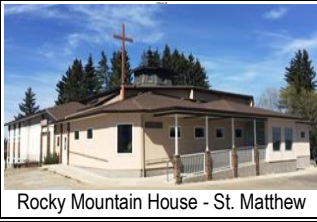


April 12, 2020 – EASTER SUNDAY (A)



Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew

ST. MATTHEW PARISH AND MISSIONS

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church
Caroline - St. Joseph the Workman Church
Evergreen - Jesuit Martyrs Church



Evergreen - Jesuit Martyrs



Caroline - St. Joseph

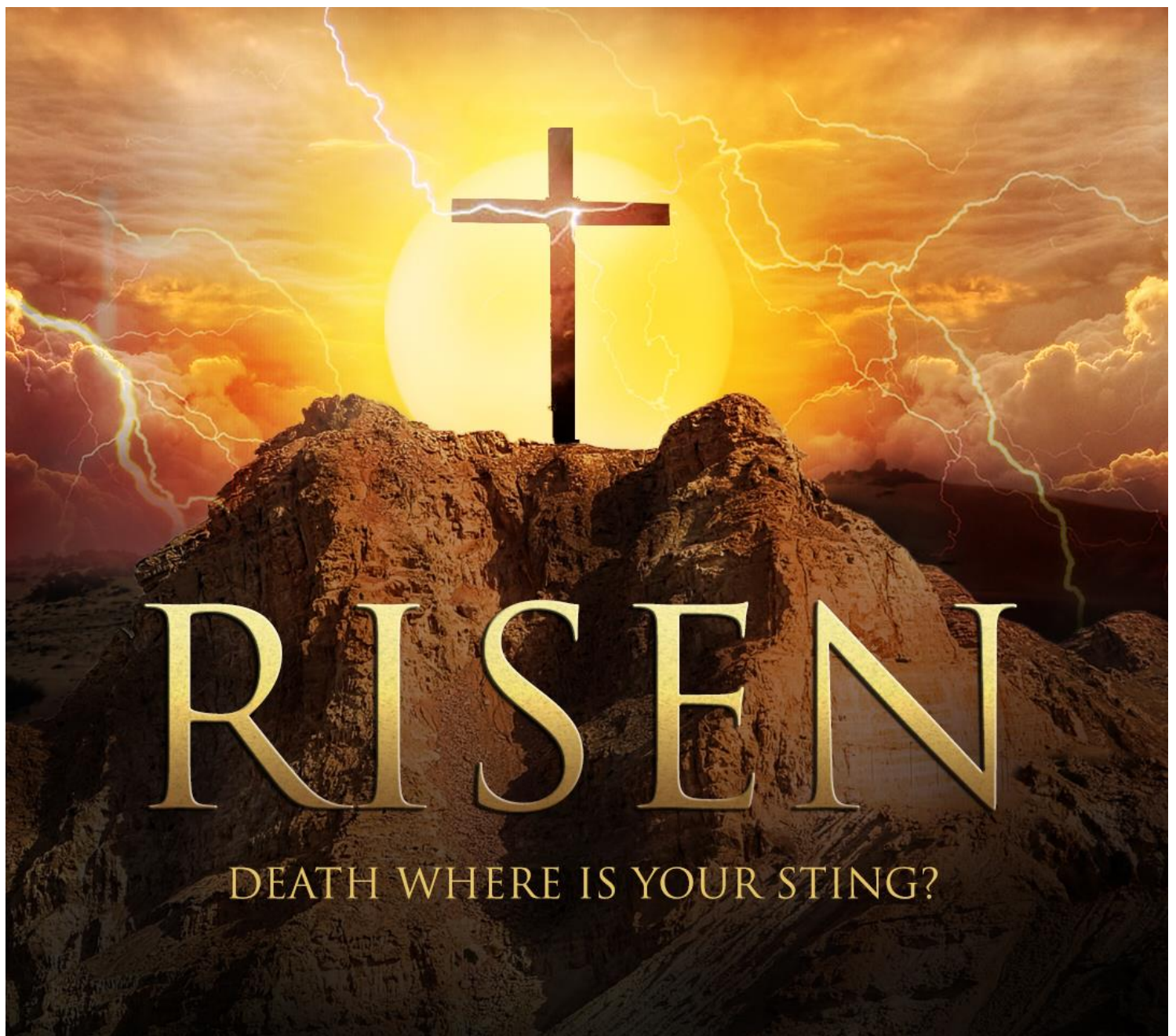


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INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE SUNDAY

