

*Welcome to the Parish of
Immaculate Conception*

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

April 12, 2020 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord



Love God, Serve Others, Make Disciples

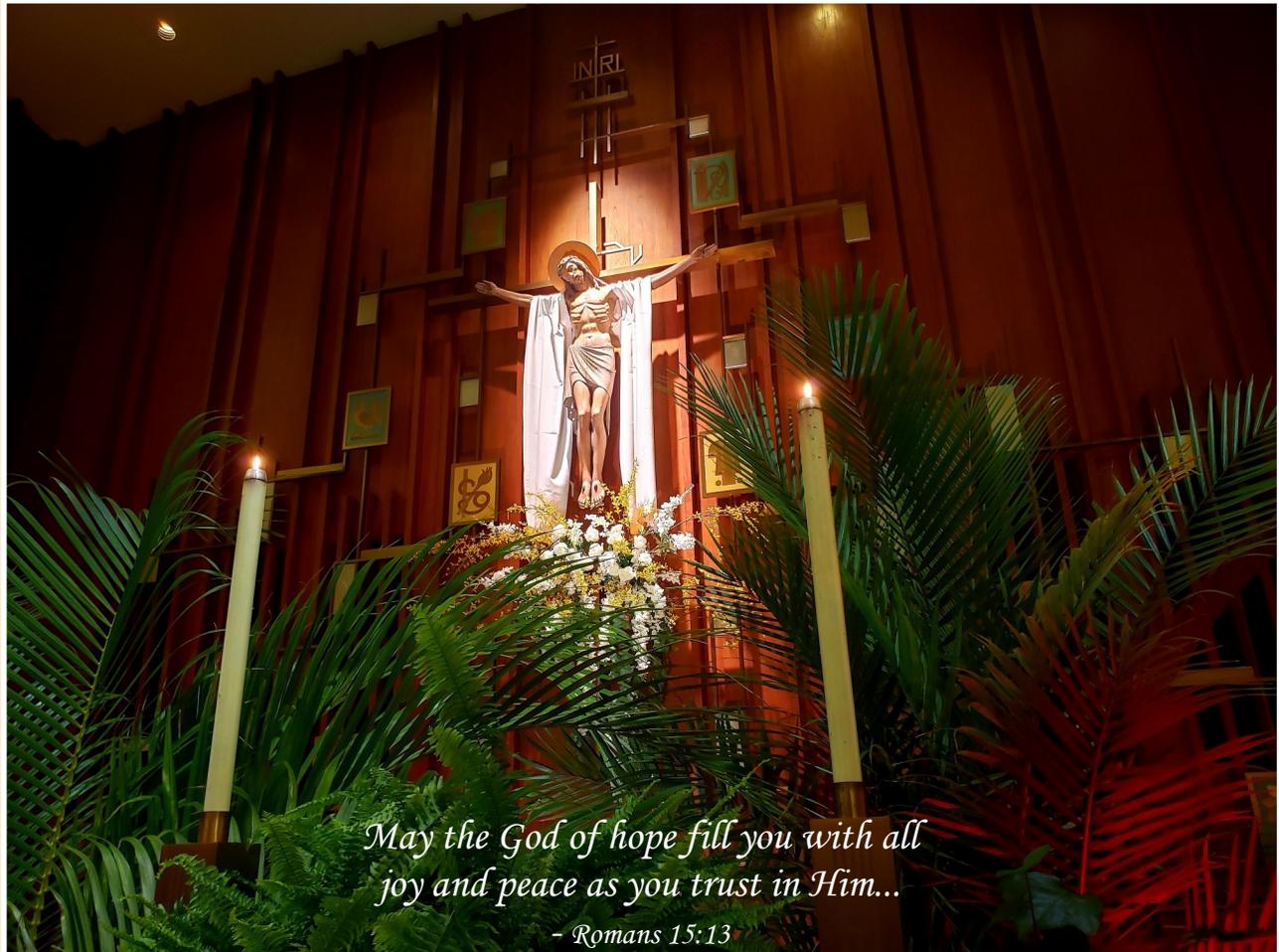
Happy Easter!

