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# Easter

PRAYER & WORSHIP



THE NEWS SUN | THE HERALD REPUBLICAN | The **Star**  
*Albion New Era* | The Garrett Clipper

# Hunting for Easter Eggs

My family always quite enjoyed hunting for Easter eggs when we were growing up. Our mom and dad would hide them around the house and then they would watch as we would exuberantly run to find as many as we could before the other siblings. The fun thing about Easter eggs was the hunt. You didn't know exactly where they were (though every year we tried to quickly scan the house while we were being handed our baskets). It wouldn't have the same feel to it if we were given the same amount of candy in our basket that we would have ended up with at the end of the day. In that case, we would have missed out on the thrill of the hunt!

Today, Easter eggs are hidden not just at Easter.

Or even in eggs. We see them show up in films and books, little surprises or nods to other pieces of work embedded in unexpected places. People find these Easter eggs and share them with others, wanting them to see the hidden surprises as well. In the hiding and the finding of these Easter eggs, we recognize that even adults like to go on Easter Egg hunts. We still enjoy finding treats in unexpected places.

As should be clear, this in no way communicates the experience of the women at the tomb on Easter morning. They were not "hunting" to find something. They knew where Jesus' body was laid. They also knew that what they were going to see would not particularly bring them delight. Yet, they go all the same to

anoint Jesus' body and to grieve. When they experience what we know as the joy of Easter, the empty tomb, it is not immediately a sense of joy or delight for them. As we see from Mary in John 20:1-15, it is quite a stressful experience to not know where Jesus' body has gone! Eventually, of course, the good news is shared. Jesus shows up in unexpected ways and in unexpected places to the delight and joy of the women and the disciples.

This, too, is not quite like our Easter egg hunts. The disciples and the women are not "hunting" to find Christ. Even after receiving the good news that Jesus is risen, they do not go looking for Jesus. Jesus shows up on a road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) and meets with the disciples behind

locked doors (John 20:19-23). These groups were not trying to find Christ, but Christ found them. Jesus is the Easter Egg that hunts for us and finds us. And Jesus is still doing this today. Our resurrected Lord continues to show up in unexpected ways and at unexpected times, offering us the joy and delight of knowing that Christ is Risen indeed!

It is my hope this Easter season, and always, that we would also be on the lookout for Jesus. I hope we can look for Christ with the same rapt attention and dedication we give to finding Easter eggs, both those filled with candy and those that are in our favorite movies and shows. Can we see our Risen Lord present in these same places? Can we find Christ in the movies we watch, the books we read, and the games we play? If so, I hope we will joyfully share the joy and delight we receive from finding Christ in these places.

We can do this because, unlike the finite candy that I was not wont to share with my siblings, Christ's goodness and grace is for all.

If you would like any help with this Easter egg hunt as you look for Christ in the world, I would suggest going to where Christ promises to be present: where those are gathered in Jesus' name. While it may feel like cheating, we can expect Jesus to show up in all the places where people are gathering in Jesus' name this Easter. I hope and pray you will take advantage of the opportunity to gather with the communities listed in this publication, or any other place where people are gathering in the name of Jesus, this Easter. May you know the joy and delight it is to encounter our Risen Lord and Savior!

*Pastor Daryl Emowrey  
Calvary Lutheran Church  
Angola*

*May the light of the risen Christ  
fill you with God's love and peace  
this season of Easter  
and always!*



**Mundy Thursday (March 28): 6:00 PM**

**Good Friday (March 29): 6:00 PM**

**Easter Vigil (March 30): 6:00 PM**

**Sunday Easter Service (March 31): 9:00 AM**

To join us remotely, please go to our website  
([www.calvarylutheranangola.com](http://www.calvarylutheranangola.com)) and click on the link for Sunday worship.  
We look forward to celebrating the joy of Easter together.



**Calvary Lutheran Church**

1301 Williams Street, Angola, IN  
260-665-2516

[www.calvarylutheranangola.com](http://www.calvarylutheranangola.com)

*Celebrating and Sharing Christ's Love*



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# One Certain Thing

More than a decade ago, the total amount of digital information in the world first reached a zettabyte, or 1 billion terabytes. That's an amount of information so large that it boggles the mind. We have more information available in our pocket than people have had at any point in human history. Yet as we are reminded daily, not all of that information is trustworthy. Instead, we are plagued by misinformation and disinformation, and we often don't know where to turn.

