Easter Sunday
The Resurrection of the Lord
April 12, 2020 A.D.

Easter Reflection from Deacon Luis Bellen
A People of Hope Singing Alleluia

Every Easter time we sing with a loud voice and with joyful spirit the Alleluia hymn—a hymn that the host of angels and saints sing in the presence of God in heaven. Our joyful voices singing alleluia on Easter night joins with the voices of the choirs of heaven and angelic hosts praising God for his infinite goodness and love. This is the time of the year that the whole church is singing with joy and glorifies the heavenly Father in the resurrection of Christ from the dead.

Through Christ’s resurrection, the light shines through the darkness, new life begins, death conquered, and sorrow has no place in the heart of any living creature. However, it is hard to see the joy and the hope of Easter if we fail to see in contrast with the gloom and darkness of death and sin. The hope and joy of Easter is deeply connected with the suffering, crucifixion and death of Christ. Suffering and death remind us of the fruit of sin and Christ’s resurrection reminds us of God’s power over the sting of death and sin. During Lenten season we were invited to fast, to make sacrifice, to do charity and to mend our broken relationships with God and with others for us to celebrate Easter with clean heart and renewed spirit. The current pandemic has made this very real. In the readings of the Easter vigil, we are reminded of our story as a church about the redemption given by Christ and the unending love that God the Father has for humanity. These readings of the Old and New Testament also remind us of the love of God and our inability to be faithful to the loving covenant that God has set for us. We failed God by sinning, but even then, God’s love and faithfulness never fails. God reaches even the darkest corner of our soul and there He plants the seed of hope. He rescued us from death and brought us back to life in Christ Jesus. We, as followers of the risen Christ, have all the reason to be filled with Joy and be men and women of hope because God is alive, and He dwells among us.

Now we come together as one church to celebrate. To celebrate life, to celebrate hope, to celebrate the joy of having a savior who loves us unconditionally and willing give himself up for you and me. Our holy father, Pope Francis, says that “No one reaches salvation by themselves…. Our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people: doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so many others” (Extraordinary blessing, Friday, 03/27/20). We are one church. We are one in the suffering and now, we are also one in celebrating the joy of Easter.

Now we sing together the alleluia recognizing the greatest gift of life and recognizing that life with God is our vocation. We might be at this time isolated in our homes and physically far from each other, but distance and difficulties cannot hinder the joy Easter. In the silence and serenity of our homes we can celebrate Easter by never losing our enthusiasm to pray and celebrate life. Because who can ever separate us from Christ’s love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death. No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved (Romans 8:35-37). We, as brothers and sisters in the risen Christ, are one in mind and heart and we continue to journey as one community having the resurrected Christ as our light in the dark. We are a people of hope and not of despair. We are people of light and not of darkness. We are a people of Easter morn that sings unending praise to God. Let us hold hope for this world that is anxious, fearful, lonely and in need of a savior.

Let us turn our gaze towards Christ, the risen Lord. Let us sing Alleluia because the Lord has risen, and he is alive!
As We Continue our Faith-Filled Journey to Pentecost

Jesus’s disciples spent the days after Easter Sunday sequestered in the upper room with the door locked. We are also living with a sequestering of shelter in place unable to leave our homes. Faithfully during this time from Easter Sunday to Pentecost let us continue our journey in our slower pace, shoes off, finding our own holy ground, rejoicing in what we have discovered and continuing to let God fill us with awe remembering the Holy Spirit will empower us with his gifts on Pentecost.
COVID CORNER

PARISH WEBSITE
Be sure to see Fr. Charles’ new pastoral letter on the welcome page of the website at http://www.stjosephcayucos.org to see updates and prayers. Remember to bookmark our parish website or put it into favorites. Please check it frequently for updates as it is a good source of current information.

OFFICE CLOSED
Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the parish office is closed. You may email: StJosephCayucos@charter.net or leave a message at 805-995-3243. We will be checking messages frequently.

SCAM WARNING
Accept no phone calls from people who claim to offer ways to get government, COVID-related assistance early.

