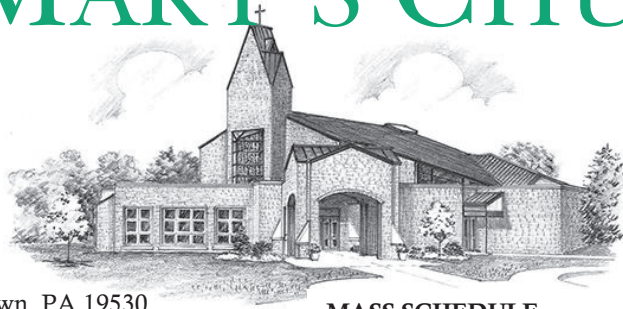




**This man God raised on the third day and
granted that he be visible,
not to all the people, but to us,
Acts 10: 40-41**

EASTER SUNDAY, THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, MARCH 31, 2024
We are a welcoming community called to deepen and share our faith

ST MARY'S CHURCH



14833 Kutztown Road ▪ Kutztown, PA 19530

www.StMarysKutztown.com

www.facebook.com/stmaryskutztown

Church, Meeting Rooms, Business & Parish Offices:

Phone : 610-683-7443 ▪ Fax : 610-683-7625

Email: Parish@StMarysKutztown.com

Religious Education Center: 610-683-6454

Email: RelEd@StMarysKutztown.com

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Pastor	Fr John Maria
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Msgr Walter T Scheaffer
Transitional Deacon	Rev. Mr. N. Romero Brelinsky
Permanent Deacon	Dcn. Howard Schultz
Coordinator/Religious Educ	Mrs. Ann Pergosky
Director of Music Ministry and Parish Secretary	Mrs. Anne Sitarik

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Ladies Auxiliary	Theresa Bieak & Deb Massa
Men of St. Mary's	Mr. Tom Cengeri
Pro-Life Committee	Mr. John Tucker, O P
R C I A	Fr. John Maria

DIOCESAN INFORMATION

Diocesan Policies and Procedures on Youth Protection:

www.allentowndiocese.org

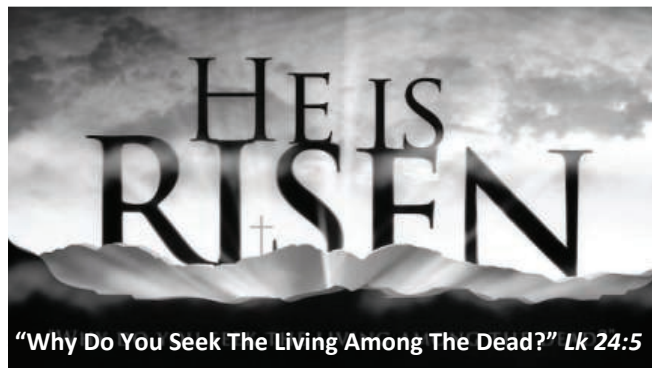
Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Wendy S Krisak, Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209

Office of Safe Environment Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services: Pamela Russo, MSW, MS ; PO Box F, Allentown, 181-5-1538 Tele. 610-871-5200 x2204

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service:

www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or 800-276-1562



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	4:30 pm
Sunday	8:30, 11:00am
Daily Masses	7:30am (Monday – Friday) 8:00am (First Saturdays)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Every Wednesday, 7-8 pm *and* First Friday of the Month, 8 until 9am

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM – Baptism is celebrated at various times, often 11a Mass, the 1st Sunday of the month. Baptisms are also scheduled privately upon arrangement with families. Parents must contact the Religious Ed Office to arrange Baptismal Prep sessions and learn all the details.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - Saturday, 3:30-4:20p, Sundays 8:00-8:20; 10:30-10:50 am, Wednesdays 7:00-8:00p and by appointment

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK – Those who are dangerously ill or facing serious surgery may receive this healing Sacrament. Please contact Father John Maria to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY – Congratulations! Couples must contact Father John at least six months in advance of desired date. Marriage Preparation is required for proper celebration of a valid and Sacramental marriage.

