# The Great Vigil of Easter



St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Dublin, Ohio

6:30 p.m.

# The Great Vigil of Easter

## The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

In the darkness, fire is kindled;

#### The Celebrant says

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

#### Let us pray.

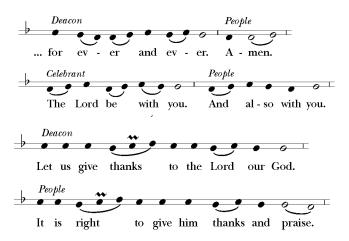
O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon or Celebrant bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the parish hall, pausing three times and singing



#### Then Exultet is sung until this ending...

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,



#### Leader

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and

voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave. How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns ...



The people sit.

# The Liturgy of the Word

The Celebrant may introduce the Scripture readings in these words

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

# The Story of Creation

Poem by James Weldon Johnson Read by Evelyn Emerson Slideshow by Dianne Clay

**Hymn** *LEVAS II* 217 "He's got the whole world in His hands" Let us pray. (Silence)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

#### Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-15:1

Read by Doug Pittsenbarger and Dick Gehman

Slideshow by Jennifer Bell

# **Hymn 648** "Let my people go"

Let us pray. (Silence)

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

#### A New Heart and a New Spirit

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Read by Kenyra Glasgow

American Sign Language by Jennifer Bell

# Hymn 679 "The First Song of Isaiah"

Let us pray. (Silence)

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who are reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

# The Valley of Dry Bones

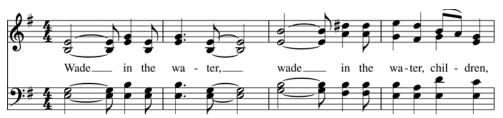
Ezekiel 37:1-14

Sound Collage by Jason Emerson

Let us pray. (Silence)

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Processional Hymn to Baptismal Font LEVAS II 143 "Wade in the Water"





Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spirutual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*. Arr. Copyright © 1992 Carl Haywood.

The Celebrant may first address the people in these or similar words

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, let us join with those being baptized and renew our the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

#### Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Celebrant says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Infants and Younger Children

The candidates unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Parents and Godparents, as follows

Parents and Godparents

I present *Ila and Mabel* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents Will you be responsible for seeing that these children you present are brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help these children to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel

against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy

the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their

life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

# **The Baptismal Covenant**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking

of bread, and in the prayers?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent

and return to the Lord?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as your-

self?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the

dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

## **Prayers for the Candidates**

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their heart to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

# The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen*.

# Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and

was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*.

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop or Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen*.

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen*.

Or this action may be done immediately after the administration of the water and before the preceding prayer.

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says Let us welcome the newly baptized.

## Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The congregation now silently moves into the Sanctuary for the first Eucharist of Easter.

### At the Eucharist

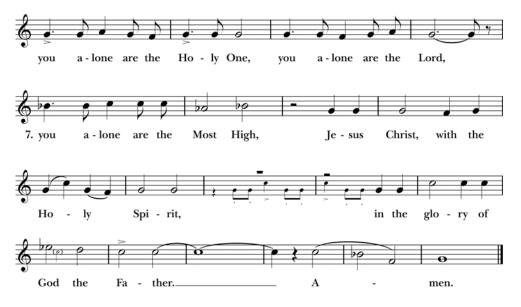
The candles at the Altar are lighted from the Paschal Candle.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

#### Gloria in excelsis





Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

#### The Collect

The Celebrant then says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

The people sit.

#### Psalm 114

- 1 Hallelujah!
  - When Israel came out of Egypt, \* the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary \* and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; \* Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, \* and the little hills like young sheep.

- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \* O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \* you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \* at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \* and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

# A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

# Gradual Hymn The Great Alleluia

After the Epistle, this Alleluia is traditionally sung three times by the Celebrant or by a Cantor, at successively higher pitches (one whole tone each time), the Congregation repeating it each time.



## Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell

his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### The Sermon

# **Prayers of the People**

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Father, we pray for your holy

Catholic Church;

*People* That we all may be one.

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People That your Name may be glorified by all people.

*Leader* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People* That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*People* That our works may find favor in your sight.

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*People* That they may be delivered from their distress.