Into this confusion, God has sent us one certain thing: His Son, Jesus Christ, who died on the cross on Good Friday and was raised again three days later on Easter Sunday. Through these actions, He took away the sins of the entire world. He did all this for you and for me.

What's more, God tells us that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). His truth is unchanging. It can't be altered by governments or fact-checkers or the changeable whims of culture. It's not like a Wikipedia page that can be different from one day to the next. In God's Word, we find a certainty that is available nowhere else.

That's why Christians stick to the Bible with its clear message of Christ

crucified. It makes the wisdom of the world nothing.

"Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe" (1 Corinthians 1:20-21). We preach Christ, no matter who calls it folly.

And we know that the message of Jesus Christ is for every single person. Christ hung on the cross ... for you. Christ took His last breath ... for you. Christ conquered sin and death and was raised to life ... for you.

God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself. No matter who calls it folly, it is the wisdom and the power of God Almighty. We preach Christ crucified. So, this Lent and every day, grab hold of Christ in His Word and gather with fellow believers around His altar.

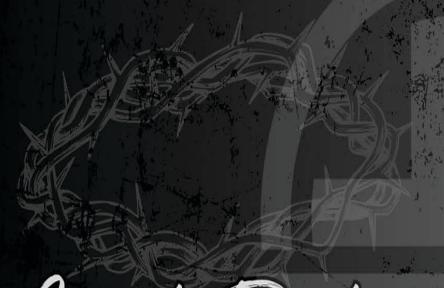
Please join us this Lent, as we celebrate God's love and forgiveness, which is only found in His Son.

In Christ Jesus,

*Rev. Jeffrey Teeple, Pastor at Peace Lutheran Church in Fremont, Indiana*

*Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*



 <b>Good Friday</b> March 29th 6:30 pm	 <b>Easter Sunday</b> March 31st 8:45 am & 10:30 am
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**First Christian Church - 110 West Waits Road - Kendallville, Indiana 46755 - firstkville.org**

<p><b>WE PREACH CHRIST CRUCIFIED</b></p>  <p>(1 COR. 1:18-25)</p>	<p><b>HOLY WEEK WORSHIP TIMES:</b></p> <p><b>Maundy Thursday</b> 6:30PM</p> <p><b>Good Friday</b> 6:30PM</p> <p><b>Easter Morning</b> 8:00 &amp; 10:30AM</p>
<p><i>Come and share in God's love for all people.</i></p> <p><b>PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>                  (A CONGREGATION OF THE LCMS)                  355 E STATE ROAD 120   (260) 495-4306                  FREMONT, INDIANA   www.plcms.org</p>	

# HALLELUJAH! Christ Arose!

## Light penetrated the darkness on Easter morning!

Oh, yes, there was darkness throughout the land, especially to those who loved and followed

Jesus. The whole world seemed to be reeling, distorted.

Sound familiar? But, no! The tomb was empty. Strike that, the tomb IS empty! Jesus' love

defeated the darkness that day we now celebrate and call Easter.

love Him back?

My husband Merle was always an optimist. There were times when I wondered how he could feel that way.

His answer was, "Despite all the problems in this world, I know how it all ends. Christ won and won big!

Satan lost and lost horribly, lost for all eternity." Easter reminds us of that fact. The tomb was empty.

Jesus was and is alive, He was seen by his followers who found it hard to believe before their joy and understanding kicked in.

But wait, there is still more. One day Jesus will return to earth, this time in all His majestic glory. His coming will be heralded by angel trumpets. Jesus will descend in the clouds and everyone will see Him. And, "At the name of Jesus every knee will bow in heaven and on earth and every tongue will confess that Jesus Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father." ( Philippians 2:10,11" And most fantastic of all, Jesus will take all His own to be with Him for all eternity.

PRAISE THE LORD!  
HAPPY EASTER  
EVERYONE from NEW  
LIFE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH, WATERLOO,  
IN.

Personally, I have always enjoyed Easter, the celebrations, the church services, the joy and signs of Spring.