PROSPECTIVE GODPARENTS/SPONSORS asked to serve as Baptismal Godparents or Confirmation sponsor must request an eligibility certificate from the parish priest. To serve in this special role parishioners must: Be in full communion with the Catholic Church; Attend Mass weekly; have received Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation & Confirmation; Married individuals need be validly married in the Catholic Church. Please contact the Parish Office and allow 2 weeks to process.

HOMEBOUND – Parishioners homebound and unable to attend Mass please contact the Parish Office to arrange visitation, to receive Holy Communion

HOSPITALIZED - Call the Rectory to notify of someone in the hospital so we can pray for and possibly visit them. Each hospital in our Diocesan boundaries is either covered by a local parish or has a priest on call at the hospital.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP - Welcome to St. Mary's Parish! Please contact the Parish Office to meet with Father John and become registered. We also ask those who move to notify the parish

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Education for parish children occurs September 10 through April. Contact Religious Education office: 610-683-6454 for registration.

Center-based

- Levels 1 to 5 meet every week, Sundays, 9:40-10:50am
- Level 6-8 meet the 2nd & 4th Sundays, 6-8pm
- Youth Group (9-12) Stay tuned for upcoming events.

Home-based Arrangements may be made for select grade levels, contact Ann Pergosky

EASTER SUNDAY, THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, MARCH 31, 2024

We are a welcoming community called to deepen and share our faith

MASS Intentions

Mon 04-01	7:30a	Richard Law
Tue 04-02	7:30a	Leo Fernando
Wed 04-03	7:30a	Edward and Mary Ehrets
Thu 04-04	7:30a	Isabella Fernando
Fri 04-05	7:30a	John and Eleanor Giachero
Sat 04-06	8:00a	Mildred A. Kovich
	4:30p	Helen Sheehan
Sun 04-07	8:30a	People of the Parish
	11:00a	Lenoard Ruh

To sponsor altar flowers please phone the parish office.

READINGS and CELEBRATIONS for the WEEK

Sun 03-31	<i>Easter Sunday-</i> Ac 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Co 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7	
Mon 04-01	Ac 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15	
Tue 04-02	Ac 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18	
Wed 04-03	Ac 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35	
Thu 04-04	Ac 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48	
Fri 04-05	Ac 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14	
Sat 04-06	Ac 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15	
Sun 04-07	<i>Sunday of Divine Mercy-</i> Ac 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31	

MUSIC MINISTRY

THIS WEEK		NEXT WEEK
4:30p	<i>t.b.d.</i>	Spanier, Chris Casey, Peggy
8:30a	<i>t.b.d.</i>	Sitarik, Anne Cebenko, Steve
11:00a	<i>t.b.d.</i>	Pirnot, Tom Skoronski, Kate

Contributions from	OLG	Church	Expenses
Regular Collection			
Building Fund			
Capital Campaign	<i>Collections</i>	<i>info not</i>	<i>available</i>
Parish Partnership	<i>at print</i>	<i>deadline</i>	<i>this week.</i>
Rice Bowl			
Other Regular Income			

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING?

1. Visit www.stmaryskutztown.com
2. Click on the Online Giving link
3. Complete the online registration form. It's that simple! For more info or help setting up your account please contact the parish office: 610-683-7443