*Acts 10:34a, 37-43 * Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 * John 20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10*

We demonstrate our belief in the empty tomb by the way we live our faith. Peter and the beloved disciple rush to the tomb and believe. We rush toward many things in our busy lives – does our rushing around include paying attention to how God is working in our lives, and speaking to us? We show we believe the tomb is empty by the way we live our faith. ♦ **Peter** speaks to his listeners about *what has happened all over Judea* – the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. **Paul** tells the Colossians they have been raised with Jesus and therefore need to seek *what is above*. **In the Gospel**, Mary of Magdala brings the news of the empty tomb to Simon Peter and *the other disciple whom Jesus loved*. Peter and the beloved disciple rush to the tomb.



May Easter's glory be with each one of you! Have a Blessed Easter!

Happy Easter! Let us surrender our hearts and our wills to our loving God, who offers us new life on earth and in heaven. The good news we celebrate today is the fact that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. In two thousand years, no scientific expedition has been able to discover the mortal remains of Jesus Christ. That is because his tomb is empty and there is no body to be found. The testimony of the eyewitnesses still stands. These witnesses went to their deaths proclaiming what we still proclaim: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia.

Today is a day of glory and a day of hope for us all. God's purpose and God's will cannot be undone by human sin and rejection. In his body here on earth, Christ Jesus suffered terribly. He was mocked, spit upon, terribly scourged, crowned with thorns, crucified, died and was buried. Today we celebrate the glorious fact of his resurrection from the dead.

We bear within us the hope that resurrection gives us. Our faith brings to us the truth that God has not abandoned us. God is bringing us into new life, and bringing new life to Christ's body, the Church. God our Father has given us power to enter into newer, better and happier lives no matter what the forces of darkness and evil have or will throw at us.

Next Sunday we celebrate DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



The Feast of the Divine Mercy or Divine Mercy Sunday falls on the Octave of Easter (Sunday immediately following Easter). It is dedicated to the devotion to the Divine Mercy promoted by St. Faustina, and is based upon an entry in St. Faustina's diary stating that anyone who participates in the Mass and receives the sacraments of confession and Eucharist on this day is assured by Jesus of full remission of sins.

According to the notebooks of St. Faustina, Jesus made the following statements about this day:

"On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity."

(Diary of Saint Faustina, 699)

The devotion was celebrated unofficially in many places for some years. On April 30, 2000 (Divine Mercy Sunday of that year), Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina and designated the Sunday after Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday in the General Roman Calendar, with effect from the following year. He also decreed a plenary indulgence associated with this devotion. Pope John Paul II said he felt a closeness to St. Faustina when he was writing "Dives in misericordia". He died during the vigil of the Divine Mercy Sunday in 2005.

CORONAVIRUS PRAYER

Since you, O God, are with us, nothing that has happened, nothing still to come, can rob us of our hope in Christ. • Sustain us, we beg you, during this time of uncertainty. • Bless all the emergency and medical personnel who are caring for the sick and working to contain the outbreak. • Grant swift recovery to those who are affected and comfort to their families and loved ones. • Encourage those who are afraid. • Bind us now, more than ever, to you and to each other, so that we may triumph by the power of him who loves us, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.



PRIVATE ADORATION

DAILY • 3.00 PM - 4.00 PM • Also on Easter Sunday
(Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday - Friday - Saturday - Sunday)

Adoration is not intended as public event. It is private with simple Exposition and Benediction, no public prayers and singing. We ask to exercise social distancing when in the church. Do not come if you are sick!

