

# THIS WEEK AT THE MADELEINE

Furthering the Reign of God, Where All Are Welcome • April 19–20, 2025



Lori Charlton



Gina Shaner



Anthony Pepe



Melinda Byrd



Connor Raw

## Welcome to Our Candidates

This is the weekend we welcome and rejoice with our OCIA candidates as they come into full communion with the Church during the 10 am Easter morning Mass. Please join us at the reception in their honor following Mass.

*It is with great sadness we learned of the passing of Cara Hafer last week due to cancer. Cara joyfully began her OCIA journey at the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene in July, and was confirmed in full communion with the Church on March 16. She will be remembered by her fellow candidates at the 10 am Easter Mass. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for peace and comfort for her family.*



## Welcome Our New Young Catholics

We are pleased to welcome five youth into full communion with the Church at Easter Vigil, as they receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. They have been preparing via the OCIC process since October, while learning about the

Eucharist with this year's first communion class. Special thanks to Kristen Kill and Kristen Braia for their teaching and witness.

- ▶ Brooks F.                      ▶ Arlo L.
- ▶ Frankie B.                    ▶ Roe S.
- ▶ Hudson K.

## Easter Vigil Baptisms

We are also pleased to welcome infants who are receiving the sacrament of Baptism at

Easter Vigil. Congratulations to these children and their families

- ▶ Elliot R.   ▶ Jack S.   ▶ Grayson L.

## Easter Sunday

TODAY WE REJOICE in the Lord's resurrection, his victory over death. Through this victory, the Lord has opened the gates of heaven for us and offered us forgiveness of sins and eternal joy in his presence. This eternal destiny calls us to live always with a focus on what is above – to orient our earthly activities and concerns toward what is most conducive to a life of faith in the Lord.

### Pray for Our Faithfully Departed

- ▶ Teresa Moreland—*Funeral Mass, April 24*
- ▶ David Hickman—*Celebration of Life, April 26*
- ▶ Cara Hafer                      ▶ Sharee Chapman
- ▶ Max Schneider

### Prayer Requests

For those who are ill or in need of our prayers

- ▶ Steve Graham                      ▶ Aaron Stevenson
- ▶ Sherrill Resch                      ▶ Brad Werth
- ▶ Alice Stoltzberg                    ▶ Kitt & Corinne Jordan
- ▶ Kait Sklyer                          ▶ Ann Czuba
- ▶ Trish Grantham                    ▶ Jean Mitchell
- ▶ Al Hicks                              ▶ Charli Phipps

### Mass Intentions

- 04/19, Sat . . . . . Virginia Bleeg †
- 04/20, Sun 8:00 am The Madeleine Community  
10:00 am. . . . . Mildred Wright †
- 04/22, Tues . . . . . Michael Lavin †
- 04/23, Weds . . . . . Sara Rimmel †
- 04/24, Thurs . . . . . 8th Grade Class
- 04/25, Fri . . . . . Anna Nguyen †
- 04/26, Sat . . . . . Alan Morrill †
- 04/27, Sun 8:00 am The Madeleine Community  
10:00 am. . . . . Sylvia Manzo †

**Fish Fry—Friday, 6:00 pm**

**E-Waste Electronics  
Recycling—Sunday, 9 am**

**Details inside.**

## Calendar This Week

### 20 April, Sunday

- ▶ Easter Sunday
- 8 am: Easter Mass—Church
- 10 am: Easter Mass—Church

### 21 April, Monday

- ▶ No School—Easter Monday, Parish Office Closed
- 6:30 pm: FA Meeting—Fireside Rm

### 22 April, Tuesday

- 8:30 am: Mass—Church
- 9 am: Adoration—Church
- 3:15 pm: School Musical Rehearsals—Parish Hall
- 6:30 pm: Madeleine Book Club—Fireside Rm

### 23 April, Wednesday

- 8:30 am: Mass—Church
- 3:15 pm: School Musical Rehearsals—Parish Hall
- 7 pm: Madeleine Choir Rehearsal—Church

### 24 April, Thursday

- 10 am: Book Club—St. Catherine Room
- 11 am: Teresa Moreland Funeral Mass—Church
- 2 pm: Mass—Church
- 3:15 pm: School Musical Rehearsals—Parish Hall