I also enjoy the cute or serious posts some churches put on their signs. One I like on a church near here

goes something like this, "This is the only tomb that is recognized for its occupant not being there." Of course, it is not the tomb that is the most important. The great celebration is, Christ Arose! Hurrah for Easter morning! Jesus Christ arose from the grave and, in doing so, gave eternal life in heaven to all who accept Him as their Lord and truly risen Savior and who choose to follow Him.

Satan is defeated! Jesus conquered death! What a sacrifice He went through, and He reaches out to us. It is up to us to accept it or not. The invitation is open.

Sadly many reject the invitation. Why? Let us not be one who says, "no" or "later." Imagine if you were to offer a special gift to your child or to someone else, and they just tossed it aside and said, "later," or, "I don't want it."

We are freely given the gift of eternal life with God in heaven. Jesus loves us each one so much. How can we not



*He is Risen!*

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# Easter

## Angola United Methodist Church

<p><b>Maundy Thursday</b> MARCH 28, 2024</p> <p>MEAL AND COMMUNION</p>	<p><b>Good Friday</b> MARCH 29, 2024</p> <p>12 PM @AUMC STEUBEN COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICE</p>	<p><b>Easter Sunday</b> MARCH 31, 2024</p> <p>9 AM 11 AM EASTER EGG HUNT BETWEEN SERVICES</p>
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by Judith Holden

# Pastor Tim's Talk: "How to Live Through a Really Bad Day"

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:2-3 NIV

A few years ago I picked up a book written by Pastor Jack Hayford, the author of "Majesty" # 176 in the United Methodist Hymnal. I was intrigued by the book because the title of the little volume was How to Live Through a Bad Day. I was excited to read the book because even though life is generally pretty good for me I, like you, occasionally have a really tough day.

In this book Hayford shares insights about how Jesus dealt with His terrible day we know as "Good Friday." Hayford

makes the case that how Jesus worked through that horrible day serves as an example to us of how we can live through our own really bad days. Hayford looking at Jesus' seven words from the cross identifies principles for us to live by.

I thought with Easter (and Good Friday as well) approaching it would be good to share these principles with you.

Forgive everyone who is trying to ruin you. Jesus from the cross prayed for those who had hung Him there and were tormenting Him to receive forgiveness. Being willing to forgive is a necessary step in receiving God's grace & help.

Help others who are experiencing the same struggle. Jesus, even as His life force was ebbing away, helped the thief on the cross who asked to be remembered. There are those we are around who are struggling with the

same issues with which we are struggling. As we help them we too will be helped.

Be sure you've taken care of those near you. Even on the cross Jesus made arrangements for His mother to be taken care of by a trusted disciple. When life is tough you and I need to focus on the needs of those around us. By doing so we will have a purpose in our living that is beyond us and our suffering.

Aim your hard questions at God. When experiencing a difficult time it is easy to ask questions like "God, why?" or "God, where are you?" Jesus' example shows us that it is not wrong to ask such questions. Actually such honesty about what we are feeling helps in the healing process. God is not afraid of our

questions!!!

Acknowledge your need. Jesus admitted that He was thirsty. We all have needs especially when going through hard times. Unless we are honest with God and others about our needs we probably won't receive the help we have to have to make it through.

Be assured there is a purpose and an end. Jesus knew that what He experienced on the cross was going to result in the blessing of many. He also knew that there was a time when the bad day would end. God wants to use even your bad days to be a blessing to yourself and others. Bad days do not last forever! They do come to an end! You and I by God's grace can make it through our really bad days. God can bring good things out of those bad

days.

Surrender your day to God and then let go. Jesus told His Father "Into Your hands I commit My spirit." When we are going through a very difficult day, week, or season you and I need to put ourselves in Jesus' hands and trust Him with the outcome.

Not all of our days are going to be great or even good. We are going to have some bad days. Remember though with God's help and by His grace you and I can make it through those hard times! We are Easter people!! We are the people of the Resurrection!!!

*All for Jesus,  
Pastor Tim  
Amzd2t@live.com*



We invite you to know Jesus with us  
and make Him known!