This Easter Feast embraces us all with God's overwhelming love and mercy. In this Feast we find our hope – hope for this life and hope for life to come - and in these challenging and uncertain times, hope is needed now more than ever. No matter how unfaithful we have been in the past, Christ invites us to accept His forgiveness and walk with Him into the future with the assurance of His abiding presence.

Christ's death and resurrection changes everything in life. To be anchored in this mystery is to live with our hearts set on the lasting values that Jesus lived and died for. May the grace of this Holy Feast of the Resurrection reinvigorate us for Christian discipleship so that we may continue to prayerfully support one another and serve one another humbly in love and may the blessings of Easter fill your hearts, minds and homes with joy, peace and hope!



Fr. Robert



*May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace as you trust in Him...*

- Romans 15:13

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
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Easter 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In this joyful season of Easter, the Church frequently prays Psalm 147. It expresses the new life and hope that we have in the Risen Lord. Here are the opening verses:

Alleluia!

*Sing praise to the Lord who is good; sing
to our God who is loving:
to God our praise is due.*

*The Lord builds up Jerusalem and
brings back Israel's exiles, God
heals the broken-hearted and
binds up all their wounds.*

Indeed, God is good. The Resurrection of Jesus leads us out of exile from the land of sin and death to new life. The power and presence of the Risen Lord heals our wounded and fragile lives and binds our hearts with new hope. That is why we sing praise to the Lord who is good.

With this great song of praise, Easter also challenges all of us to re-imagine our lives in light of the Resurrection of Jesus. With his grace, we can break free from the cycles of pain, violence, destructive forces, misunderstandings, and everything else that weighs us and our world down. We can re-envision our lives and live differently.

May God grant you and your loved ones renewal and joy in the Risen Lord Jesus.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Blase Cardinal Cupic
Archbishop of Chicago

Immaculate Conception Parish

Scenes from our virtual celebration of the Eucharist on Palm Sunday, April 5th



Immaculate Conception Parish

During our livestreamed Masses, we invite our parish family to recite the following prayer during Communion as you join us in worship from the comfort of your home:

An Act 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 sacramentally, come at least 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.*



Seeking to connect with members of our IC parish family?

Become a part of our expanding virtual community! Worship with us from the comfort of your home by viewing our broadcast of our 11:00 A.M. Mass on Sundays (livestreamed on [twitch.tv/icchicago](https://www.twitch.tv/icchicago) as well as via Facebook Live on our Facebook page.) Greet and join together with your fellow parishioners in prayer (and exchange a virtual sign of peace) as both streaming platforms provide an interactive experience for viewers. Please note: registration is required on both Facebook and Twitch in order to participate in the chat feature.



Immaculate Conception Parish

Please continue your support of our parish...

Even though public celebration of Mass has regrettably been suspended for the time being, we still require your financial assistance. As you know, our Sunday collection is by far the largest portion of financial support that our parish receives and is therefore critical to the vitality of our health and our sustainability as a parish. Simply put, we would not be able to maintain our parish and continue our mission without you. As such, we are truly grateful for the continued generosity of our faithful parishioners.



During this difficult time, we respectfully ask that you continue to support our parish (if you are able) as our bills continue and our staff members need to be compensated, regardless of whether or not our Church building is open. Your funds are critically needed to maintain our prayerful presence in our community during this unprecedented time as the current suspension of liturgical services is regrettably leading to significant losses in our offertory income.

Ways you can continue to support IC during the suspension of liturgical services:

Please kindly mail your weekly offering envelope to our Parish Office at 7211 W. Talcott Avenue, Chicago, IL. 60631. Donations are also accepted online through Give Central: www.givecentral.org/location/349 or through the Archdiocesan Universal Offertory Collection: www.archchicago.org/offertory. Please kindly credit your monetary gift to our parish by selecting Immaculate Conception – Talcott Avenue on the drop-down menu on the form. If you have any questions regarding setting up your online donations through Give Central, please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 and a member of our Parish Staff will be happy to assist you.