### 25 April, Friday

- 8:30 am: Mass—Church
- 6 pm: Fish Fry—Parish Hall

### 26 April, Saturday

- ▶ Archbishop's Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend
- 1 pm: Celebration of Life for David Hickman—Parish Hall
- 4 pm: Confession—Church
- 5 pm: Mass—Church
- 5:30 pm: Mano e Arco Chamber Music Concert—Old Madeleine Church

### 27 April, Sunday

- ▶ Archbishop's Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend
- ▶ Coffee & Donuts Follow Both Masses, Hosted by Liturgy Committee—Fireside Rm
- 8 am: Mass—Church
- 9 am: E-Waste Recycling—Parish Hall Driveway
- 10:00 am: Mass—Church  **ALSO LIVESTREAMS**
- 10 am: Sacramental Prep—First Communion—Old Madeleine Church
- 11:15 am: OCIA Class—St. Catherine Room
- 5 pm: Margaret Bichteler Recital—Old Madeleine Church

## Upcoming Events

- ▶ **Fish Fry:** Friday, April 25
- ▶ **Earth Week E-Waste Electronics Recycling Event:** Sunday, April 27
- ▶ **Madeleine Saturday Supper:** May 31
- ▶ **St. Mary Magdalene Day:** July 19

## PARISH LIFE

## Celebrate Mothers on Mothers Day

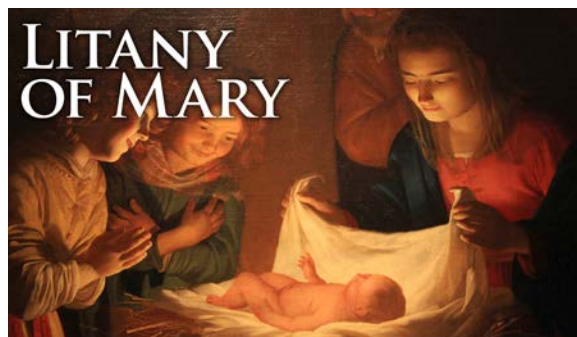
Upload mother & child photos to [www.themadeleine.edu/mothers](http://www.themadeleine.edu/mothers)

A May tradition at The Madeleine: celebrating the Month of Mary and Mother's Day in a special way!

Mother's Day weekend May 10–11, we will show a slideshow of mothers and children sent in from The Madeleine Community. The photos will show both in the church at all Masses and on our livestream.

**We are starting over—all new photos!**

This year, again, we're making a fresh start, a blank canvas. So even if you've sent



us a photo before, please send a new one this year.

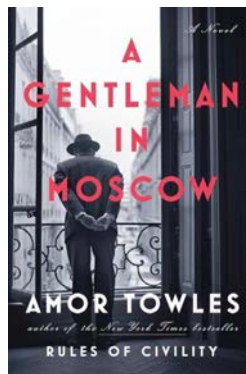
Submissions can be either a photo of mother and child (children), or a photo of mothers and their mothers. Please send us just one photo of

a mother/child combo per family grouping, as we want to have time to show all our photos. **Send photos by May 7**

Upload your photos to our website at [www.themadeleine.edu/mothers](http://www.themadeleine.edu/mothers)

## Madeleine Book Club

You are cordially invited to join us for discussion of *A Gentleman In Moscow* by Amor Towles. There will be two opportunities to attend this coming week... Tuesday evening, Apr 22, 6:30 pm in the Fireside Rm, and Apr 24, 10:00 am in the St. Catherine Rm. For further details and/or to sign up for one of these meetings, please contact our MBC ministry coordinator: Gretchen Stevenson, [gypsyfrau47@yahoo.com](mailto:gypsyfrau47@yahoo.com) or 503-312-6834.



## Coffee and Donuts—April 27

Sponsored by your Liturgy Committee Liturgy Ministers at The Madeleine...

- ▶ ...are our musicians, lectors, eucharistic ministers, altar servers, and ministers of hospitality.
- ▶ ...include our Sacristans who prepare for Mass.
- ▶ ...beautify our worship space with banners and other decorations and plant life.
- ▶ ...schedule ministers for our weekend Masses.

A few representatives from each of our ministries meet once a month to plan and prepare liturgies.

