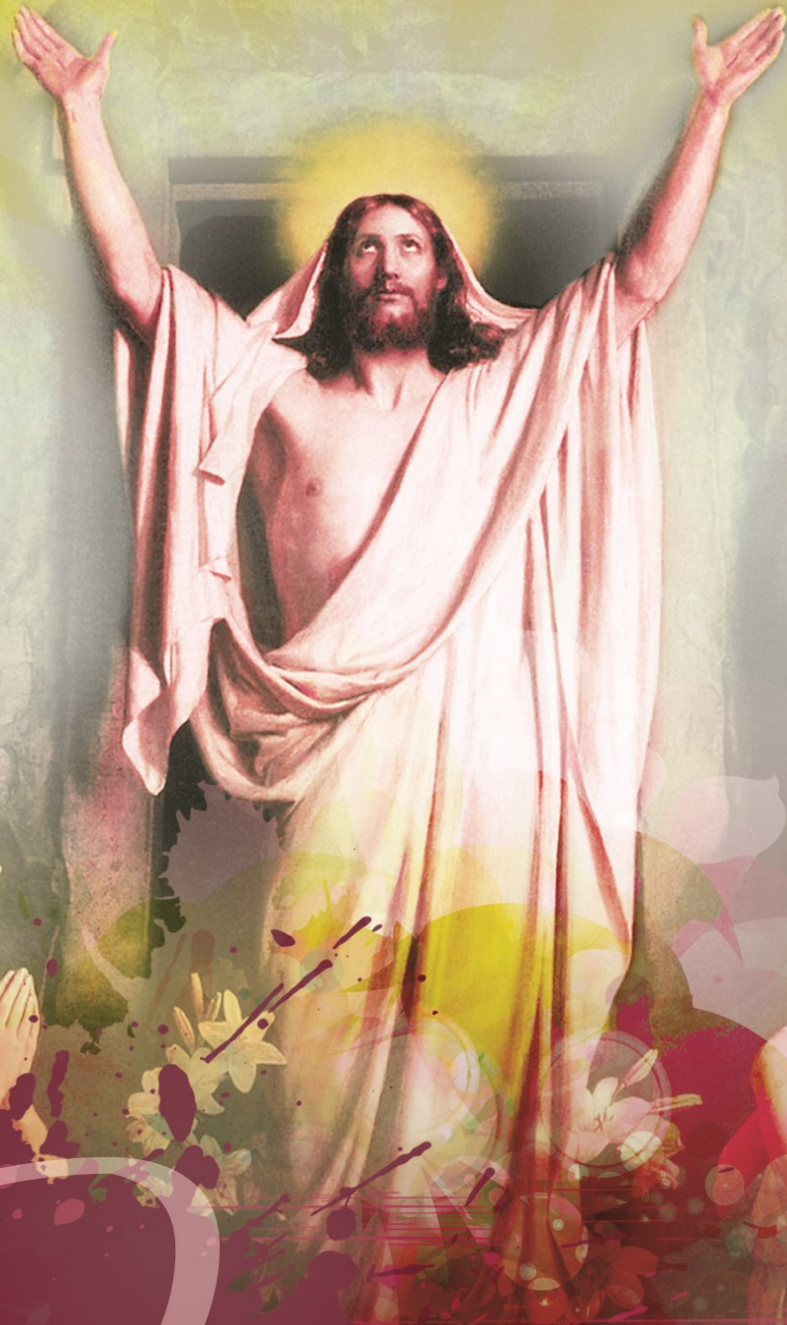


E A S T E R S U N D A Y



THE

Resurrection

MARCH 31, 2024



**Our Lady
Star of the Sea**

Roman Catholic Community
in the Diocese of Bridgeport



*This week the Sanctuary Candle
burns for Continual Blessings over
Deirdre Broderick (living).*



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, March 30 HOLY SATURDAY

12:00pm Blessing of the Food

5:30pm NO MASS

7:00pm All Parishioners

SUNDAY, March 31 EASTER SUNDAY

7:30am Special Intention

9:00am Katie Watt Lavin (req. by A.C. & Michael)

11:00am All Parishioners

MONDAY, April 1

8:00am Rita Maguire (req. by Grainne Keogh)

TUESDAY, April 2

8:00am Secial Intention

WEDNESDAY, April 3

8:00am William D. Rimmer

THURSDAY, April 4

8:00am Patrick Glynn (req. by the Garra's)

FRIDAY, April 5

8:00am Special Intention

SATURDAY, April 6

5:30pm Joyce Saboliauskas (req. by the Grady family)

SUNDAY, April 7 Divine Mercy Sunday

9:00am Maria Cabello Melgarejo

11:00am Carol Farrell (req. by Iwaszkiewicz family)

WEEKLY COLLECTION:



This Year 03/24/24 \$
Not available at time of printing

Last Year 03/26/23 \$ 5,143;

MINISTRIES

Fellowship - Deb Harrington olssfellowship@gmail.com
Outreach - Meg Broderick olssoutreachministry@gmail.com
Spirituality - Marikay Willson olssspirituality.ministry@gmail.com
Youth - Valerie Vincent olssparishyouthministry@gmail.com
Music - Michael Alderman olssmusicdirector@gmail.com
Parish Office olssparishoffice@gmail.com

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
OURLADYSTAROF THESEASTAMFORD.ORG



There are many stones in our paths that keep us from truly living and being free. Some of these boulders have been there for a very long time. They have been there so long that they have even settled into the soil of our lives with other weeds, vines, and compacted soil keeping them firmly in place. We find them hard to move and trying to do so can be exhausting. What are these suffocating albatrosses that keep us so tethered and immobile? They are many things.

