

# OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH Salamanca, Easter 2020

# Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Dear Parish Family

During Holy Week and Easter, it is our Christian responsibility and honor to walk with Jesus along the way of the cross. We follow his path from suffering, through death and right through to life on the other side. This year our parish will join with people of faith around the world on a different kind of Holy Week and Easter journey.

As the world community works together to slow the spread of COVID-19, we will not gather publicly for worship or other activities during the most holy time of the year. Let there be no doubt that this will stretch us, and let there be no doubt that we will worship God, we will commemorate the last week of our Lord's earthly life, we will celebrate the wonder and glory of the resurrection. We will do it all in ways that will honor God, that will honor the health of the most vulnerable among us, and that will honor the restrictions placed upon us by our civic leaders. We are the Church, and we will be the Church during Holy Week, on Easter Day, and for as long as God calls us. Together, we will worship and do the work of evangelization that is so much a part of our Holy Week and Easter journey. Together, we will tell the story of our faith in compelling ways. Together, we will address financial issues in a season when congregations depend on offerings to support God's mission.

Let this time of trial and experience strengthen us and become an opportunity to deepen our faith and practice love, especially among our loved ones. Once again, I ask everyone for responsibility and stay at home. As we move toward a new kind of Holy Week and Easter, do not be afraid. God is bigger than our fears, bigger than our sense of loss. God is present and at work in this pandemic, showing us renewed ways to be community. The truth of this time remains eternal: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. God bless you. God bless us all as we walk this road in hope, in truth and in growing faith - together.

A very Happy Easter to each and every one of you! What a joy it is for every true Christian to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. It is not just the end of our period of penance and sacrifice, but the beginning of a new life in Christ the risen Lord.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Fr. Mariusz Sierhart



### !!! PRAYER FOR QUICK END OF THE PANDEMIC !!!

God Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, who for the love of us sent your Son to the world as a doctor of souls and bodies, look at your children who in this difficult moment of uncertainty and fear in many regions of our country and the world, we turn to You - seeking strength, salvation and consolation. Free us from disease and fear, heal our sick people, comfort their families and give wisdom to the rulers, energy and strength to doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life of the dead. Do not leave us at the time of trial, but free us from all evil. We ask You, Dear Father for this, who live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit forever. Amen.

Mary, Our Lady of Peace healer of the sick and Mother of hope, pray for us!

#### 2020 EASTER CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

Mass for Palm Sunday, Holy Week services, the Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday will all be celebrated, however without congregation.