. I will be back for next weekend, so no fretting or wailing or gnashing of teeth, please!

The Easter Flower Donation list is published in this bulletin. We have done our best to make sure everyone's name (the people in whose honor the donation was made) is spelled correctly, but every now and then, we encounter some very challenging penmanship, some of which looks as if it is encrypted.

Enjoy your Easter Week, and I will see you next weekend. God bless,

Fr. Niall

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:30 AM and 11:15 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday - Friday, 12:15 PM

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 PM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
10:00 AM-4:00 PM



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Seeing is Believing

Seeing is believing! Since cellphone screens connect us instantly to social media, live TV, and loved ones' faces near and far, "Doubting Thomas" could be our patron saint: "Unless I see, I will not believe!" But how comforting for any of us who share Thomas's doubt, or love "doubters" who do, to see how kindly Jesus responds. By offering the very evidence that Thomas demanded, Jesus doesn't scold Thomas, but seems to understand such skepticism. Could Jesus have been thinking of us, who long to believe that "Jesus is risen!" but see so much suffering, and perhaps even cause some, that we wonder, how could something so wonderful be true? In today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the risen Jesus' healing love comforts through disciples who love others. In Revelation, "our brother John" doesn't just claim he saw Jesus alive, but passes on Jesus' life-giving words, "Do not be afraid." Seeing Jesus in others is believing!



Treasures From Our Tradition

An ancient title for this Sunday is *Dominica in Albis*, or "Sunday in White." During the Easter Vigil, the newly baptized are invested with a white garment, a sign that they have put on Christ. At one time, the garments were worn for a full week of celebration and reflection, and on this Sunday the newly baptized would appear in their robes again in their new place among the faithful for Eucharist.

In later centuries, the energy of new life at Easter was largely forgotten, and this Sunday was renamed "Quasimodo Sunday," or "Low Sunday." In recent years, with the recovery of the insight that Easter is the privileged time for celebrating and renewing baptism, there is nothing "Low" about this Sunday. At a week's distance, the beauty and grace of our Easter celebration is sustained by joyful alleluias, the blessing and sprinkling of holy water, and the comfort of the Lord's presence to us. He is risen, and he summons us together, opening up the scriptures for us, breaking the bread, filling us with new life.

PARISH CALENDAR

For Full Calendar Visit
stcatherine-houston.org

Second Sunday of Easter

- SAT 27** **5:00 PM Sunday Vigil Mass**
Home Missions Collection (2nd Collection)
- SUN 28** **8:30 AM Sunday Mass**
11:15 AM Sunday Mass
Home Missions Collection (2nd Collection)
- MON 29** OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- TUES 30** **No Weekday Mass**
OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- WED 1** **No Weekday Mass**
OFFICE HOURS: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- THURS 2** **No Weekday Mass**
OFFICE CLOSED
- FRI 3** **No Weekday Mass**
OFFICE CLOSED

Third Sunday of Easter

- SAT 4** **5:00 PM Vigil Mass**
Mission of Yahweh Food Collection
- SUN 5** **8:30 AM Sunday Mass**
11:15 AM Sunday Mass
Mission of Yahweh Food Collection

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