Logan Alkons	Lucy Ginsiorsky	Nikolette Nolte
Evie Barletta	Ken Gorski	Diana Novi
Caleb Bauer	Bijou Greenwood	Joanne O'Connell
Christopher Bennett	Muriel Hadnagy	Benedicta Otchere
Claudia Berg	Devon Hanna	Rick Padilla
Greg Bradford	Jacqueline Hartz	Ed Pilarski
Monica Bradford	Linda Haurus	Pat Regensburger
Bradford family	Hannah Hayduk	Rosemarie Reimert
David Byer	Kathy Henry	Bill Pettit
Nadia Cahill	Lillian Karch	Megan Roth
Drew Cengeri	Michael Karch	Nina Hertzog
Meaghan Clark	Joanne Kear	Rundle
Colleen Wolff	Patricia Keeney	Richard Rusconi
Jerome Costanzo	Jane Kern	Sr. Mary Sapanara, MSC
Kim Costanzo	Milton Kern	Tina Scatamacchia
Nancy Devlin-Litinsky	Joan Kiwak	Jim Sherman
Dave Ebling	Carol Korbe	Barbara Shidisky
Trent Eidle	John Korbe	Tracy Snyder
Patricia Farabaugh	Cena Knowles	Nicole Sosik
Ashley Geidner	Henry Kryeski	Todd Tanis
Farhat	Edward & Rosemary Law	Ralph Touch
Paula Fehlinger	Harry Lewellen	Amy Turko
Florentine Firlein	Julie Lindsey	Christine VanDoorn
Joey Flecher	Eva Malanczuk	Phillip Vazquez
Tammy G.	Dennis Martinsen	Joseph Wawrzak
Joe Galantino	Barry, Sharon Miller	Bonnie Wessner
Michelle Galantino	Elaine O. Miller	
Sandra George	Shannon Morris	

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

Please Pray for all those serving our nation

Keenan Albright	Anthony DiPietro	Nick Marakovits
Kyle Albright	Charles Douglass	Melissa Marks
Michael Barron	Joseph Douglass	Laura Miller
Andrew Barthol	Keith Essig	Spencer Morris
Frank M. Bieda	Ryan Flanagan	Heather
John Boyer	Kale Follweiler	O'Donnell
Matthew Boyer	Michael Allen Haak	Menaka Nayyar & Anthony Pirnot
Jonathan Cardé	Diane Henry	Jake Schmeck
Ryan Cengeri	Cmdr. Jason Hoch	Phillip Talarico
Eric Cunningham	Joshua Joseph	Steve Ziegler
Timothy DeVall	Dan King	
	James Knight	

Contact office to update list: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sun 03.31 EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S
RESURRECTION – Masses 7a, 9a and 11a
No Religious Education – Easter break
- Mon 04.01 Parish Office Closed-Easter Monday
- Tue 04.02 Faith Sharing, 10a
Ladies Auxiliary mtg, REC, 6:30p
- Wed 04.03 Handiwork meeting, 10a
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 04.04 Music Ministry, 7p
- Fri 04.05 1st Friday Adoration of Blessed Sacrament, 8a
- Sat 04.06 1st Saturday daily Mass, 8a
Level 8 Confirmation practice in Hamburg,
10a
Pray the Rosary, 4p

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

- Sun 04.07 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
Soup Kitchen donations due
Elementary Religious Education
Divine Mercy Holy Hour Exposition, 2:30p
Divine Mercy Confessions begin 2:30p
Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3p
Divine Mercy Benediction, 4p
- Wed 04.09 Faith Sharing, 10a
Level 8 Confirmation Mass, Hamburg, 4:30p
- Wed 04.10 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7-8p
- Thu 04.11 Soup Kitchen prep, 10a-3p
Music Ministry, 7p
R.C.I.A., 7p
- Sat 04.13 Serve Soup Kitchen, 9a-1p
Schweitzer wedding, 1p
Pray the Rosary, 4p
2nd Collection – Capital Improvements

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Submit items by 12n one week prior to Sunday. *Submit full-page items two full weeks in advance.*

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Welcome! Please register for parish membership. Call 610-683-7443 for an appointment and find out about all the parish has to offer! *Inform us if moving.*



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: If you'd like to receive offertory envelopes please contact the parish office: secretary@stmaryskutztown.com

LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING: 6:30p, Tuesday April 02 in the Religious Education Center. All women of the parish are welcome to attend.

Save
the
Date

**ST MARY'S WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY
RETREAT:** 9:30a-3p, Saturday, April 27
at McGlenn Conference Ctr. Alvernia
Univ. Register by April 14. See full-
page flyer!

