



# WELLSPRING

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## Wellspring Community Outreach

Monday, April 6, 2026

Brothers and Sisters,

Yesterday, we celebrated Easter. Easter changed everything for those who followed Jesus! Men and women experienced a transformation of their lives. Frightened men became fearless proclaimers of the good news of Jesus and ministers of God's forgiving and healing presence among his people. Denials were turned to affirmations of love and dedicated service as in the case of Peter and doubts were changed to confession of faith as in the case of Thomas. Men who were hiding in fear were empowered to move freely and proclaim their joy in the risen Lord and give witness to their faith in their master being alive.

The Gospel of Mark (Mark 16:9-15) tells us that Jesus rose from the dead and first appeared to Mary Magdalene, but the followers of Jesus refused to believe her testimony. The disciples did not expect Jesus to be visiting Mary of Magdala after his resurrection. After all, her past was not that great, and she was not one of the specially chosen apostles.... she did not fit the common criteria for a visit from the world beyond.... surprise!!!

Be open! The Lord has his own way of surprising us! He comes to us through the most unexpected people, events, places and situations! No one expected to find the messiah in a manger or on the cross.... that is just the way God revealed the power of His unconditional, unconquerable, benevolent love for us.

In the Gospel of John, we read the moving story of Mary of Magdala (John 20:1-9) going to the tomb of Jesus early in the morning and running to Peter and John to tell them that the tomb was empty. Peter and John went to the tomb and found everything as Mary had described. This excerpt concludes by saying that they believed without understanding the scripture "that he had to rise from the dead." Surprise again!!!

There are many things about our life, our faith, our church, and our spiritual traditions that we do not understand. But we live a life of faith with understanding and without understanding, and even with misunderstanding because real faith is born of relationship. Genuine faith is not an affirmation or acceptance of doctrines or acceptance of details of an event that can be

verified scientifically or otherwise. To believe is to relate, to trust, to be intimate and to be in communion. Our belief in the resurrection and our commitment to live a resurrected life are the results of our communion with the risen Christ.

Jesus surprised his followers again by appearing to the eleven disciples and rebuking them for their disbelief. Then he sent them with the mission: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news to all creation". What an amazing surprise! Jesus sent his disciples with his message to fulfill his mission. Men of weak faith, men who could not see beyond their disappointments, and men who did not grasp all that Jesus said to them about his death and resurrection while he was among them, were sent to proclaim the good news of the resurrection!

Don't wait and don't hesitate to share and announce the good news of God's love till you have fully matured in faith! We must give witness to our faith in the risen Lord with understanding, without understanding and even with misunderstanding... otherwise, we may never give witness to our faith because our knowledge is imperfect and so is our understanding! The more we know the more there is to know and the more we understand the more there is to understand! We have faith, we live our faith, and we give witness to our faith however imperfect it may be!

I encourage you to take a few moments every day during this week to be still and reflect on how your day has been and on how you have been witnessing to your faith in the risen Lord as you went about doing your daily chores.

**Be sure to take a few still moments during the week.  
Bless yourself with stillness!**

### **Be Still Moment - Allow yourself to be still for a moment**

Loving God, thank you for your miracles in small events, people and things. Open my eyes today so that I may see them.

### **Salesian Moment – A moment with St. Francis de Sales**

All are called to perfection, since our Lord was speaking to all when he said, "Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect."

### **Come back to me with an empty Cup.....**

Once, a long time ago, there was a wise Zen master. People from far and near would seek his counsel and ask for his wisdom. Many would come and ask him to teach them, enlighten them in the way of Zen. He seldom turned anyone away.

One day an important man, a man used to command and obedience, came to visit the master. "I have come today to ask you to teach me about Zen. Open my mind to enlightenment." The tone of the important man's voice was one used to getting his own way.

The Zen master smiled and said that they should discuss the matter over a cup of tea. When the tea was served the master poured his visitor a cup. He poured and he poured, and the tea rose to the rim and began to spill over the table and finally onto the robes of the wealthy man. Finally, the visitor shouted, "Enough. You are spilling the tea all over me. Can't you see the cup is full?"