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest;
People Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; People May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. (Silence)

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully

accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

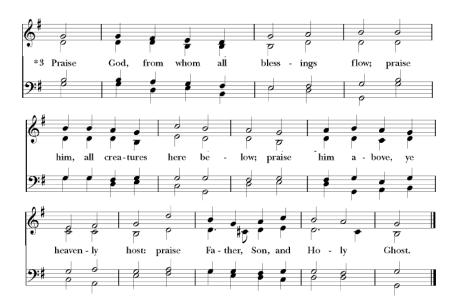
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

# Offertory Hymn 187 "Through the Red Sea brought at last"

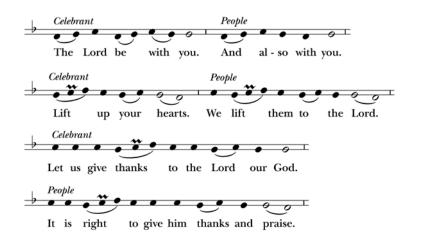
Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings forward. The people stand while the offerings are being presented and placed on the Altar. The Doxology is sung as the offerings are brought forward:



# The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, faces them and sings

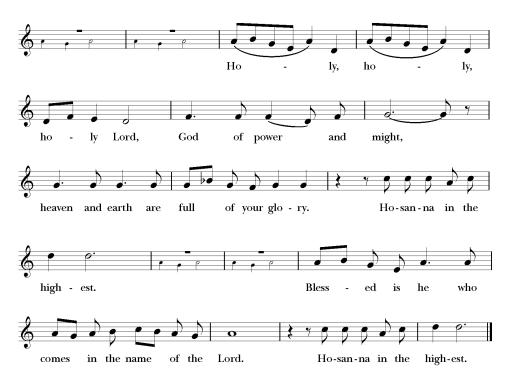


Then facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,



#### Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one

of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People
We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

#### The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Patrick and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All persons are invited to the Altar. If you choose to receive communion, you may do so in one of the following ways:

- Consume the bread first and then sip from the cup.
- Intinction is strongly discouraged however if you choose to intinct, please simply leave the wafer in your hands. The chalice bearer will dip the wafer for you then hand it back to you.
- Communion in one kind, or both, is acceptable. If you prefer to not receive the wine, you may proceed to your seat after receiving the bread.
- If you would like to receive a blessing only, please cross your hands over your chest as a signal to the ministers.
- If you want a gluten free wafer, please place your palms down when you approach the ministers.

Communion Hymns 174 "At the Lamb's high feast"
186 "Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands"

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Blessing

The Priest blesses the people.

Recessional Hymn 208 "The strife is o'er"

The Deacon, or the Celebrant dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

**Postlude** 

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Robert Buckley Farlee

#### 6:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Service

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Jason Emerson Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jason Emerson

Lay Reader: Steve Norris Lector: Doug Pittsenbarger Crucifer: Isaac Emerson

Torch Bearers: Abby Dufort, Lila Dufort

Ushers: Becky Stains, Bob Butler

# Easter Sunday, March 31st

Holy Eucharist: 8:00, 9:30\* & 11:30\* a.m. (\* indicates nursery will be available)

Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 a.m. (between the 9:30 and 11:30 services)

The church office will be closed on Monday, April 1st.

#### THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD...

In loving memory of Eleanor, Edward, & Toby Borneman, Mary Jane & Tom Semans, Sr. and Tom Alvich. *Ann & Tom Semans* 

In memory of my stepdaughter, Martha Kaser. Betty & Bill Lyle

In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren. Jeffrey & Susan Jack

In loving memory of Bruce F. Haney. Nancy Haney

In thanksgiving for our St. Patrick's family. Jeff & Phyllis Beuter

In memory of our grandparents Sam, Doris, Roger, Dottie, Bud & Vivian and in thanksgiving for our families. *Matt & Tawnya Lewis* 

In loving memory of Ronald Shubert and in thanksgiving for my children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren and all the many blessings given to me. *Carolyn Shubert* 

In loving memory of Kathy Mambourg and with thanksgiving for John, Amanda, Luke, Zach, & Nick. *Gregg Mambourg* 