Interested in learning more? Join us for coffee and donuts!

## St. Vincent de Paul Annual Dinner Volunteers Needed

The Madeleine is hosting St. Vincent de Paul's Annual Dinner on Saturday, May 3, and they are in need of volunteers to help pull the event off. Especially they're requesting 7th-Grade and high-school students, and as many parents and adults as possible for setup, food service, clean up, dishwashing and all the help that goes into putting on a dinner. School families...these count as service hours helping out a great cause. Interested? Contact Lisa Hawkins at 503.309.7968 or [lhawkins2916@comcast.net](mailto:lhawkins2916@comcast.net)



**Today as we celebrate the feast of Easter**, like Mary Magdalene and the Disciples we find the challenge of also seeing and believing the resurrection. As you give your gift to St. Vincent de Paul you help those who are poor and hungry to "see and believe" in the Resurrection.

—Lisa Hawkins, (503) 309-7968

## Easter Giving: Can You Help?

Donate online at [www.themadeleine.edu/easter-giving](http://www.themadeleine.edu/easter-giving)

Everything about The Madeleine...from the spectacular Masses to the beautiful buildings to the expansive grounds to the dedicated staff that keep everything running... is supported, built and maintained through the generosity of you and our current parishioners. It is our home now, and it is our responsibility to carry on this legacy built by generations of families for 113 years.

One of our biggest collections of the year is typically Easter Sunday. Each year we budget for an Easter collection that is in addition to the Sunday collection. Some parishioners account for Easter collections in regular online or automated giving. But if you are not among those who do, we'd very much appreciate if

you would consider an additional Easter gift.

**We have three easy ways for you to help:**

- ▶ **Envelope**—If you have an Easter envelope, mail to the parish office or drop it off, or bring it to Mass.
- ▶ **Online**—Visit our online giving page at [www.themadeleine.edu/easter-giving](http://www.themadeleine.edu/easter-giving) where you can make a secure, convenient online donation.
- ▶ **Electronic Transfer**—If you are making stewardship donations via electronic transfer, contact My Schoning in our business office to arrange an additional payment.  
Thank you for your loyal support.

**The Madeleine Care for Creation**  
**ANNUAL E-WASTE RECYCLING EVENT**  
Sunday, April 27 • 9:00 am–1:00 pm

The Madeleine Care for Creation Committee is pleased to announce our annual Earth Day E-Waste Recycling Event. The event is provided at no charge, but donations accepted to help cover costs.

### Green Century Recycling will be on hand to accept the following

- |   |                             |   |  |
|---|-----------------------------|---|--|
| ▶ Computers   | ▶ Networking Devices        | ▶ Cable & Satellite Equipment             | ▶ UPS (uninterruptible power supply) and other Lead Acid Batteries             |
| ▶ Laptops   | ▶ Communications Equipment  | ▶ Testing Equipment                       | ▶ Small/Large Appliances (which include, microwaves, toasters, blenders, etc.) |
| ▶ TV & Monitors (all types)   | ▶ POS (Point of Sale equip) | ▶ Stereo/Audio Components                 | ▶ Electric Power Tools   |
| ▶ Hard drives (Secure Data Destruction Provided)                                |                             |   | ▶ Laptop Batteries, Cell Phone Batteries, Li-on batteries                      |
| ▶ Misc. Computer Components (floppy drives, Printed Circuit Boards (PCB), etc.) |                             |   | ▶ Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Metals   |
| ▶ Misc. Computer Components (floppy drives, Printed Circuit Boards (PCB), etc.) | ▶ Printers/Scanners         | ▶ Cell Phones (with or without batteries) | ▶ Air Conditioners   |
| ▶ Cords/Wires/Chargers/Power strips   | ▶ Fax/Copiers               | ▶ PDAs, Handheld Games                    |  |
| ▶ Servers/Switches  | ▶ Keyboards/Mice            | ▶ Cameras                                 |  |
| ▶ Routers/Hubs/Modems   | ▶ Misc. Office Machines     | ▶ Telephones                              |  |
|   | ▶ Misc. Electronics         | ▶ Gaming Consoles/Systems                 |  |
|   | ▶ VCRs, DVD Players         |   |  |