With a truly grateful and humble heart, I thank you for your faithful stewardship of our parish. Be assured of my constant prayers for you and your loved ones as we persevere together as a parish family through this challenging time in our lives. May our merciful and loving Father strengthen our faith during times of illness and uncertainty as we continue to trust in His goodness and divine providence.

Fr. Robert

Connect with IC through Zoom...

With an eye towards cultivating a meaningful virtual community at IC during this time of isolation, we have been utilizing a communication tool entitled Zoom Video Conferencing to unite our parish family in prayer and conversation. Please visit www.zoom.us to register and download the web app for free on your computer, smartphone or tablet.



Members of our community pray the rosary daily at **11:00 A.M. (Monday through Saturday)** hosted by Deacon Rick & his wife Carol [**Zoom Meeting Room/ID Code: 7902114314**]. For security purposes, please input the following password when prompted: **920449**. At **3:00 P.M.**, we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and engage in faith conversations (**Monday through Saturday**) hosted by our parishioner Mario Orrico & Fr. Robert [**Zoom Meeting Room/ID Code: 7661741428**]. Please input the following password when prompted: **895580**. Zoom offers you the opportunity to see and hear members of our community praying together and engaging in conversations about their faith, while also allowing you to interact and participate as well. For those who are camera-shy, Zoom offers you the option of joining the conversation without video enabled (so you can be heard, but not seen), so please don't let that discourage you from joining us in prayer.

Although we are temporarily restricted from physically assembling as a parish family and encountering Christ through the Eucharist, we can still be present to each other spiritually and remain connected in heart and mind if we are open to embracing the technology that is available to us. As God is ever-present, so we too strive to be here for you as a parish staff - to walk with you, to counsel you, to support you, to comfort you and to assure you that you are not alone.

Immaculate Conception Parish

Parishioners and Guests of Immaculate Conception...

As a precautionary measure, due to concerns relating to public health, all liturgical services have been suspended in our Church until further notice (as mandated by Cardinal Cupich and the Archdiocese of Chicago.) This includes all daily and weekend Masses as well as Reconciliation (Confessions) on Saturday afternoons.



Please be advised that, due to Governor Pritzker's Shelter-In-Place mandate for the state of Illinois, both **our Church and Parish Office will remain closed through**

Thursday, April 30th. As such, we are regrettably unable to offer opportunities for private prayer in our Church on Sundays at this time. Although our Parish Office is temporarily closed to the public, we are still available to assist you with any questions, concerns or needs that may arise during the time the Shelter-In-Place order is in effect. Voicemail messages are monitored remotely on a daily basis by a member of our Parish Staff and we also encourage you to connect with us via email at frontdesk@icparish.info.

Please note: All previously scheduled activities, meetings, events, and practices have either been canceled or postponed through Thursday, April 30th. Additional scheduling changes may occur as the situation continues to develop.

Worship from Home...

In lieu of gathering together for Mass at IC, we encourage our parishioners and guests to honor the Lord's Day by viewing our weekly broadcast of **Sunday Mass at 11:00 A.M.** featuring Fr. Robert & Fr. Matt (accompanied by Scott, our Director of Worship, on keyboard) which is livestreamed through Twitch TV and Facebook Live. Direct links to both platforms are easily accessible on our parish website (www.icparish.net). Weekday Masses are also livestreamed daily **[Monday through Friday] at 7:00 P.M.** while our weekly **School Mass** is broadcast on **Wednesdays at 11:00 A.M.**

