

The St. Isidore Addition

A Publication of the Pastoral Council

April 2011

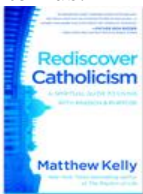
Vol. 2 Issue 4



Lent is a time for soul-searching and repentance. A time, where as Christians; we take a look back at where we have been and look forward to see what we may need to change. To grow in faith, renew our vows as Christians to be more "Christ like".

Turning to God for guidance through prayer and repentance can be a positive and uplifting experience. Are you willing to turn to God? Today, we have so many distractions, forces that pull us away from where we truly know and want to be.

In his book, **Rediscovering Catholicism**, Matthew Kelly states; *"Every day I find myself doing things that are self-destructive and make me a lesser person. I find myself saying things that hurt others, or hurting others by not saying things. On those days, you can be sure the things I am thinking are giving birth to those words and actions. These thoughts, words, and actions that deviate from the natural order and separate me from the peace of knowing I am contributing positively to the common good of the unfolding universe."* So, let us vow as a community of Christ to believe, celebrate, live and pray the way the scriptures tell us.



Communal Penance April 13th at 7



THE EASTER TRIDUUM

The *Paschal Triduum*, often called the *Easter Triduum* or simply the *Triduum*, begins during [Holy Week](#), and consists of [Holy Thursday](#), [Good Friday](#), [Holy Saturday](#), and [Easter Sunday](#). The Triduum celebrates the heart of our faith, salvation, and redemption: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thus, the Triduum commemorates the Institution of the Eucharist (the "sacrament of sacraments"), the passion, crucifixion, death of the Lord, his descent to the dead, and finally his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday morning. The Catholic Catechism describes the importance of the Triduum: Beginning with the Easter Triduum as its source of light, the new age of the Resurrection fills the whole liturgical year with its brilliance. Gradually, on either side of this source, the year is transfigured by the liturgy. It really is a "year of the Lord's favor." The economy of salvation is at work within the framework of time, but since its fulfillment in the Passover of Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the culmination of history is anticipated "as a foretaste," and the kingdom of God enters into our time (1168).

Christians have been commemorating the death and resurrection of Jesus since Apostolic times, because his death and resurrection are at the heart of Christian salvation. At least by the second century, Christians celebrated the Great Easter Vigil, an event which began the night of Holy Saturday, continuing until dawn on Easter morning. During this vigil, Christians commemorated salvation history, awaited the return of Jesus, and celebrated the resurrection of Jesus at dawn on Easter Sunday. It was at the vigil that catechumens, after a three year period of catechesis, were baptized and received first communion. The Easter Vigil was the most important day of the liturgical year. Eventually Christians expanded this celebration to a three-day commemoration of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection, with the Easter Vigil being the high point of the three day commemoration. Nonetheless, over time, as the liturgical year expanded, the Easter Vigil lost its preeminence, although the three days celebrating the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus still held an important place in the Church Year. Since the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council, the Easter Vigil, and the Triduum, have regained their position of prominence in the Western Catholic liturgical calendar.

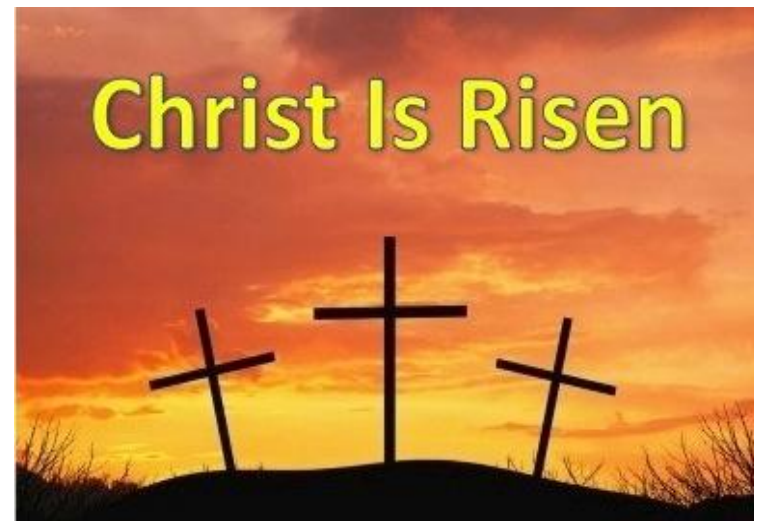
<http://www.churchyear.net/triduum.html>



Hidden Heroes and Quiet Angels

This month we focus our prayers and gratitude to those people of our parish that take the time to volunteer as greeters or ushers for our parish community. Many take this responsibility and others on without question. They ask for nothing and do much to help our parish run smoothly. We thank them and honor them for their outstanding service.

A new focus for the St. Isidore's Pastoral Council is to blend and form our ushers and greeters into one; **Ministers of Hospitality**. This formation will provide our parish more opportunities for involvement; be it a single parishioner or a family. In the upcoming weeks look and listen for details regarding the reformation of these groups. New members to this ministry are welcomed and encouraged.



Pray well, Believe well, Live well

When we pray well, we are more likely to believe well, which will lead to living well. Our spiritual health nurtures mental health, which in turn becomes behavioral health.

All families need visible reminders that our personal relationships with God and communal relationships with God are the sources of good thinking and good living. It all starts with prayer. You may have seen posters or engravings with the phrase, "Live well, Laugh often, Love much." Many families display this phrase in their homes as a reminder of the important things in life.

Brainstorm with your family about how you can display the phrase, "Pray well, Believe well, Live well" in your home. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

- Learn counted cross stitch as a family. Cross stitch and frame the phrase. The stitches will remind you that God weaves patterns of love in your household.
- Gather a pile of smooth stones and spell out the phrase with the stones on a contrasting background. Take a photo of the stones, print the photo and frame it. The stones will remind you that God is the rock of stability in your lives.
- Stencil the phrase on canvas or on a piece of wood. Choose colors that match the colors in your yard in the season of spring. The paints can be colorful reminders of God's glorious creation.

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The Gloria (Advent 2011)

Glory to God in the highest,
and **on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.**

Lord Jesus Christ, **Only Begotten Son,**
Lord God, Lamb of God, **Son of the Father,**
you take away the **sins** of the world,
have mercy on us;
**you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;**
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.