**USED SOCKS for recycling**  
Clean, used socks only; pairs and singles are accepted. These will be recycled, so no new socks.  
**No stockings, tights, or pantyhose**

**We will collect worn-out athletic shoes to be ground up and re-purposed**  
(no dress or casual shoes, please)



### The following items will NOT be accepted during this event.



- ▶ **NO!** Styrofoam
- ▶ **NO!** Plastics/Packaging
- ▶ **NO!** Fluorescent Tubes and lamps (All types)
- ▶ **NO!** Ni-CD & Ni-MH batteries
- ▶ **NO!** Household size batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 9V, etc.)
- ▶ **NO!** Ink/Toner Cartridges
- ▶ **NO!** Media (CD, DVD, floppy, VHS, Cassette, tapes)
- ▶ **NO!** PCB Ballasts
- ▶ **NO!** Wood
- ▶ **NO!** Refrigerators, Freezers, most water coolers, some dehumidifiers
- ▶ **NO!** Capacitors
- ▶ **NO!** Fire Extinguishers
- ▶ **NO!** Mercury Containing Devices (Thermostats, Ionization Smoke Detectors)



**The Madeleine Parish Hall Driveway**  
**3123 NE 24<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland**  
[www.themadeleine.edu/ewaste](http://www.themadeleine.edu/ewaste)

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME! INVITE YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS!**

## Weekly Mass Times

### Regular Mass Times:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday . . . . . 8:30 am  
Thursday . . . . . School not in session: 8:30 am  
School in session: 2:00 pm  
Saturday Vigil . . . . . 5:00 pm  
Sunday . . . . . 8:00 am, 10:00 am

**Penance** . . . . . Saturday, 4:00–4:40 pm  
**Adoration** . . . . . Tuesdays, 9:00 am–2:00 pm

## Parish Office

**Hours** . . . . . Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 am–3:00 pm  
**Phone:** 503-281-5777 . . . . . **Fax:** 503-281-0673  
**School Office** . . . . . 503-288-9197

## Parish Staff

**Rev. Bonaventure Rummell**—Administrator  
fatherbonaventure@themadeleine.edu ext. 111  
**Msr. Timothy Murphy**—In Residence  
**Rev. Nazario Atukunda**—In Residence  
**Deacon Mike O'Mahoney**—Permanent Deacon  
deaconmike@themadeleine.edu  
**Tresa Rast**—School Principal  
trast@themadeleine.edu . . . . . 503-288-9197  
**My Schoning**—Business Manager  
mhoang@themadeleine.edu . . . . . ext. 114  
**Linda Scheurman**—Bookkeeper  
lscheurman@themadeleine.edu . . . . . ext. 119  
**Maria Manzo**—Director of Music  
mmanzo@themadeleine.edu . . . . . ext. 113  
**Lauren Craig**—Faith Formation/Sacramental Prep  
lcraig@themadeleine.edu . . . . . ext. 116  
**Minh-Ha Nguyen**—Parish Admin Assistant  
mhnguyen@themadeleine.edu . . . . . ext. 112  
**Guy Allen**—Facilities Manager  
gallen@themadeleine.edu  
**Julie Kupers**—Special Events  
jkupers@themadeleine.edu . . . . . 720-936-5635  
**Rich Hammons**—Director of Communications  
rhammons@themadeleine.edu . . . . . ext. 129

## Sacraments

**Infant Baptism** . . . . . Lauren Craig, ext 116  
**First Reconciliation, First Eucharist**—  
Rose Horton . . . . . sac-prep@themadeleine.edu  
**OCIA (Formerly RCIA)**—  
Donna Mason, . . . . . ocia@themadeleine.edu  
**Marriages** . . . . . Fr. Bonaventure, ext 111  
**Anointing (Emergency)** . . . . . 971-301-4421  
**Funerals**—  
Therese Fenzl . . . . . tfenzl@themadeleine.edu