ST. CHRISTOPHER NEWMAN CTR AT KU: FYI to those who sometimes attend the "Last Chance Mass" at the Newman Center, KU there is no 5p Mass on 3/31.



DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS: 2:30-4p, April 07.
Pray and celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday! 2:30p
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and
confessions available. 3p Chaplet of Divine
Mercy. 4p Benediction of the Blessed
Sacrament.

ST. MARY'S NEXT SOUP KITCHEN project approaches April 13/14. The Soup Kitchen serves 200-400 people. Look for donation table in gathering area. Return All items by Apr. 07. Cook for the soup kitchen on April 11 (10a-3p). A few volunteers would help. Questions? Mary Alkons 610-683-5443



The last Men of St. **Mark your calendar** Mary's hoagie sales until Fall is coming. Look for order forms in next week's bulletin. Orders due: April 21, pickup April 24 & 25.

CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU! St Mary's exceeded our goal for the 2023 Because We Are Catholic annual appeal. In recognition of our contributions to the appeal which serves various needs throughout the diocese, we received over \$2000 in rebates, which come back to support the parish. Thank you!

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION- FATHER JOHN MARIA

Christ is Risen. Alleluia. Happy Easter!

This beautiful and holy day often recalls for us many sentimental memories of family and friends. We treasure these in our hearts but let us remember that the reality we celebrate today is not merely sentimental, but rather something very tangible -- the Bodily Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Incarnate Son of God endured unthinkable suffering on the cross. He died, and now, He is risen. The tomb is empty. It's very important to know that we have this from a variety of witnesses -- among the various accounts gathered into the New Testament, but also in many other writings.

The Paschal Mystery of Christ -- His passion, death and resurrection -- is the decisive turning point of history. The world would never be the same.

For each and every one of us, this means that we have a God willing to suffer in love for us. Each of us has infinite value in God's plan -- each of us was worth dying for! This is not sentimental. This is not a mere metaphor. It's as real as the wounds in His hands and feet.

He has conquered sin and death, and He invites us to be united to Him by grace -- on this day, and on every day. He endured suffering and death, so as to give us life. Today and every day, give your life to Him!

Alleluia!

We are a welcoming community called to deepen and share our faith



We are happy to announce on April 13, 2024
 Ryan Benner and Rebecca Schweitzer
 will be joined in Holy Matrimony at St. Mary's Church.
 Please keep them in your prayers.

HAPPY EASTER! As our CRS Rice Bowl journey comes to an end, may the Eucharist continue to transform our lives and help us to respond to God's call to serve our global family.



Let us commit to sharing the joy of the Resurrection with people in our local community and around the world. Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl in the Gathering Area or donate online: crsricebowl.org/donate

MASS INTENTIONS: As Catholics we believe souls united in Christ remain connected-even after death, seek the prayers of the saints, and pray for the souls of loved ones who have died in Christ. It's a most powerful prayer and act of love to request Mass be offered for the souls of loved ones.

The Mass book is open for Saturday/Sunday and weekday Mass requests. Contact the parish office to schedule a mass intention. Because of the increased demand for scheduled Masses:

- † The book is open for the whole year until dates are full.
- † Please request no more than 1 weekend Mass per month.
- † There are no limitations on daily Masses.
- † Personal Mass intentions not available for: Holy Thursday, Easter, Christmas, Mothers' nor Father's Day

HGA REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL: St. Mary's parish is proud to be a part of HGA Regional Catholic School, 3125 Kutztown Rd, Reading. Fr. John Maria, along with pastors of the 3 other "feeder" parishes (HGA; St. Joseph's Reading; and St. Mary's Hamburg) serves as a member of the Governing Board of Pastors.

We live in challenging times when the dominant secular vision of morality is becoming increasingly opposed to traditional Catholic morality. Providing our children with a sound and solid grounding in Catholic values – and an excellent education – is more urgent than ever. HGA Regional School is an outstanding source. Check out www.hgaschool.org/ for more into on receiving an excellent Catholic K-8 education, or call 610-929-4124.