In loving memory of Andy Johnson & Nancy Harris. Glenda Johnson

In memory of Dick Walker, parents, family and friends. Rose, Rick & Robyn

In thanksgiving for friendships and fond memories here at St. Pat's. Rose Walker

In thanksgiving for our family and in memory of our parents, Richard & Clara Barker and Duncan & Marie Dawson. *Rov & Lissa Barker* 

In thanksgiving for family & friends. Charlie & Mary Horton

In memory of our parents: Duane & Bonnie Redman, Ed & Margaret Fox. Tim & Jan Redman

In loving memory of Harry & Sue Yuhas; Peter, Mary & Mary Lyn Borsellino. Ed & Jo Yuhas

In memory of our moms, Paula Ennis & Sherrie Tobias. Ron & Tara Gleason

In memory of Alice & Owen Carty and Mary & John Siemer. Molly & Tim Carty

In memory of my husband. Anne Elliott

In memory of Melvin, Frieda, & Corita Bauldoff. Gerene Bauldoff

In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life. Val & Doug Pittsenbarger

In memory of John S. Stains. Becky, Betsy, & John Stains and families

In memory of Martha, Chuck, & Rob Switzer. Jane Switzer

In loving memory of Anton & Tasia Coury, Frederick & Mary Coury, and Robert L. Sicker, Sr. Rick & Tasia Sicker

In memory of Dick Loveland. Catherine Loveland

# **Upcoming Events**

Adult Forum is on hiatus until 3/14. Join us in an exploration of Celtic spirituality, an ancient yet newly relevant approach to the Christian faith. We will look together at the treasures of ancient Scottish and Irish wisdom that views the soul, the feminine, the imagination, and the earth as sacred. All living things are seen as being in communion and everything as connected to a loving God. Our series will end with pictures and stories from congregants who will journey early this Spring to the holy western Scottish Isle of Iona, a cradle of Celtic spirituality. We will meet on Zoom at noon April 14- May 5. Let's grow deeper together in our faith and practices!

Greetings from your Kairos Prison Mission team! It is a very busy time of the year again, and much for each of us to be thankful for. One of the special ways we all can go into prison together is by prayers and cookies. We are able to give every "resident" behind the walls cookies, look them in the eye and tell them God loves them. Yes, it is a small thing, but small gifts of love add up. If you would consider baking, any kind of cookie is greatly accepted, but if you don't use frosting or sprinkles, the prison will appreciate it. One dozen/ bag please. Thank you from those who cannot say thank you themselves. I will put a box in the lobby, if you could have them all ready by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you! *Bill Fairweather* 

**EPISCOPAL NIGHT AT THE SYMPHONY** returns on Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at the Ohio Theatre featuring *The Columbus Symphony Orchestra & Chorus* "Mozart's Mass in C minor." Check Symphony's website for details. Ticket prices are **\$60 per person** and include food and beverages beginning at 5:30pm with a reception, as well as prime orchestra seating for the concert which begins at 7:30pm. See the April Newsletter and Happenings for registration details.

Father Jason will be on vacation next week, April 1-3.

**Next Way of Love Dinner will be held on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6:30 pm.** We'll gather at 6:30 to eat for about 20 minutes, then there will be a short clergy talk about one of the practices of the Way of Love—this month is Go. Then we'll have small group discussions around our tables led by our Table Facilitators. To help us plan for food, please RSVP by Mon., April 1<sup>st</sup>!

VBS 2024 Crew - We Need YOU! It's time to start preparations for Vacation Bible School, and we need all hands on deck to make this one of the best years yet! Whether you want to work with kids directly, or find your skill set is best behind the scenes in organizing/preparing, we can use your help. Please sign the form in the back of the Narthex or you can email Eryn Kindelin!

**You are invited!** We are co-hosting with TASO (the Turkish American Society of Ohio) an Iftar dinner on April 6th. An Iftar Dinner is the tradition breaking of the daily fast in the season of Ramadan for Muslims. So come around sundown on April 6th and enjoy some fantastic Turkish food, learn about the meaning of prayer and meditation in both Christianity and Islam, and grow in fellowship with our interfaith partners.

**Save the Date!** Spring Garage Sale: It's time to start saving your treasures to donate for our Spring Garage Sale! The Spring Sale will be May 3-4, with donation drop-offs from April 27-29. We will be needing many volunteers from April 27 - May 4, as well. So please check your calendars and consider marking off time to volunteer that week!