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

DAILY • 3.00 PM - 4.00 PM (DURING ADORATION) • Also on Easter Sunday
(Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday - Friday - Saturday - Sunday)

Confessions are not intended as Penitential Service. Approach Fr. Leon during Adoration if you would like to go to confession. We ask to exercise social distancing when in the church. **Any other time by appointment.**



CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

MONDAY - TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY - FRIDAY • NOON - 4.00 PM

Our church will be open during office hours for people to come and pray and seek the Lord's strength and comfort at this time. We ask to exercise social distancing when in the church. **Not open on Easter Monday.**

FOOD BANK DONATIONS!

We invite our parishioners to consider donation of food items for our local Food Bank. You can bring your donation during office hours. Collection boxes are placed in the church lobby. Thank you very much for your help! God bless!



SPECIAL APPEAL FOR DONATIONS



With the absence of regular Masses, we would like to highlight the option of Automatic Bank Withdrawal for regular and Together We Serve offerings. It's simple to implement, just fill in the form that is available on our parish website and confirm when you would like to start the deductions. Changes or cancellations can be made at any time but must be in writing. You can also donate to parish by bringing your donation to our parish office during office hours or you can donate securely and safely on our parish website.

OUR PARISH OFFICE HOURS ARE NOT CHANGED!

Our parish office working hours are not changed. Office is opened from Noon to 4.00 PM from Monday to Friday. Check our parish website for any changes and updates. **Not open on Easter Monday.**



PASTOR - FR. LEON KLER

Deacon (Retired) - Bernie Ouellette
Secretary - Vivian Duhamel

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

5208-53 Ave (Box 130) ♦ Rocky Mountain House, AB * T4T 1A1

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 12.00 PM (Noon) - 04.00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Direct voice/fax/text line to office 403.845.3457
Direct voice/fax/text line to pastor 587.355.3947
Direct email address to office office@smpmhc.ca
Direct email address to pastor pastor@smpmhc.ca

PARISH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers	Deacon Bernie Ouellette	403.846.0453
Baptism Preparation Class	Steve/Donna Oscar	403.895.0373
Bible Study Mondays	Mara Gagne	403.845.0940
Bible Study Sundays	Lisa Sembaliuk	403.846.7137
Called to Protect	Ernie Murias	403.845.4860
Children's Liturgy	Mona Cruickshank	403.846.1027
CWL	Joyce Donald	403.895.4156
First Communion Class	Catherine van Kampen	403.845.2923
Knights of Columbus	Gary Donald	403.845.5269
Maintenance	Ernie Murias	403.845.4860
Ministry to the Sick	Ernie Murias	403.845.4860
Music Ministry	Quintal Doreen	403.846.8733
Parish Finance Council	Randall Sugden	403.844.8478
Parish Pastoral Council	Lauren MacKenzie	403.845.2836
Prayer Chain	Alice Murray	403.722.4056
Youth Group	Peter van Kampen	403.848.0955

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday	07.00 PM	Rocky Mountain House
Sunday	09.00 AM	Rocky Mountain House
Sunday	11.00 AM	Evergreen
Sunday	01.00 PM	Caroline

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	06.30 PM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
Wednesday	09.00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
Thursday	09.00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH 10.30 AM - Jesuit Martyrs, Evergreen
Friday	09.00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH

MONTHLY MASSES

First Wednesday	08.00 AM - St. Matthew School, RMH
First Wednesday	11.00 AM - Eckville Manor, Eckville
First Friday	11.00 AM - Clearwater Centre, RMH
Second Wednesday	08.00 AM - St. Dominic School, RMH
Second Wednesday	11.00 AM - Westview Lodge, RMH
Second Friday	11.00 AM - Ravines at Park Ave., RMH

REQUESTS FOR USE OF CHURCH FACILITIES MUST BE APPROVED BY PASTOR AND BOOKED THROUGH OFFICE.

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Contact office if you want your child to be baptized in our parish. Preparation Class is mandatory. For more info, call office.