ARK ENCOUNTER & CREATION MUSEUM–Williamstown, KY. St. Benedict Prime Timers Tour w/White Star Tours invites you to this 4-day/3-night excursion June 17-20, 2024. \$745/person - Double Occupancy; \$930/Single Occupancy; \$50 Deposit to hold reservation – **Balance Due April 1, 2024.** Questions: Marie Blimline 484-332-3241 or Jeanie Hauck 610-856-7575.

HS INFO SESSION St Francis Classical Catholic Academy, Bally-7p, April 03. And Pre-K to 12 Open House 11:15a April 07. whySFCCA.com

LANDINGS INT'L. St. Benedict Parish, Mohnton sponsors a 6-week course Landings to welcome back those who've been away from the faith. Talks include Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, the resurrection and prayer. Call 610-856-1006 for info on the 1p, April 07 session.

Closer to home in Kutztown, Father John is always available to meet with anyone with questions or concerns about the Catholic faith. Just call the rectory and he'll be happy to meet!

LADIES NIGHT BAG BINGO: 6p, April 06 HGA Regional School's Home & School Assoc... \$25/ticket for 25 games. Special Games and more! 21+ event. **Advance tickets only:** holygardianangelsregionalschool.square.site

RETREAT FOR ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCED & SEPARATED PARENTS: 7p Apr 12 thru 4p Apr 14 at the Diocesan Center in Harrisburg (*lodging not available*). This Life-Giving Wounds ministry retreat to help understand how parents' divorce impacts your own spiritual, mental and emotional wholeness.

Retreat includes meals and materials: \$150/18-25 yr old & \$250/26+ yr old. **Learn more**-contact Melissa Maleski: MMaleski@hgbdiocese.org **Register** lifegivingwounds.org

ALTAR SERVER MASS: 11a, April 13, Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown. All youth altar servers of the diocese are invited to attend this special Mass with Bishop Schlert to bless and thank all who serve this important ministry. Participants may bring, and vest in, their parish's altar server robes. A reception for youth altar servers and their families will be held after the Mass.

RESTLESSNESS AND DISTRACTION IN OUR LIVES: Monday Mini-Retreat, 6 or 7-9p, April 15, St. Francis Retreat House, Easton. Monday Mini-Retreat led by Bishop Schlert "Can the Synod Process Help Me? \$40 6p dinner & 7p presentation *or* \$25 for virtual presentation. Register by April 08: www.stfrancisretreathouse.org

LIVING WITH LOSS: 6-7:30p, 6 Tuesdays beginning April 16, at Ludwick Funeral Home, Kutztown. Facilitator: MaryAnn Hamm, Bereavement & Grief Counselor. Find help grieving the loss of a loved one. Meet others living with loss in this grief support group. No cost. Register: Amy 610-683-6080

RETREAT ON EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL PROGRAM IN THE US: April 19-21. Learn about this and St. Francis of Assisi's devotion to the Eucharist. Take time for Eucharistic devotion and grow in love of the Eucharist. Weekend retreat at St. Francis Retreat House in Easton presented by Fr. Charlie Smiech and Fr. Pat McCloskey OFM. Single on-site participant is \$295; \$495 per couple; \$140 for commuter; \$95 for virtual participant. **Register by April 9:** www.stfrancisretreathouse.org

HGA REGIONAL SCHOOL-FIGHTIN' PHILS NIGHT: 6:45p game, April 26. fevo-enterprise.com/event/Holyguardian

DAILY MASSES WITH BISHOP SCHLERT, BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC: All are invited to celebrate with the Bishop:

April 25, 8:30a - Sacred Heart, Palmerton
May 22, 8:30a - St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield
Sept. 9, 8:00a - Our Lady of Mercy, Easton
Sept. 12, 8:00a - Holy Guardian Angels, Reading
Sept. 16, 6:00p - St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City

EUCCHARISTIC PREACHER-Fr. Patrick Baikauskas is a Dominican Friar and Director of the Center for Community Engagement and Evangelization at the Aquinas Institute of Theology, St. Louis, MO. He will speak on the Eucharist as A MYSTERY TO BE BELIEVED, CELEBRATED & LIVED.