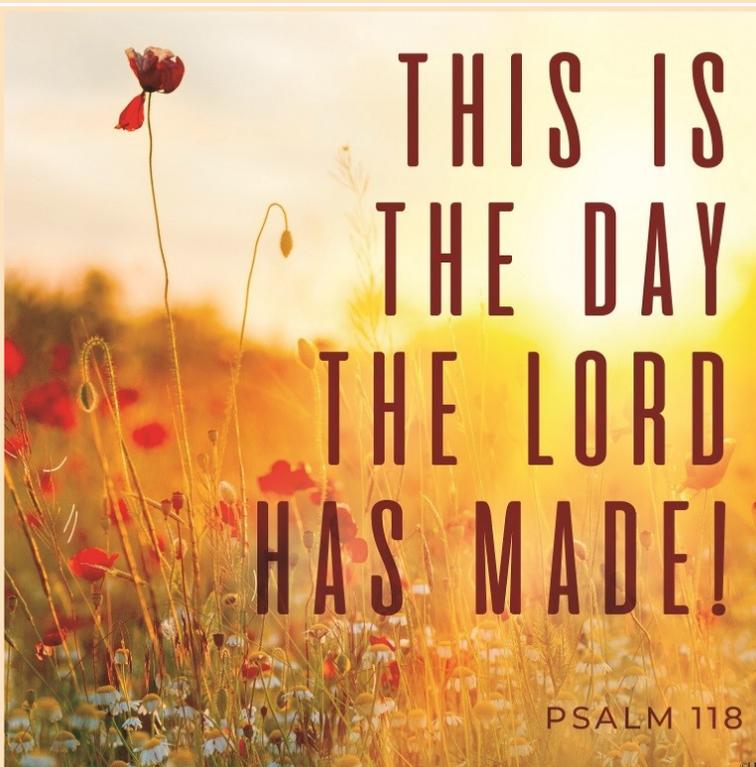
For your convenience, all livestreamed Masses are recorded and archived for a limited time.

Private Masses will continue to be celebrated by Fr. Robert & Fr. Matt daily to honor the intentions of the day. Each Mass will also be offered for the wellbeing of our community and our city as we continue to pray for all those affected by the current Coronavirus outbreak, both locally and globally, so that they may be healed by our compassionate and merciful Father and find comfort and peace in His love.

Live the Liturgy - Inspiration for the Week

Our world wants us to believe that life is only what we make of it. Today, we realize how untrue that is. Life is ultimately about what God makes of it, and the resurrection of Jesus reveals this. Alleluia, Christ is risen! Who do you understand yourself to be? What we did yesterday, are doing today, and may do tomorrow pretty much determine how we perceive ourselves. We even perceive Jesus this way in limiting our vision of him to his earthly accomplishments. But, we know through today's triumphant celebration that Christ is much more than his earthly legacy. The transfigured and resurrected Christ is the beginning, the end, and the fulfillment of all things and every person. All that Jesus did stands in second place to who we now know him to be. Do we realize that this will be our journey too? Christ is risen. Alleluia, alleluia!

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PSALM 118

Immaculate Conception Parish

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK

Mary Alvarez	Richard Losik
Concetta Bartucci	Benny Martinez
Melissa Bednarz	Edwin Martinez
Celerina Behrman	Frank Martinez
Robert Behrman	Jan Merino
Sonia M. B.	Veronica Murillo
Vince Caeti	Timothy Murray
Jackie Campbell	Mae O'Donnell
Rita Castillo	Jackie O'Koniewski
James Covello	Mary (Kores) Potwora
Sherry Crocifisso	Bill Remblake
Ronnie Cunningham	Sebastian L. Rivera
Brooke Foreman	David Rodriguez
Lila Gehner	Elaine Schatz
Ofelia Hernandez	Edward Stanczyk
Nancy Kinzie	Steven P. Trifilio
Craig Kloss	John Varallo
Lillian Kohut	
Arlene Lacey-Beyna	

If you wish to have your name included in our prayer list or removed, please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833.