## Councils & Contacts

**Pastoral Council**—Dan O'Brien . . . . . 503-206-2843  
pastoral-council@themadeleine.edu  
**Finance/Admin**—John Garrow . . . . . 503-803-5693  
**Buildings & Grounds**—Erin Couch, 503-281-9575  
**School Advisory**—Tim Resch . . . . . 503-984-4607  
**Facility Requests**—themadeleine.edu/facilities  
**Maintenance Requests**—My Schoning  
mhoang@themadeleine.edu . . . . . ext. 114  
**Knights of Columbus**—  
Dan O'Donnell . . . . . 503-440-9415  
**Ministry Schedule**  
[www.themadeleine.edu/minister-schedule](http://www.themadeleine.edu/minister-schedule)  
**Bulletin submissions due 5:00 pm Tuesday**  
Email to [bulletin@themadeleine.edu](mailto:bulletin@themadeleine.edu)

# In Memoriam

## THE MADELEINE FAMILY REMEMBERS

### Teresa Moreland

**Funeral Mass • Thursday, April 24 • 11:00 am**

A Funeral Mass will be held for Teresa Moreland on Thursday, April 24, 11:00 am at The Madeleine.

Teresa Moreland, beloved mother, sister, and best friend passed peacefully on Monday April 7th, 2025 surrounded by love. She had a short yet hard fought battle with advanced stage cancer, but constantly kept a positive outlook, and upbeat attitude despite it all.

Teresa was born in 1965 in Portland to Mary Thornton, and Micheal Gollehon. She was one of nine children who lived in Northeast Portland for most of their lives. She attended Irvington Elementary, Fernwood, and Grant High School during her educational career. Later she received her Associate of Arts degree in records management from Portland Community College and went on to work at Stoel Rives for 38 years in numerous roles, but mainly records management.

While living in the Irvington neighborhood she met and later married her best friend Casey Moreland, and they later had their daughter Emily. Joining such large families together made holidays, birthdays, and gatherings quite the events. Teresa was always

more than happy to attend and host social gatherings where she would always be her spirited self.

Teresa loved Christmas, going to the beach, watching movies, flowers and spending time with her loved ones. Everyone she met and knew for a long or even a short time

felt touched by her presence. She was always warm, welcoming, loving and caring towards all. She was a light in all our lives that will be dearly missed. Teresa is survived by her daughter Emily and son-in-law Victor as well as her siblings Dylan, Shelia, Sonia, Helena, Debbie, and Diana.

Teresa's request for her service is that all in attendance wear bright, beautiful colors. Women, if they feel so called, are encouraged to wear large colorful hats. Black and blue are not required.



### David Hickman

**Celebration of Life • Saturday, April 26 • 1:00 pm**

A Celebration of Life will be held for longtime parishioner David Hickman on Saturday, April 26, 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

David L. Hickman was born in 1937 in Albany, Oregon, the son of C. Von Hickman and Marvel (Larson) Hickman. David graduated from Eugene High School in 1956 and in 1965 he completed a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from University of Oregon. He was a big U of O Duck fan.

In 1959, David married Sally (Burrell) Hickman, and they were soon blessed with three children, Jan, Doug and Cindy. In 1972 they settled in NE Portland and became a part of The Madeleine Parish. He served as a coach at the elementary school and designed The Madeleine Parish Hall.

David passed away peacefully on January 22, 2025 at his residence in Milwaukie, Oregon with family by his side. He was a beloved son, brother, husband, father, uncle, grandfather, and great grandfather. David is survived by his sister, three children, five grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. David will be missed and remembered fondly by all.



**Jubilee Pilgrimage Update—  
Limited Spots Available**

**Information meeting April 27 after  
Coffee & Donuts**

Interested in our upcoming Madeleine Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy? Please join us for an informal meeting in the Fireside Room after coffee & donuts on Sunday, April 27. The deadline for deposits is approaching very soon! For more information, please contact Maria Manzo at [mmanzo@themadeleine.edu](mailto:mmanzo@themadeleine.edu) or go to the Pilgrimage page of our website at [www.themadeleine.edu/pilgrimage](http://www.themadeleine.edu/pilgrimage)

**Altar Server Team Needs Parent  
Volunteer Helpers**

The Altar Server Team is looking for 1-2 parents from each Mass who can check in with Altar Servers before and after Mass and report to the Altar Server Leader. For more information please contact Leslie Pfaff at 925-324-0252. Thank you

**Hiring: Part Time Event  
Coordinators**

The parish is looking to hire another Event Coordinator to assist with use of event rental spaces. Responsibilities include set up and take down of event spaces, monitoring during the event, maintaining relationships and professionalism with clients, and overseeing the responsibilities of dishwashers and bussers, and making sure everything is closed up when the event is over. Hours are flexible on an 'as needed' basis. Contact My Schoning, Business Manager, 503-281-5777 ext. 114, or [mhoang@themadeleine.edu](mailto:mhoang@themadeleine.edu)

**The Portland Guitar Duo**

**Sat. April 26, 7:30 pm • Old Church**

On April 26 join James Manuele and Foti Lycouridis in a concert of guitar duets celebrating the 25 years of the Portland Guitar Duo.