**Nevada Mills Community Church.**  
Located on beautiful Jimmerson Lake  
at 4710 Bachelor Road, Angola.

*On Palm Sunday we invite you  
for worship and a carry-in breakfast  
immediately following worship.  
Easter Worship with communion  
and worship!*

*We worship at 9 and invite you to join us,  
you are always welcome!*

# Stories of the Resurrection as told in the Gospels

**BY METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION**

Easter is a holy day on the Christian calendar that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The resurrection of Jesus is described in the Gospels of the New Testament, which millions of Christians read every year, especially during the Lenten season, which is a 40-day period that directly precedes Easter Sunday.

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John comprise the canonical Gospels. Each book can help Christians understand and connect with the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The following are passages from each of the canonical Gospels that help to tell the story of the resurrection of Jesus.

**Matthew 28: 1-10**

Now after the Sabbath,



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toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and

rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And

for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

**SEE STORIES, Page A7**



**ST. ANTHONY CHURCH**  
700 W Maumee Street Angola, Indiana 46703

**HOLY THURSDAY**  
MARCH 28-7:00 PM

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**GOOD FRIDAY**  
MARCH 29-3:00 PM  
FOLLOWED BY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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**EASTER VIGIL**  
MARCH 30-9:00 PM

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**EASTER SUNDAY**  
MARCH 31  
7:30 AM

EASTER SUNDAY PREMASS MUSIC  
WILL BEGIN AT 9:40AM.  
10:00 AM

**SPANISH MASS**  
12:30 PM

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*HOLY WEEK*  
*MASS TIMES*



**ST. PAUL CHAPEL**  
8780 E 700 N Fremont, Indiana 46737

**HOLY THURSDAY**  
MARCH 28-7:00 PM

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**GOOD FRIDAY**  
MARCH 29-3:00 PM  
FOLLOWED BY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

---

**EASTER VIGIL**  
MARCH 29-9:00 PM

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**EASTER SUNDAY**  
MARCH 31-9:00 AM



[WWW.STPAULCATHOLICCHAPEL.ORG](http://WWW.STPAULCATHOLICCHAPEL.ORG)

# STORIES

**FROM PAGE A6**  
**Mark 16: 2-7**

And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, "Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?" And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, "Be not affrighted: ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you."

**Luke 24: 1-12**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this,

behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

**John 20: 1-10**

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them,

"They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but

folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

# HOLY WEEK SERVICES



**PALM SUNDAY**  
March 24  
8:45 am & 11:00 am



**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
March 28  
6:30 pm



**GOOD FRIDAY**  
March 29 • 6:30 pm  
Joint service at  
Auburn Presbyterian  
111 W. 12<sup>th</sup> St.



**EASTER SUNDAY**  
March 31  
8:45 am & 11:00 am



**First United Methodist Church**  
1203 E 7<sup>th</sup> St, Auburn, Indiana  
260.925.0885 | office@auburnumc.church  
*Christlike unconditional love and acceptance for all*

8:45 Traditional Service  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Modern Service

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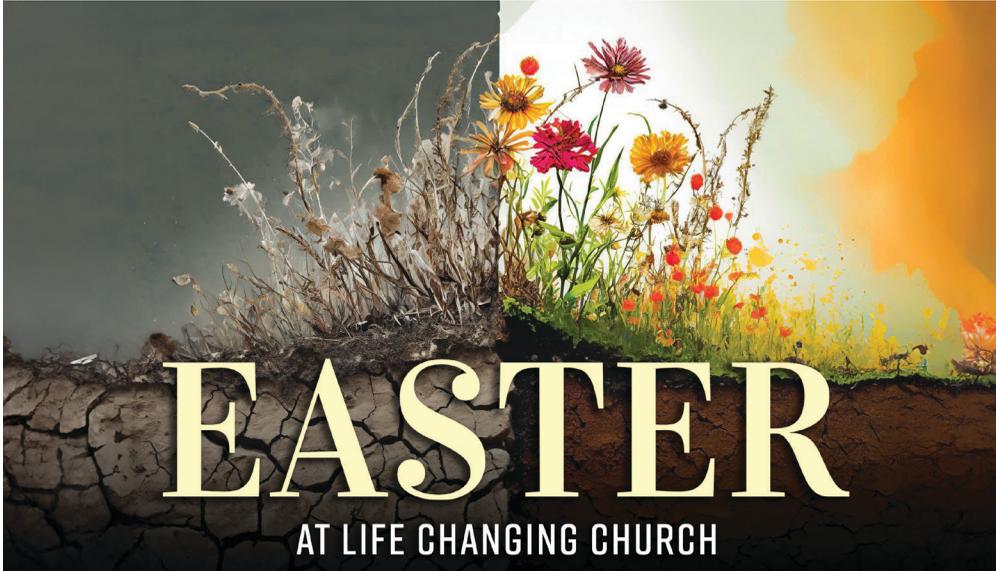


