

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18-19, 2026

Welcome to the Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier in Hunt Valley, Maryland.
Thank you for worshipping with us!

Entrance Antiphon

"Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia"
(Ps 66:1-2)

Gathering Song

Center of My Life #679

Refrain

*O Lord, you are the center of my life: I will always praise you, I will always serve you,
I will always keep you in my sight.*

Keep me safe, o God, I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord, "You are my God.
My happiness lies in you alone; my happiness lies in you alone."

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight; since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even in safety shall my body rest.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand, at your right hand happiness forever.

Text: Psalm 16, verses trans. © 1963, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; refrain, Paul Inwood, b. 1947, © 1985, Paul Inwood
Tune: Paul Inwood, b. 1947, © 1985, Paul Inwood Published by OCP

Glory to God

Refrain

Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on
earth peace to peo-ple, to peo-ple of good will.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *Jubilation Mass*, James Chepponis, © 1999, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

Collect

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading I

Acts 2:14, 22-33

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven,
raised his voice, and proclaimed: "You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem.
Let this be known to you, and listen to my words. You who are Israelites, hear these words.
Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs,
which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man, delivered up by the set plan

and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it. For David says of him:

I saw the Lord ever before me, with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted; my flesh, too, will dwell in hope, because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.

"My brothers, one can confidently say to you about the patriarch David that he died and was buried, and his tomb is in our midst to this day. But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld nor did his flesh see corruption. God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured him forth, as you see and hear."

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, You will show us the path of life.

Reading I

1 Pt 1:17-21

Beloved:

If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb. He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Gospel

Lk 24:13-35

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.

He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening

and the day is almost over." So, he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

Homily

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father; through him all things were
made. For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(bow for the next two lines)

*and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary, and became man.*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the
Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic
Church.

I confess one Baptism for the
forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen

OR

APOSTLES' CREED*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;

he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed may be used at any Sunday Mass, but **the church particularly recommends its use during Lent and Easter Time. The words of this ancient Creed have been used for centuries as the basis of our baptismal promises, and the seasons of Lent and Easter focus strongly on baptism.*

Universal Prayer

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts

Now the Green Blade Rises #534

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been; Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain, Thinking he would never wake to life again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, Springing from the grave where three days he had lain;
Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, By your touch you call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been; Love is come again, like wheat arising green.

Text: John M.C. Crum, 1872-1958, Oxford Book of Carols, © Oxford University Press

Prayer Response

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our
good and the good of all his holy Church.

Eucharistic Acclamations

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest

Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (repeat)

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Prayer before Communion

Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You, come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

"The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia" (Lk 24:35)

Distribution of Holy Communion

Shelter Me, O God #717

Refrain

***Shelter me, O God; hide me in the shadow of your wings,
You alone are my hope.***

1. When my foes surround me, set me high above their reach. Hear me when I call your name.
2. As a mother gathers her young beneath her care, gather me into your arms.
3. Though I walk in darkness, through the needle's eye of death, you will never leave my side.

Text: Psalm 16:1, 61:5; Luke 13:34; Bob Hurd, b. 1950, © 1984, Bob Hurd

Tune: Bob Hurd, b. 1950, © 1984, Bob Hurd: harm. by Craig S. Kingsbury, b. 1952, © 1984, OCP Published by OCP

Sending

How Can I Keep from Singing? #685

My life flows on in endless song. Above earth's lamentation
I hear the clear though far-off hymn That hails a new creation.

***No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?***

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comfort die? The Lord, my savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

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