With a shared enthusiasm for the duo medium they formed the Portland Guitar Duo in 1999. Since then they have performed in numerous venues throughout the United States as a duo team, as soloists with chamber ensembles and orchestras and in appearances on radio and television. The duo also focuses on Historical Interpretation, presenting music of the Renaissance, Baroque and Classical/Romantic eras on period instruments.

Their program will include music of Spanish and Italian composers, music of Greek composer Manos Hatzidakis, a new piece by Oregon composer Rebecca Oswald and pieces by Manuel Ponce and Sergio Assad.

*Suggested cash donation at the door \$10*

**Archbishop's Catholic Appeal 2025**

We all experience "empty tombs" in our lives. They are the dark and difficult times that are part of the human condition – when we face illness or watch someone we love suffer ill health, when our marriages go through rocky periods, when our children make choices that are contrary to our values, when economic burdens cast shadows over our living.

We can let these "empty tomb" moments draw us closer to God through reliance and surrender or we can allow them to distance ourselves from God's consolation. Will this suffering make us stronger or just bitter?



God is always present. His love is stronger than any difficulty. Let us choose to be resurrection people who live in hope and have faith that what may seem bleak, dark, empty is really an opportunity to trust in God's plan for us just as

Jesus trusted in His Father's plan for Him.

And as resurrection people, we can offer Christ's consolation to those who need it. We can help them through their "empty tomb" times by addressing their material needs and strengthening their faith through our support of the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal. Please pray for its success and support the appeal if you can.

**FANTASTIC FISH, FAMILY FUN**

- ➔ Beer battered fresh fish by TC O'Leary's
- ➔ Fish & chips, slaw, ice cream sundae bar (pizza for kiddos, too)
- ➔ Beer, Wine & cocktails available for purchase
- ➔ 50/50 raffle
- ➔ Silent Disco for Kids, \$5
- ➔ Cornhole bean bag toss tournament—trophy for winners!

**TICKETS: [WWW.THEMADELEINE.EDU/FISHFRY](http://WWW.THEMADELEINE.EDU/FISHFRY)**  
**KIDS 5 & UNDER EAT FREE**

**ADULT ➔ \$25**      **CHILD ➔ \$15** (10 & under)

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS • SIGN UP AT THE WEBSITE

# EASTER

THE SEASON OF NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

In the Catholic Church Year, the two major cycles of seasons, Christmas and Easter, are far more than a single day of observance. Like Christmas, Easter itself is a period of time rather than just a day. It is actually a seven-week season of the Church year called *Eastertide*, the fifty days that begins at sundown the evening before Easter Sunday (the Easter Vigil) and lasts for six more Sundays until Pentecost Sunday. For the newly baptized, this is a period of *mystagogy* (being “led into mystery”), a time for prayerful reflection on the experience of their sacramental journey. The symbols and rites of the Easter season are channels of this grace.