To receive Communion at home, please contact our Parish Office or email Deacon Ron at: jmdeacon@aol.com and leave your name, address, and telephone number.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT IC

For more information on upcoming events, please visit our parish website at www.icparish.net.

Please note: As a precautionary measure, all previously scheduled activities, meetings, and events have either been canceled or postponed through Thursday, April 30th. Additional scheduling changes may occur as the situation continues to develop.

Pope Tweet of the Week...

"It is not the time of your judgment, but of our judgment: a time to choose what matters and what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not. It is a time to get our lives back on track with regard to You, Lord, and to others."



Your Gifts to God and Parish

If you plan to move from the parish, please notify the Parish Office at least three months before you move. Also, if you will be away for more than 3 months, please call the Parish Office, so your envelopes can be stopped for that time period. If you use electronic giving and still receive envelopes, please contact the Parish Office so we can discontinue your receiving of envelopes.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them...

Please join our parish family in prayer as we honor our faithful departed:

Regina A. Hanusiak



Readings for the Week of April 12th

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/ Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22 [5b]/ Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118: 1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a [22]/ Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21 [21a]/Mk 16:9-15

Next Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/ Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

BAPTISMS: Arrangements must be made in advance. A preparatory session is required for parents. The sessions are every other month on the 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. in the Rectory Assembly. No baptisms during Lent.

MARRIAGES: Those contemplating marriage need to contact a priest of the parish to begin the process of preparation at least six months in advance. No marriages during Advent and Lent.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: The deadline for all bulletin submissions is Friday at noon – 8 days prior to the Sunday it will appear. The email address is icparishbulletin@gmail.com.

PARISH REGISTRATION: Please contact or visit the Parish Office for more information.

Our Parish uses



for online donations

Sign up for online

giving at givecentral.org

Immaculate Conception Parish

MASST INTENTIONS

Please note: Although public celebration of Mass has been suspended until further notice, Fr. Robert and Fr. Matt will continue to celebrate Mass privately for the wellbeing of our community and our city and to honor the intentions of the day.

Sunday, April 12 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:30 A.M.— †Tommy Fuller

9:30 A.M.— †Claudette Panfil; and †Charles Grayzeck

11:15 A.M.— †Francis & Moira Cross; and †Aida Miranda

Monday, April 13 – Monday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 A.M.— †Elizabeth Serafin

Tuesday, April 14 - Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 A.M.— †Poor Souls In Purgatory

Wednesday, April 15 - Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 A.M.— †Sophie Sikorski (on her 13th Anniversary)

Thursday, April 16 - Thursday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 A.M. — Claudine Merino (on her 54th Birthday) (Living)

Friday, April 17 - Friday within the Octave of Easter

8:30 A.M.— Carol Moritz (Living)

Saturday, April 18 - Saturday within the Octave of Easter

5:00 P.M.— †Richard Pawlowski; †Edward Labuz; †The Boksa Family; and †Jean & Tony Reszotko

Sunday, April 19 – Sunday of Divine Mercy (Second Sunday of Easter)

7:30 A.M.— †Mike O'Donnell

9:30 A.M.— †Francis & Moira Cross; †Charles Grayzeck; †Maureen Serb; †Estelle & Frank Lunski; †Marie & Jesus Villagomez; and †Vincenzo Porcelli

11:15 A.M.— †Nicola & Anna Chiusolo

6:00 P.M.— †Marilyn McCallister (on her 10th Anniversary)

April 12th through April 18th

The sanctuary lamp is burning this week for the prayer intention of

Brooke Foreman

(Daughter of Jennifer (Zyks) & Jeremy Foreman)

Requested by: Ray & Jan Ehrlich

April 12th through April 17th

The Blessed Mother Votive is burning this week for the repose of the souls of

Poor Souls In Purgatory

April 12th through April 17th

The St. Joseph Votive is burning this week for the prayer intention of

Claudine Merino

Requested by: Erma Kinzie

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

U.S. Army - SSgt. John Francis Mikita, Sgt. Kevin Whalen, SSgt Martine Makita, Chris Dash, Pvt. Jason G. Cavanaugh, Major Christopher Walsh, Capt. Benjamin Monson, 1st Lt. Katherine D. Hartnett, SPC Michael J. Stone, Pvt. Charlie Cruz Pappas, U.S. Army - Thomas Treslo National Guard Specialist 4th Class