CONFESSIONS

Rocky Mountain House - Every Saturday from 6.15 PM to 6.45 PM
Evergreen/Caroline - after Sun. Masses ♦ Anytime by appointment

MARRIAGE

Contact office if you want to celebrate Sacrament of Marriage in our parish. Preparation is mandatory. For more info, call office.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday in St. Matthew Church - Rocky Mountain House
9.00 AM MASS ♦ 9.30 AM - 12.00 PM ADORATION

Every First Tuesday of the month in St. Matthew Church - RMH
6.30 PM MASS ♦ 7.00 PM - 8.00 PM HOLY HOUR ADORATION

PARISH WEBSITE → WWW.SMPRMH.CA



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Fr. Leon celebrates daily Masses privately for the intentions requested by parishioners. See the schedule of Mass intentions below.

Saturday April 11, 2020 – Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
07.00 PM Virtual Easter Vigil Celebration on parish website (www.smpmhc.ca)
Intention: For all members of our parish communities
Sunday April 12, 2020 – Easter Sunday (Resurrection of the Lord)
09.00 AM Virtual Mass of Resurrection on parish website (www.smpmhc.ca)
Intention: + Bill Long

Monday April 13, 2020 – Weekday in Easter Octave
Intention: In a certain intention
Tuesday April 14, 2020 – Weekday in Easter Octave
Intention: For all the souls in purgatory
Wednesday April 15, 2020 – Weekday in Easter Octave
Intention: For all prayer board intentions
Thursday April 16, 2020 – Weekday in Easter Octave
Intention: For the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
Friday April 17, 2020 – Weekday in Easter Octave
Intention: Blessings and grace for Audrey Ouellette
Saturday April 18, 2020 – Weekday in Easter Octave
Intention: For all parishioners

Sunday April 19, 2020 – Divine Mercy Sunday (2 Sunday of Easter)
Intention: + Clara Gumban and for thanksgiving

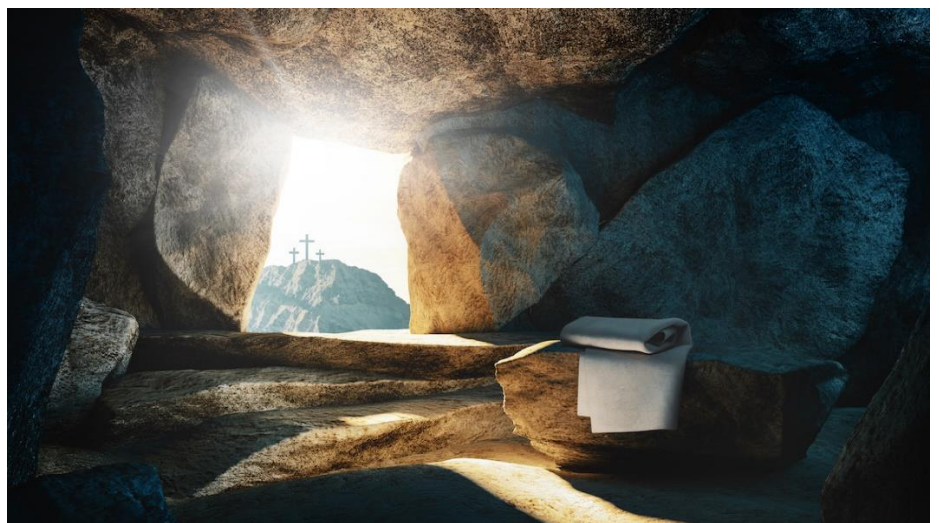
RECORDED MASSES ON PARISH WEBSITE

We invite all our parishioners to "watch" daily Masses celebrated by Fr. Leon in St. Matthew Church. Masses are published on our parish website daily around 11.30 AM and on Sundays at 09.00 AM. It's not a livestream.



APR. 05, 2020 THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

SUNDAY REG. COLLECTION:	RMH - \$2,135.00 * Evergreen - \$260.00 * Caroline - \$00.00
MAINTENANCE FUND:	RMH - \$160.00 * Evergreen - \$00.00 * Caroline - \$00.00
TOGETHER WE SERVE:	RMH - \$230.00 * Evergreen - \$65.00 * Caroline - \$00.00
ONLINE DONATIONS:	RMH - \$150.00 * Evergreen - \$00.00 * Caroline - \$00.00



HAPPY EASTER!