## THE PASCHAL CANDLE

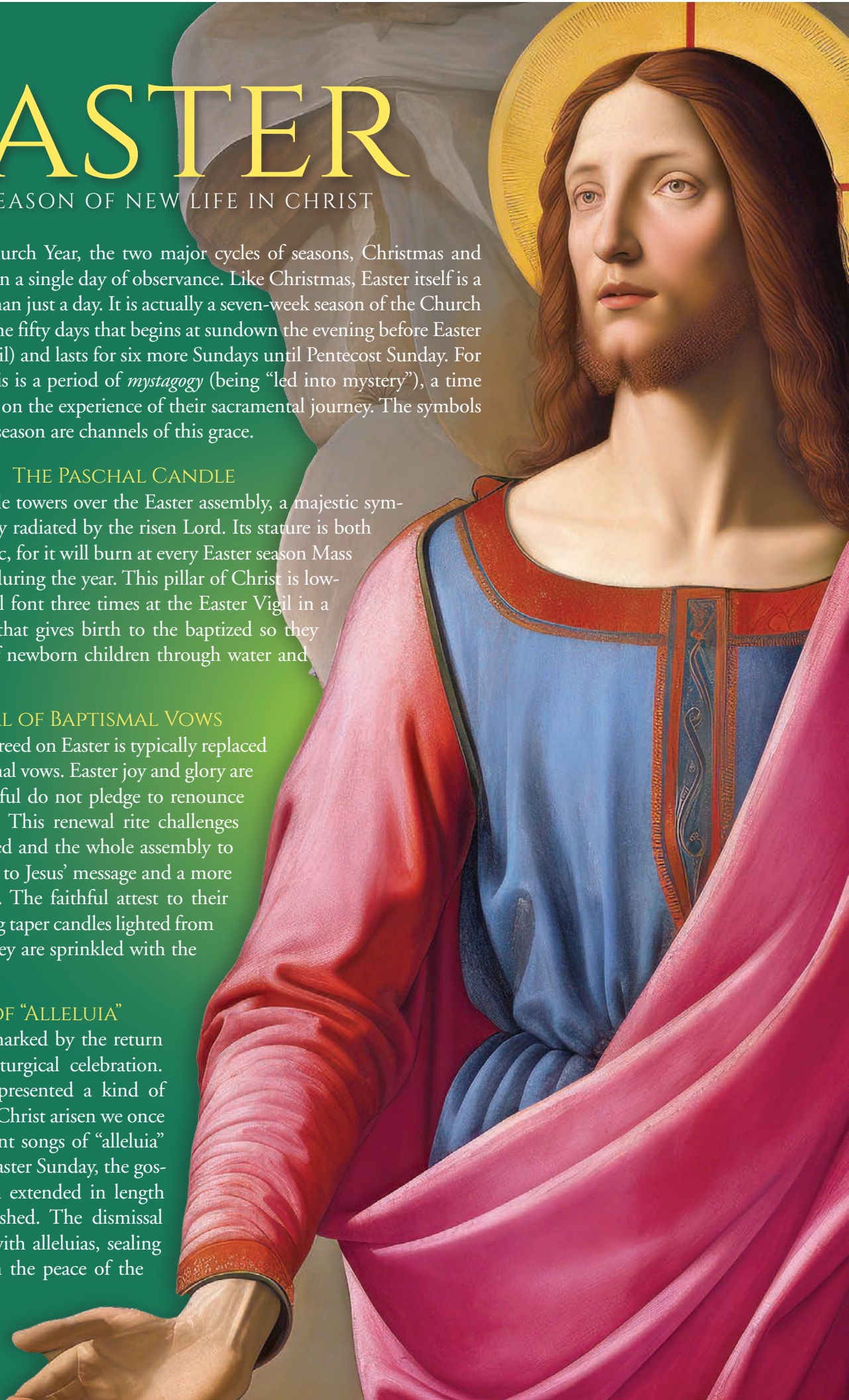
The new Paschal candle towers over the Easter assembly, a majestic symbol of the joy and glory radiated by the risen Lord. Its stature is both inspiring and pragmatic, for it will burn at every Easter season Mass and every funeral rite during the year. This pillar of Christ is lowered into the baptismal font three times at the Easter Vigil in a symbolic relationship that gives birth to the baptized so they may “rise to the life of newborn children through water and the Holy Spirit.”

## THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The recitation of the Creed on Easter is typically replaced by a renewal of baptismal vows. Easter joy and glory are diminished if the faithful do not pledge to renounce sin and follow Christ. This renewal rite challenges both the newly baptized and the whole assembly to a more faithful witness to Jesus’ message and a more Christ-like way of life. The faithful attest to their spoken vows by holding taper candles lighted from the Paschal flame as they are sprinkled with the waters of baptism.

## THE RETURN OF “ALLELUIA”

The Easter season is marked by the return of “Alleluia” to the liturgical celebration. Its Lenten absence represented a kind of spiritual fast, but with Christ arisen we once again feast on exuberant songs of “alleluia” or “Praise God!” For Easter Sunday, the gospel procession is often extended in length and musically embellished. The dismissal rite is also enhanced with alleluias, sealing our call to go forth in the peace of the risen Christ.