U.S. Navy - CMDR Michael Brasseur, Lt. Christopher Jenkins, PO Thomas T. Tudisco

U.S. Air Force - John Christopher Ocasio, Major Laurel Walsh, Captain Paul H. Kolk, LT. COL. Michael O'Koniewski; 2nd Lt. Colleen Bernal

U.S. Marine - Sean Gronset, PFC Sebastian L. Rivera, Jr., PFC Christopher Hughes, PFC Algene D. Porticos

Let us pray for these women and men and all who are serving in the military. Please contact the Parish Office when these service people return. If you are a veteran or know a veteran, the Archdiocese of Chicago has a website: vets.archchicago.org that provides information that can be of assistance.

Immaculate Conception Parish

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



When we awoke this morning, we found ourselves blessed with another day. It is Easter Sunday. As that thought crossed our minds, did we find ourselves saying “so what” or “alleluia”? For many, today is truly a day of alleluia. For others, it is just another day of “so what.” Faith makes a huge difference. It not only makes a difference in how we understand today and the significance of what we celebrate, it also makes a huge difference in terms of how we understand ourselves.

Succeed, live well, be productive, find your niche, follow your dreams, make money, protect your social status, be politically correct, and keep your preferences to yourself are pretty good examples of the messages our secular life wants us to hear. In and of themselves, they don't sound all that harmful. But when really examined, they are. The life of resurrection embodied in the Gospel tells us a much different story.

Life keeps us busy. We are always connected, distracted, occupied, and working. For many of us, an agenda awaits us before we even start our day, and unfinished stuff is brought with us when we retire at night. Make the best of life and “find your own road to happiness are messages we all too easily believe. The “so what” response to the new life of resurrection is often the result of believing that life is only what I make it. What God has to say isn't important to me securing my next raise.

Sadly, we live as if the grave is the end. While we may give the wonder of heaven a blink now and then, its glory really doesn't impress us or matter all that much. It's all about the here and now and what I need to do today to get where I want to be tomorrow. We tend to put off considering the one significant “tomorrow” that will come the millisecond after we take our last breath. When that happens, will we want to be thinking “so what?” or “alleluia”?

There is only one Jesus, one mission, and one resurrection. There is also only one of us. Have you ever pondered what one solitary, humble human life can do? Faith, not our world, tells us how special we are. We are not robots. We are not replaceable. We have one shot. There are no do-overs. Love is at our core and unites us together as one with the God of love who so desperately wants us to be with Him forever. This may not match our secular agenda, but it ought to make our true inner agenda leap for joy. There doesn't need to be an end. I can live forever. Alleluia!

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Everyday Stewardship – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

Come to Christ...

Life is perhaps God's greatest gift to each of us. Without life, we would be unable to experience all the wonder of this world, the love of family and friends, and the joy that comes from using our talents and skills. Life itself is more profound a gift than we can even truly contemplate.

On Easter, we celebrate life. For on this day, Jesus Christ conquered death and gave to us the chance for a life eternal. The wonder, love, and joy of this world does not have to end. Through a life in Jesus Christ, these emotions are heightened, and we find even greater fulfillment in this world.

Maybe this Easter you are finding yourself open to taking a next step in your relationship with Jesus. This could be the moment you decide to follow Him more closely and take seriously all that He has given you. If so, welcome to the journey, where there are many other disciples on that same path who can help show you the way and share their stories. If not, hopefully it doesn't take a whole year for this possibility to be considered again. Jesus is alive and waiting to get closer to you. May this Easter season find you and Our Lord getting to know one another in a whole new way. Happy Easter!



– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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