BE CALM & KIND
1. Be Calm: It’s contagious and we need to stand out as the voice of reason and logic and that will help more than you will ever know.
2. Be Kind: Right now people are full of fear and can be edgy and kindness goes a long way to keep our communities at peace.

FOOD ASSISTANCE
There is a free take out meal served every Monday at 5 p.m. at the Vets’ Hall in Morro Bay and every Thursday at 5 p.m. at the Community Center in Los Osos.

The Open Arms Food Pantry at Rock Harbor Christian Fellowship in Morro Bay has transitioned to a drive-through ministry. Every Saturday at 9:30 a.m. you may drive by and pick up a bag of groceries. If you let them know you're picking up for a friend as well, they will give you two bags of groceries.

The Estero Bay Kindness Coalition will deliver food from their food pantry to those living in Cayucos, Morro Bay, and Los Osos, but not Cambria. Please call Bobby deLancellotti at 805-305-5671.

The Senior Citizens Center in Cayucos continues to be a source of food distribution. Please leave a message at 805-995-3543 for assistance.

GROCERY SHOPPING
The Cayucos Super Market has free delivery within Cayucos for seniors who are homebound.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS
PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS
Ruddell’s Smokehouse at 101 D St. is open for take out and will make free deliveries within Cayucos. 805-995-5028. See also:
http://www.smokerjim.com/
Their Facebook page is updated daily. Contactless payment, CDC safety guidelines, and good spirits for all! 20% off packaged items in the case.

The Sea Shanty Restaurant at 296 S. Ocean Ave. is open for take outs and will make free deliveries within Cayucos. 805-995-3272. See also:
http://www.billandcarolseashanty.com
Let us Pray For the Sick: May our prayers be a comfort to those who are sick or chronically ill: Dorothy Dyer, Pat Marin, Christine Simolon, Plato Sterios, Christine Hart, Glen Bennett, Maria & Joe Pascoal, Kristy Moldrem, Janet Rocha Mireles, Sonia DeCicco, Joanne Jenkins, Arleen Bartulski, Pat & Maureen O’Malley, Narisorn Bognuda, Kyltia Palmo; Innette, Ross & Duncan Starkenburg; Nancy Hansen, Trina Domenghini, Kathy Ingersoll, Patti Tooker, Larry Stayton, Judy Preuss, Sandi Tannler, Terri Cavanaugh, Allen Beltrametti, Grace Poletti, Jack Dooling, Pat Doroski, Cecil Marie Krause, Donna Pett, Cassey Schoening, Stacy Axan, George Bellino, Virginia Avalos, Rita Marie Ayoob, Edward & Elizabeth Barwikowski, Peggy Grindrod, Frank Gutierrez, Mark Sigmund, Paula May, John Lowry, David London, Jeff Adams, Sherry Brazda, Abbey Heers, Connie & Alyssa Lopez, Carolina Gonzalez, Mary Marlene Greene, Ernie Gambellin, Enzo Keller, Betty James, Peg Jung, Zan Barr, John Paul Hope, Julia Thomas, Megan McAlpin-Sanchez, Joe Pollock, Alice Foster, & all those with COVID-19.

**Happy Easter to all!**

**He is Risen!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**MASS READINGS**
Since all public Masses have been suspended until further notice, the following resource may be helpful.
The full text of all Sunday and weekday Mass readings can be found at:
http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings
The readings for Easter Sunday are:
Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43
Psalm 118:1-23
Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
John 20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10

**MASS ON VIDEO**
Everyone is encouraged to watch the streaming of the Mass every day. Bishop Robert Barron will be celebrating Mass daily in his private chapel. The link will be on our parish website home page every day for easy access. Just click on the yellow icon, “Daily Mass: Word on Fire.”

**MASS INTENTIONS**
If you would like to request a Mass be offered for an intention of yours, please email the parish. If the Mass is scheduled for a date in the near future Fr. Charles will celebrate the Mass privately.

Happy Easter to all!
He is Risen!
Alleluia! Alleluia!