## Did You Know?

**BY METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION**

Celebrations of Easter Sunday Mass are known for their joyous nature regardless of where Christians happen to be. But few, if any, celebrations of Mass can match the scope of the celebration in St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the public celebration to be canceled in 2020 and 2021, but it returned in 2022. A sizable number of celebrants returned along with it, as estimates suggested around 50,000 people were on

hand to celebrate Easter Sunday Mass on the plaza directly in front of St. Peter's Basilica on April 17, 2022. Pope Francis led the Mass, which was concelebrated with 280 priests, 25 bishops and 23 cardinals. But the crowd attending Mass was just the beginning, as Pope Francis later delivered his Urbi et Orbi benediction, a papal address and apostolic blessing the pope delivers on solemn occasions, from the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica before an estimated crowd of 100,000.



# EASTER

## AT LIFE CHANGING CHURCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 5 PM // SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 9 & 11 AM

**Angola Campus**  
2201 N Wayne St  
Angola, IN

**Edgerton Campus**  
428 W Vine St  
Edgerton, OH

**Hillsdale Campus**  
110 N Broad St  
Hillsdale, MI

# Significant days during Holy Week

## BY METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Significant days during Holy Week (375 words, US, UK, CAN)

Each year in early spring, Christians across the globe celebrate their faith on Easter. Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, an event which is described in the New Testament.

Mass on Easter Sunday annually attracts millions of the faithful. However, many days during the week preceding Easter Sunday, often referred to as Holy Week, also bear significance to faithful Christians.

### Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week and commemorates the entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Upon entering the city, Jesus was greeted by crowds waving palm branches. That is why Christians receive palm branches or palm crosses during Palm Sunday Mass.

### Holy Wednesday

Holy Wednesday draws attention to the abandonment of Jesus by



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

his disciples. Holy Wednesday services may feature Tenebrae, a religious service characterized by the extinguishing of candles. That portion of the service is meant to symbolize darkness, which is what "Tenebrae" means in Latin.

### Maundy Thursday

The Last Supper is commemorated on Maundy Thursday, which also

commemorates the Washing of the Feet (Maundy). The Last Supper was Jesus's final meal with his apostles before his crucifixion. According to Christian scripture, Jesus predicted one of the apostles present at the meal would betray him. This also was when Jesus foretold that Peter will deny knowing him three times before the next morning. According to Trinity College, Maundy Thursday reminds

Christians to love others as Jesus loves them.

### Good Friday

Good Friday commemorates the trial of Jesus and his resulting death sentence, torture, crucifixion, and burial. It's hard to characterize any of those things as "good," which can cause a little confusion among Christians and non-Christians alike. However, Trinity College indicates that, in this context, "good" connotes something holy or pious.

### Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday concludes Holy Week. Even though many faithful Christians awake early and don their Sunday best on Easter morning, Holy Saturday celebrations are not muted. On Holy Saturday, Christians may attend a late-night Easter Vigil service that includes a liturgy and the celebration of the Eucharist. The two-part celebration commemorates the Eucharist as symbolic of the emergence from darkness into the light.

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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### SCHEDULE OF EASTER TRIDUUM SERVICES

2024

#### HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28

INCENSE USED

Mass of the Lord's Supper 6:30pm  
Adoration follows until 10:00pm

#### GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Stations of the Cross 12:30pm  
Good Friday Service 1:00pm  
Confession follows until 3pm

#### HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Easter Vigil Mass 9pm  
INCENSE USED

#### EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Mass Times 8 & 10:30am

Father Mark Enemali, Pastor

**"MAY THE JOY  
OF THE RISEN  
CHRIST  
FILL YOUR  
HEART AND  
YOUR HOME"**

**500 E. Seventh St., Auburn, IN 46706  
260-925-3930**

# The origins of Easter Sunday

**BY METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION**

Easter takes place on a different Sunday each year. In western Christianity, Easter follows the Gregorian calendar and is thus considered a “movable feast” that is always celebrated between March 22 and April 25. Eastern Orthodox Christianity adheres to the Julian calendar, so Easter will fall on a Sunday between April 4 and May 8 each year. In 2024, the western Christian Easter celebration occurs on March 31 and the Eastern Orthodox Easter is observed on May 5.