They are past childhood wounds and hurts that stem from disappointment, rejection, or abuse. People may have told us we were unwanted, that the world is frightening, that there are only some acceptable feelings you can have and others you cannot. We may have tried to love someone or struggled to figure out how and were met with rejection. Maybe we trusted someone completely and were betrayed. We come to life collecting barnacles that begin to attach to other barnacles and before you know it, we have a mass of solid matter blocking our vision and keeping us from moving. We live in fear. We are afraid of losing what we have, afraid that the future will be empty, afraid that we won't succeed and even more afraid that we will not be loved. There is so much fear. Didn't Jesus tell us not to worry and to not be afraid? Either we believe in the message of Easter, or we don't!

Go confidently into the night. Walking with God you will find the light and strength you need. Often without even knowing, God will move those boulders and stumbling blocks that bind us and, with putting one foot in front of the other and looking forward, we will move. The resurrection of Christ is really all about receiving the gifts of trust and faith and doing new things. The rocks that bind us keep us spinning the same wheels and doing the same things. When was the last time you threw caution to the wind and actually did something totally out of character and different? This is where we find God, in the spontaneous, the adventurous, the fun, and the creative choices we make! God is not boring and stuck. God is exciting and engaging. Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! Find a way to trust that this is true and live. ©LPI

Easter Liturgies

In addition to bright colors and spiffy outfits among the congregation, Easter liturgies feature some noticeable changes from those that take place during ordinary time. The color of the priest's vestments is white (or gold), a break from the purple worn during Lent. The most noticeable changes include the return of singing both the Gloria and Alleluia (before the Gospel), both of which are not part of Lenten liturgies. The Sprinkling Rite is another change. The presider sprinkles holy water throughout the congregation, often using a small stick-like item known as an aspergillum. This replaces the Act of Penitence during the Mass and reminds us of our baptismal vows. Finally, worshippers may notice a small change in the language used during the prayers of the faithful. Sometimes, prayers will use "We pray to the *risen* Lord" as a nod to the Easter season. In general, prayers during Easter are especially celebratory.

The Easter Season

You will not find Easter candy or decorations for sale at the supermarket much past Easter Sunday. While the secular world moves on from bunnies and chocolate, the Church continues to celebrate Easter long after the final ham leftovers are eaten. The Easter season is the second-longest liturgical season. Only ordinary time is longer. The Church celebrates the Easter season (also known as "Eastertide") for 50 days, culminating with the feast of Pentecost, where Scripture (Acts 2:1-31) tells us that the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles. Divine Mercy Sunday and the Ascension, a holy day of obligation, take place during the Easter season.

Leave It in the Tomb

If you want to be raised with Christ, you'd better be ready to step out of the shadows. Seek what is above — not what is on earth.

I can feel myself responding almost reflexively, "Great idea, — but I'm pretty comfy here." Because sometimes, it's just easier to stay in the tomb. It's easier to crouch in the shadows and look outward at everyone else, thinking of the changes they could make or the sins they could overcome.

Today we are called to embrace newness. New hearts, new lives, new futures, new chances. If there's anything keeping you from that, you need to **leave it in the tomb**. It's a little scary, sure — maybe Jesus thought so before he stepped into the light of that first Easter morning. But no loaf of bread worth eating was ever baked using stale yeast that wouldn't rise. No new life worth having was ever lived through the broken sins of yesterday. No Easter morning ever dawned without the tomb sitting empty.

STEP INTO THE LIGHT. HE IS WAITING FOR YOU.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, April 5 8:30am—noon

Sign up is in the back of the church or just stop by and spend quiet time with our Lord.

DIVINE MERCY

SUNDAY 4/7/24

3:00PM



On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the Canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter be called "Divine Mercy Sunday."

St. Faustina was a Polish nun who received visions from Jesus, including one of Jesus wearing a white garment with beams of red and white coming from His heart, which came to be known as the image of Divine Mercy. According to the vision, those who receive communion and attend confession on the Feast of Mercy receive total forgiveness of sins.

Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified."

A Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and offer a prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father) may be obtained by the faithful on this day.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

HOLY SATURDAY - MARCH 30

12:00 PM - BLESSING OF THE FOOD

7:00 PM - VIGIL MASS OF EASTER

(NO 5:30PM MASS)

EASTER SUNDAY - MARCH 31

7:30 AM - MASS

9:00 AM - MASS

11:00 AM - MASS

