

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Fr. Michael says.....

The fact that we celebrate Easter just as the seasons change to spring is a reminder of how creation plays its part in our spiritual lives.

We are celebrating the new life of the resurrection that is given to us in Jesus - and at the same time flowers begin to bloom, the days are brighter and warmer, and the life of nature seems to start up again after the winter.



The cycle of the natural world is so connected to our human experience that we can sometimes take it for granted; but all you have to do is walk outside on the first warm day and suddenly it's all new again.

Many saints and other Christians who have gone before us have seen nature as a powerful way that God reveals Himself to us. It helps us to recognize how small we are before Him as well as how, in His great love, He provides everything for us.



As we continue into (generally) warmer weather and longer days, I encourage you to be open to the ways God shows Himself in nature. It's inherently

good for us to go outside - physically and spiritually. A quiet walk in the woods or an evening of stargazing can be incredibly prayerful

In a time when we have never been more tempted to just disconnect - especially through entertainment - encountering the beauty of creation can be a wakeup call to God's presence.

We celebrate the feast of St. Catherine of Siena on April 29, the anniversary of her death (1380, age 33, in Rome, Italy)

May God bless you for your goodness to His Church for the week of April 19, 2026

(BLS) Adult Envelopes	\$5,937.00
Easter Envelopes	\$350.00
Easter Flowers	\$1,260.00
Children's Envelopes	\$2.00
Candles	\$130.00
SVdP	\$415.00
SVdP (Holy Thursday)	\$90.00
Improvement Fund	\$145.00
Loose	\$239.00
(OLL) Adult Envelopes	\$1,933.00
Easter Envelopes	\$40.00
Children's Envelopes	\$0
Candles	\$48.00
SVdP	\$65.00
Improvement Fund	\$160.00
Loose	\$70.00



Caterina di Giacomo of Benecasa was born on March 25, 1347 in Siena, Italy and at 16 years old, entered the Third Order of St. Dominic monastery.

Her influence and spiritual wisdom led her to be recognized as a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

One of four female Doctors of the Church, St. Catherine, is known for her writings on mysticism and spiritual guidance and her efforts for Church unity in the fourteenth century.

This is a prayer of praise and thanksgiving written by St. Catherine that also asks God to lead us to Him:

***Eternal God, eternal Trinity,
you have made the Blood of Christ so precious through
His sharing in Your Divine nature.
You are a mystery as deep as the sea; the more I search,
the more I find, the more I find, the more I
search for You.
But I can never be satisfied; what I receive will ever leave
me desiring more.
When You fill my soul, I have an ever-greater hunger
and I grow more famished for Your light
I desire above all to see You, the true light, as you really
are. Amen.***

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sat.	Apr. 25	Fourth Sunday of Easter Stanley J. Michnowicz (Ron & Dolores Michnowicz)
4:30pm	(BLS)	
Sun	Apr. 26	Fourth Sunday of Easter Meg Mackay (daughter, Kaci, Dave & Hollis Chaney)
8:00am	(BLS)	
9:30am	(OLL)	Ernie, Jenny & James Lamatrice (Stephen & Elaine Lamatrice)
11:00am	(BLS)	Living and deceased members of our Wintersville parishes
Mon.	Apr. 27	Easter Weekday Edward & Camille Recznik (Harrison & Bernadette Juliano)
8:00am	(BLS)	
Tues.	April 28	Easter Weekday Joseph "Slugs" Smarrella (Michele Fabbro)
8:00am	(BLS)	
Wed.	Apr. 29	St. Catherine of Sienna, Virgin & Dr. of the Church Brian Shannon (Family)
8:00am	(BLS)	
5:30pm	(BLS)	ADORATION & ROSARY
Thurs	Apr.30	Easter Weekday Mary Agnes Stanwick (Jennifer & John Scalzo)
8:00am	(BLS)	
5:15pm	(BLS)	Frances Sohovich (Ed & Teresa Laman)
Fri.	May 1	Easter Weekday William & Molly Hawksford (Harrison & Bernadette Juliano)
8:00am	(BLS)	
Sat.	May 2	St. Athanasius, Bishop & Dr. of the Church Fr. Charles Mascolino
8:00am	(BLS)	
Sat.	May 2	Fifth Sunday of Easter Living and deceased members of our Wintersville parishes
4:30pm	(BLS)	
Sun.	May 3	Fifth Sunday of Easter Ed & Rose Karabaic (Carol & David Vitlip)
8:00am	(BLS)	
9:30am	(OLL)	Albert & Susan Lugano (Stephen & Elaine Lamatrice)
11:00am	(BLS)	Lynne Ros (Elane Renzelli)



FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT:

**THIS SUNDAY April 26th, in Sargus Hall
at 12:30pm**

**FIRST COMMUNION: Sunday, May 3rd,
11:00am mass**

Recognizing the Voice of Jesus

When my wireless provider introduced HD Voice, the voice I heard on my phone was unbelievably clear, and it felt at times like both the caller and I were in the same room. The best aspect of this feature is that it didn't cost the customer any additional fees, and it didn't require any changes to the phone. I could say it was free, but I suspect I was already paying for it in my monthly bill anyway. At least it felt free.

The clearer the voice is calling you, the easier it is to recognize who it is on the other end of the line. In John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the gatekeeper who opens the gate and calls for his sheep. They respond because they know his voice. Others try to lure the sheep when the gatekeeper is not there, but the sheep find their voices unclear or unfamiliar.

Jesus is our gatekeeper. But unlike receiving something for free from a wireless company, **to be able to hear his voice we need to pay attention and practice listening.** By developing a stewardship way of life that is mindful and prayerful, we become attuned to his voice and are able to discern when the call is from our Lord and when it is from an imposter. It is great to talk about all the things we can do and all the gifts we can share, **but if we are not listening for his call to hear where our offerings are needed, we can end up like a lost sheep searching for the gatekeeper.** —Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

**Remember in your prayers the intentions
of our Holy Father, Pope Leo**

APRIL

(For Priests in Crisis)

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.





LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

May 2nd & May 3rd

Saturday 5/2

4:30pm

Lector: Tony Corella

EMOCH: Teresa Ossio

Altar servers John Ross & John Hendricks

Sunday 5/23

8:00am

Lector: Toni Dondzila

EMOHC: Bill DiMichele

Altar servers: Symingtons

(OLL)

9:30am

Lector: David Mayher

Altar servers: (Volunteer)

11:00am

Lector: John DuBois

EMOHC: Cindy Gregor

Altar servers: Benners & Felix Velez & Peter Kissinger

If you are unable to be at your designated ministry when you are scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Thank you! Please don't just not show up.

PARISH NEWS / EVENTS



HOSPITAL: as of Thursday, Apr. 23rd:

Trinity Med. Ctr: Brian Ganat,
Willa Mae Randolph, Donald Yaskanich
& Judy Yates

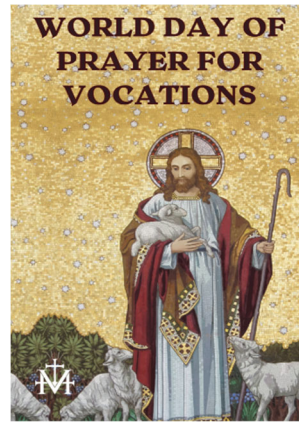
We now have Online Giving available for our parishes. Simply use these QR codes or go to our parish website (wintersvilleparishes.org) and go to "Giving."

Blessed Sacrament: Our Lady of Lourdes



DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR THE PARISHES DIRECTORY! Send your email to Wintersvillecatholicparishes@gmail.com with your family name, then download the Instant Church Directory app and edit your info. FYI: this does not register you as a parishioner! Please contact the parish office to register!

BULLETIN MEMORIALS: There are 2 bulletin memorials that will expire THIS weekend! The dates are circled in the right-hand corner. If you wish to renew them, please contact the parish office this week!



APRIL 26, 2026

The purpose of World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2)

As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life.

While appreciating all vocations, the church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity, secular institutes), and to the missionary life

2026 marks the 63rd Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