The master stopped pouring and smiled at his guest. "You are like this teacup, so full that nothing more can be added. Come back to me when the cup is empty. Come back to me with an empty mind."

**When we are present in each moment, the past gently rolls up behind us  
and the future slowly unravels before us.**

### **Christian horse....**



Bill was a good Christian. He saw an ad online for a Christian horse, so he went to check it out. The horse's owner said, "It's easy to ride him. Just say Praise the Lord!' to make him go and 'Amen!' to make him stop." Bill got on the horse and said, "Praise the Lord!" Sure enough, the horse started to walk. "Praise the Lord!" he said again, and the horse began to trot. "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" he yelled, and the horse broke into a gallop. Bill was enjoying his ride so much that he almost didn't notice the cliff he and the horse were about to go over. Bill shouted "AMEN!" at the top of his lungs, and the horse stopped right at the edge of the cliff. Relieved, Bill said, "Phew! Praise the Lord!"

### **Did you Know?**

#### **Different names for Easter Sunday**

There are a few different names for Easter Sunday that are used by Catholics to emphasize the pinnacle of feasts in the liturgical year. Many Catholics may not be aware that the Church has a few different names for Easter Sunday that bring out various aspects of this special feast.

## **Easter Sunday**

The first and most obvious name is “Easter Sunday,” which has its own Christian symbolism.

Some historians recognize a connection with the German word Ostern, which connects it to the rising of the sun. According to Nick Sayers, “The English word Easter is of German/Saxon origin ... The German equivalent is Oster. Oster (Ostern being the modern-day equivalent) is related to Ost which means the rising of the sun, or simply in English, east.”

Jesus’ resurrection is frequently tied to the rising of the sun as his body was not found in the tomb when some of his disciples went there at dawn.

## **Great and Holy Pascha**

For Eastern Catholics (and Orthodox Christians), Easter Sunday is called the, “Great and Holy Pascha.”

This is connected to the Aramaic form of the Hebrew Pesach, meaning, “Passover.” Pascha connects the Christian celebration to the Jewish Passover that was being celebrated during Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection.

## **Sunday of the Resurrection**

The official Latin word for Easter Sunday in the Roman Rite is, Dominica Resurrectionis, meaning “Sunday of the Resurrection.” This name brings to the forefront the primary reason for this feast, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## **Feast of feasts**

Another name that is used for this day is the “Feast of feasts” or the “Solemnity of solemnities.” Both have a similar definition of being the pinnacle of feasts of the entire liturgical year. Similar to the “Holy of holies,” Easter Sunday is the holiest of days in the Christian year and the summit of the entire Christian religion.

## **Pope Leo XIV.....**

“The love of which Jesus speaks is the love of a God who even today comes among us, not to dazzle us with spectacular displays, but to share in our struggles and to take our burdens upon himself. In doing so, he reveals to us the truth about who we are and how precious we are in his sight.”( Sunday, March 29, 2026)

“We do not need these ‘substitutes for happiness. Our joy and greatness are not founded on passing illusions of success or fame, but on knowing ourselves to be loved and wanted by our heavenly Father.” (Tuesday, March 31, 2026)

“Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit, so that our lives may be renewed in Christ.” (Wednesday, April 1, 2026)

“Faith grows when we listen to the Word of God with trust and allow it to shape our lives, guiding our choices and opening our hearts to the mission Christ entrusts to us.” (Monday, April 6, 2026)

### **Pray for each other.....**

Let us stay close to each other in spirit and prayer as we continue our journey through life with all its joyful moments as well as moments not so joyful. Be faithful to your calling! All you do may not be successful in your eyes or in the eyes of others. The real success lies in your fidelity to who you are and what you have come to know as your calling. Just be faithful and be joyful!

God bless you and your families,

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs

**It is better to walk through darkness with the Lord guiding you  
than to sit enthroned in light that radiates from yourself.**

(Basil Cardinal Hume)