## CUSTOMS OF THE EASTER SEASON

The Easter Season, which follows the celebration of Easter Sunday, is a time of joy and renewal in the liturgical calendar. It lasts for 50 days, culminating on Pentecost. During this season, various customs and traditions are observed:

**Easter Octave:** The Catholic Church observes the eight-day period known as the Easter Octave, beginning on Easter Sunday and ending on the following Sunday, often referred to as Divine Mercy Sunday. The entire octave is celebrated as a single solemnity, and each day is considered a continuation of the Easter celebration.

**Veneration of the Crucifix:** During the Easter Octave, there is a particular focus on the veneration of the Cross, continuing the reflection on Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. This devotion is often seen during the Good Friday liturgy but extends into the Easter season.

**Easter Water:** The Easter Vigil features the blessing of water, which is then used for baptisms and for the blessing of people, homes, and other objects throughout the Easter season. Holy Water fonts are often replenished with the newly blessed water.

**Easter Candle:** The Paschal Candle, which is lit during the Easter Vigil, remains in the sanctuary throughout the Easter season as a symbol of the risen Christ's presence and is typically used in liturgical processions and ceremonies.

**Renewal of Baptismal Promises:** Catholics often renew their baptismal promises during Mass on Easter Sunday and other occasions throughout the Easter season, emphasizing their commitment to the faith.

**White and Gold Liturgical Vestments:** Clergy wear white and gold liturgical vestments during the Easter season to symbolize the purity, joy, and glory of Christ's Resurrection.

**Easter Sunday Processions:** In some parishes, especially in certain European countries, there are processions on Easter Sunday, often led by clergy, with the faithful following behind. These processions can be elaborate and may include the display of religious statues or icons.

**Easter Hymns and Liturgical Music:** Special Easter hymns and liturgical music are sung during Mass throughout the Easter season, reflecting the joy and celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

These customs and traditions enhance the celebration of Easter and the Easter Season, emphasizing the central importance of Christ's Resurrection in the Catholic faith.

## JESUS' RESURRECTION

What happened on Easter was a complete surprise to the disciples. The Jesus that they had known and who had died was suddenly experienced as alive again. This new life, described as resurrection, was not just a restoration of one's former life—a resuscitation from the dead. The prophets Elijah and Elisha had brought people back to this life, as had Jesus for the daughter of Jairus, the son of the widow of Nain, and Jesus' beloved friend Lazarus. Although their return from the dead left them temporarily alive, they would die again. But Jesus' resurrection was a new life that would not be subject to death again. It was eternal life, permanent and undying existence in the presence of God forever.



### THE RESURRECTION MYSTERY

“O truly blessed Night,” sings the *Exsultet* of the Easter Vigil, “which alone deserved to know the time and the hour when Christ rose from the realm of the dead!” But no one was an eyewitness to Christ's Resurrection and no evangelist describes it. No one can say how it came about physically. Still less was its innermost essence, his passing over to another life, perceptible to the senses. Although the Resurrection was an historical event that could be verified by the sign of the empty tomb and by the reality of the apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, still it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something that transcends and surpasses history.



—*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #647



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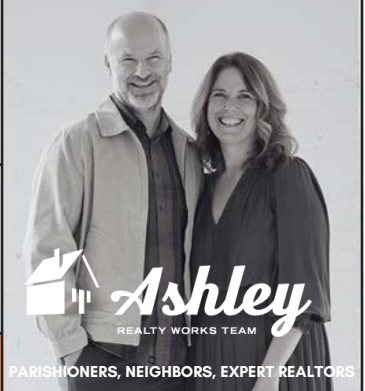
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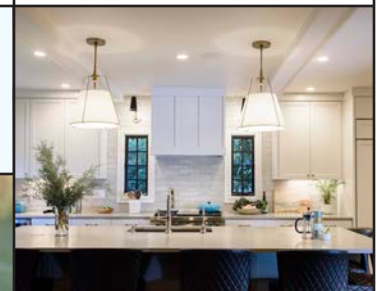
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