Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! This Paschal greeting is customary in Eastern Catholic and Orthodox churches on Easter Sunday. Then there is Saint Augustine’s acclamation of joy. We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song! However you express it, Easter is the time for rejoicing because Jesus Christ, our friend and brother, is risen from the dead. And yet today’s scriptures are less joyful than one would expect for the most important feast in the Christian calendar. Perhaps we are being asked to look deeper into the mystery of the Resurrection, just as Peter went into the tomb to look deeper into the mystery of its emptiness.

Mary Magdalene, who loved the Lord so much that she risked everything, possibly even her life, to go to the tomb before daybreak, finds the stone rolled away and assumes that someone has taken Jesus’ body. Frightened and sad, she runs to tell Peter and John. They all run back to the tomb, but what do they expect to see? Peter enters the tomb and sees. John enters, sees, and believes. But what does he believe? Scripture states, “For they did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead” (John 20:9). They went home, not really knowing what had happened. But John “believed” something.

SOMETHING HAPPENED

What do we believe? Somewhere between that Easter morning and Peter’s confident teaching about Jesus in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, something (the Risen Christ) happened. Peter has evolved from his bewilderment into a witness to the Resurrection.

What are we to find in the empty tomb? Maybe the Colossians reading has an answer. By entering the empty tomb of our lives to seek the Lord, we see, we believe, we die, to be raised with Christ. “For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:3). And we will rise in glory with him.

Today’s Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37–43; Ps 118:1–2, 16–17, 22–23; Col 3:1–4 or 1 Cor 5:6b–8; Jn 20:1–9 or Mt 28:1–10
After Easter Father will begin saying Mass for scheduled intentions. If you have requested a Mass and prefer it to be said publically at a later date, please call Father.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Remember: If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation please call Father and he will direct you. It will be outside of the church and comply with the CDC recommendations with proper distancing and privacy.

**KEEP UP TO DATE!**

Did you know you can get your weekly bulletin emailed to you? Sign up here: https://www.jspaluch.com/bulletinssubscribe.aspx
You can also find this week’s bulletin as well as past weeks on our parish website: Sfxmoundsville.org

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Father That Son will celebrate Mass for your intentions at St. Francis Xavier Church.

**MON. 4/13** Jim Novel† (Ed & Mary Dugas)

**TUE. 4/14** Sandina Leonard (Rosary Group)

**WED. 4/15** Elmer Burke† (Jim Burke)

**THU. 4/16** Phyllis Langmyer† (Rick & Robin Targosky)

**FRI. 4/17** Alfred Rosario (Kitty Yocum)

**SAT. 4/18** Zachary Materkoski† (Curia Family)

**SUN. 4/19** Steve Eisenhauer† (Karen Eisenhauer)

**OFFERTORY**

**COLLECTION:**
- Envelopes $1780.00
- Building Repairs $145.00
- Priest Retirement $5.00
- Memorial Offerings $100.00
- Easter Flowers $115.00

*Thank you to everyone who has been sending in their weekly offertory!*

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**Easter Sunday**

April 12, 2020

When Christ who is your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.

—Colossians 3:4

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Our beautiful Easter Flowers will be displayed on the Church steps Easter Sunday. Drive by and enjoy their splendor while observing social distance.

After Easter they will be moved to the church vestibule.

**SEND US YOUR VIDEO!**

Please email us a short video or photo of you with your family and say:

“Happy Easter St. Francis Xavier. See you soon.”

We will post these on Facebook throughout the Easter Season.

Email: sfxmoundsville@comcast.net

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Did you know you can get your weekly bulletin emailed to you? Sign up here: https://www.jspaluch.com/bulletinssubscribe.aspx

**Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen, pastor**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):**
Sat. 3:30 p.m., or any other time upon request.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**
By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**
By appointment. The Diocese requires instructions beforehand for the parents. Contact the parish office.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (P.S.R.):**
Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

**REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:**
Parishioners should be properly registered at the Parish Office

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Church Office Phone: 304-845-1593
Church Hall Phone: 304-845-9238
Xavier Hall Phone: 304-845-7080
Rev. That Son Cell: 408-858-7467
Parish Office Email: sfxmoundsville@comcast.net
Website: sfxmoundsville.org

**MASS SCHEDULE:**
- Weekends: Saturday - 4:00 p.m.
  Sunday - 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
- Weekdays: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

**Holy Day Mass Schedule:**
8:00 am, 7:00 p.m.
An Easter Message from our Pastor:

A mother has just picked up her bouncy, happy-5-year-old from kindergarten. “Did you have a fun day?” asks his mother. “Yes!” responds the child. “Guess what! Our gym teacher is gonna have a baby!” “Oh, how wonderful,” says the mother. “Does your gym teacher know whether it’s going to be a girl or a boy?” “No, Mom,” says the confused child. “It’s gonna be a baby!”

It would be wonderful if we all could be regarded equally as not boy or girl, woman or man, black or white. After all, we are God’s own: God’s babies, God’s children, God’s people. We still believe God is here with us, through thick and thin. Now it’s our turn to be witnesses of hope in a world in need of hope, to pass on the word, ‘Jesus is Risen - Alleluia’.

Let us continue to keep each other in our prayers, and experience the joy of Christ’s Resurrection in our midst,

Fr. That Son

CONGRATULATIONS

Welcome to these new babies and congratulations to their families!

Layla Elise Sloan on March 24
Parents: Kristen & Jared Sloan
Grandparents: Chester & Elisa Sobutka

Cai Matthew Kleine on March 29
Parents: Charlie Kleine & Glynis Board
Grandmother: Susan Board

Teachers, doctors, health care workers, hospital maintenance and cleaning staff, first responders, grocery store workers, trash collectors, truck drivers and everyone who has been risking their health to keep us safe and well. You are in our prayers.

Office of Safe Environment
To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, contact local law enforcement, or contact WV Child Protective Services: 800-352-6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese, contact this diocesan number: 888-434-6237.
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