6:30-8p April 28 Holy Guardian Angels Church *teen event* register: allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/157772

6-8p April 29 at HGA *for general public* register: allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/157078

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH BISHOP SCHLERT:



Reservations are open for the JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY with Bishop Schlert & Fr. Hoffa: **Tue. March 25, 2025-Sat. April 3, 2025.**

The first Diocese of Allentown International Pilgrimage will "Follow the Footsteps of Saints Peter and Paul" through Florence, Assisi, and Rome. Sign up: Fr. Allen Hoffa ahoffa@allentowndiocese.org or 610-921-2729 x 2205.

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MSC Sisters
www.MSCcreading.org
Fun Walk 2024

KNOW THE FACTS - VOTER REGISTRATION IN PA: Are you registered to vote? If not, here's how. Check with your county voter registration office. The last day to register is usually a month before the election.

Individuals applying to register to vote must be:

- ✓ **A citizen of the United States** for at least one month before the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.
- ✓ **A resident of Pennsylvania** and the election district in which the individual desires to register and vote for at least 30 days before the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.
- ✓ **At least 18 years of age** on or before the day of the next primary, special, municipal, or general election.

For more details about voting in Pennsylvania: www.votespa.com

Word of Life: "With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we're called to take in order to serve life in all its truth" (The Gospel of Life 95).

Holy Father Prayer Request for March: For the new martyrs: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

REFLECTION... by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

The Jesus story might have become a popular Greek tragedy written and staged sometime late in the first century. Or it might have become a Roman version written by a famous playwright of the time who based his production on many conversations he had had with a friend in the Legion that guarded Palestine. All of this flows from a tale that went from Bethlehem to Calvary and ended with His death on a Friday afternoon.

But neither of those would ever be composed because of the marvelous wonder that took place on "The Third Day." In fact the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb made that one "the Day of days" and so it has remained such ever since.

What are we Christians to make of it in this largely apathetic mostly anti-Christian world of the twenty-first century that we inhabit? One option is to tone down the excitement or hide behind a festival of rabbits, chicks and chocolate covered coconut eggs. Put the accent on Springtime and multi-colored flowers in bright baskets. Or a fine ham dinner.

The other option, preferred by people of genuine faith, is to rejoice once again at the plan of God and His decision to include us in the mix of once-dead cells of the Mystical Body now capable of vibrant and never ending life. To live it in a kingdom St. Paul once described in one of his Letters as wonderful beyond our senses to conceive.

That rejoicing need not be expressed in a lively dance with the clapping of hands, although that would not be a bad thing in itself. Rather for most of us the joy is mostly felt inward. A peace that permeates our outlook for our future. That even spreads through our vital organs urging us to recognize that this lowly body of ours will one day be glorified to be like our Savior's.

Our inquisitive minds might want more information than the gospels give us. But our hearts will know that the God who knows all things will let us know and experience His kingdom with just the right amount of peace to fill our capacity to the brim.

Meanwhile, we renew our trust in Him. His resurrection is the endorsement by God the Father and the Holy Spirit of everything Jesus said and did; every command He gave and demand He made. Best for us to know them and observe them, and not be deceived by secularism, materialism and every other "ism" out there in the world of darkness. The Light has returned, even brighter than before. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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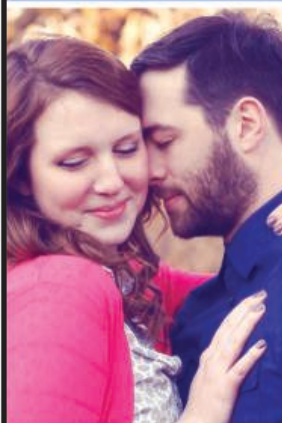
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