

# The Light of Christ! Thanks be to God! Alleluia! The Lord Jesus Christ is risen!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On March 26, when the Church celebrates the Great Easter Vigil, we will let our Alleluias be sung as we celebrate the great event of the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We will have completed our forty days of Lent by which we have prepared to celebrate the Paschal Mystery. We will then begin the Easter Season in which the Church rejoices at Jesus' victory over sin and death. The Church invites each one of us to enter more fully into the life of grace that has been given us in our Baptism. Saint Paul reminds us, "We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like his." (Romans 6:4-5).

Beginning with the Easter Vigil and concluding at Pentecost (May 15), the Church celebrates the great 50 days of Easter. At that time, we are called to renew our efforts to live the life Jesus has won for us through His Suffering and Death on the Cross. Jesus asks us to allow Him to live in us, and through our participation in His resurrected life, to build up His Kingdom in the world today.

I ask you, to allow the joyful hope we share in Christ Jesus to be even more evident in the way you practice your faith during the Easter season. Be motivated to follow the Lord more closely by the joy of knowing that your eternal life has been secured by Christ. I encourage you never to be afraid to give a defense to those who ask about the joy you have in knowing Christ Jesus. It is important for the world to see the face of Jesus in the life you live. For it is the Lord, risen from the dead, who desires to be present to a world that is hurting and broken. Your Christian life gives witness that Christ is alive and at work in the world today. By living the Gospel values that the Lord teaches and by allowing His love to permeate all your actions, we can join our voices with those of His first disciples by acclaiming, "The Lord is risen! Lord is risen indeed!"

May this upcoming Easter season be one of great blessings and graces for all the Faithful in this parish of St. Uriel's. May the Peace of the Lord, given to His Apostles on that first Easter night, reign in your hearts, in hearts of your families, and in your homes. On behalf of Cynthia and myself, we both wish all of you a blessed and joyful Easter Glory!

Yours in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ, Fr. Russell A. Griffin, SSC Rector

#### **Palm Sunday**

March 20, 2016

8:00am **Mass** with the Procession of Palms \*10:**00am** Solemn High **Mass** with the Procession of Palms

## Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in Holy Week

March 21 – March 23, 2016 9:30am **Mass** 7:00pm **Mass** 

> Holy Thursday March 24, 2016 9:30am Mass

# Start of the Easter Triduum

## **Maundy Thursday**

March 24, 2016 7:00pm Solemn High **Mass** Foot-washing, Stripping of the Altar Altar of Repose before the Blessed Sacrament

### **Good Friday**

March 25, 2016
12:00 Noon Stations of the Cross
7:00pm Veneration of the Cross with
Mass of the Pre-Sanctified

## THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL

March 26, 2016 5:00pm Saturday The First Mass of Easter

The Easter Vigil will be celebrated on **Saturday, March 26** at **5:00pm** in a darkened Church.

A wine and hors d'oeuvre reception will follow the Vigil.

Easter Day March 27, 2016

9:30am Second Mass of Easter
No 8:00am Mass

Easter Week
March 28 – April 1, 2016
9:30am Daily Mass

Confessions are available by contacting Fr. Griffin, SSC

\*There will be music at the 8:00am Mass on Palm Sunday. The normally scheduled 9:30am Mass will, on *Palm Sunday*, begin at 10am.

Notice that on Easter Day there will be only ONE Mass, which will be celebrated at 9:30am Easter Sunday.

The parish community is very grateful for all the financial donations toward Easter flowers. It would be most helpful if the Easter flower donations could be received in the parish office by Thursday, March 17, 2016.