Easter is the most important celebration on the Christian liturgical calendar. While commemorations of Jesus Christ’s resurrection likely occurred earlier, the earliest recorded observance of an Easter celebration was in the second century, according to Britannica.

Initial Easter celebrations weren’t known as “Easter,” which is a word that was borrowed from Pagan spring celebrations of



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Eostre, the goddess of spring and fertility. It only became associated with Christian usage later on — long after biblical scripture was written. In fact, the word “Easter”

only appears in one Bible, the King James Version. But it is likely the word was used as a translation of pascha, or Passover, and not what has come to be known as Christian

Easter.

The earliest Easter celebrations were a version of Passover. According to leading sabbath scholar Professor Samuele Bacchiocchi, Christians universally kept Passover on the biblical date of Nisan until 135 A.D. Early commemorations focused on the crucifixion, and the pain and suffering of Jesus. Bacchiocchi says that eventually the resurrection emerged as the dominant reason for the celebration that would be known as Easter, and also as the main message of weekly Christian Sunday masses. By the fourth century, the Easter Vigil and celebration were well-established and a symbol of joyful anticipation of the resurrection.

Easter is now celebrated annually by faithful Christians. While Easter is not mentioned in the Bible, scripture depictions helped shape the holiday that would become an integral component of the Christian faith.



**JOIN US FOR EASTER SERVICES**

**Main Campus**

7716 N County Rd E | Auburn IN 46706

March 28 | 7:00 pm

March 31 | 9:30 & 11:00 am

**Auburn Campus**

602 Erie Pass | Auburn IN 46706

March 31 | 10:00 am

**Garrett Campus**

105 W 6th Ave | Garrett IN 46738

March 31 | 10:00 am



For more information, scan the QR code or visit [countylinechurch.org](http://countylinechurch.org).



**COUNTY LINE**  
CHURCH

# Your guide to the Easter liturgical celebration

**BY METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION**

Easter is the holiest day of the year for Christians. According to biblical

scripture, Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah and Savior to the World. Easter Sunday marks His resurrection from death

on the cross, upon which He paid the full penalty for humanity's sins by offering a spotless sacrifice in Himself, established

the Christian religion and belief in everlasting life after death.

**The road to Easter**

In the weeks leading up to Easter, the faithful participate in a 40-day period of fasting, repentance and spiritual discipline known as Lent. In western Christianity, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Easter is preceded by Holy Week, which starts with Palm Sunday, the celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and encompasses Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Services during Lent and Holy Week are special and differ from others in the liturgical year. On Palm Sunday, for example, Roman Catholics and other Christians will take part in the reading of the Passion, which details Judas' betrayal of Jesus Christ, and His crucifixion.

**Easter Vigil**

The Easter Vigil is an ancient liturgy celebrated on the night before Easter Sunday. It began as an all-night vigil, but has since been shortened. The Vigil begins with the church shrouded in darkness before a candle is lit from a fire outside the church. The candle represents Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Eventually all the candles in the sanctuary are lit from the Easter candle. Readings focus on God's marvelous plan and span from Genesis to the New Testament.

**The Mass of Easter**

(The Resurrection of the Lord)

Easter Sunday Mass is a celebratory time for Christians. Most attend services in their formal



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clothing and give thanks to Jesus and to bask in the light of His eternal life.

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Easter Sunday features key readings and responses. The First Reading is from Acts 10:34a, 37-43, and speaks of Jesus of Nazareth being anointed with the Holy Spirit. The Second Reading is from Colossians 3:1-4 or Corinthians 5:6B-8, which details following Christ and turning away from sin and into His Glory. The Gospel that will be read can be one of these four: John 20:1-9, Matthew 28:1-10, Luke 24:13-35, or Mark 16:1-7. These readings each speak to the discovery of Jesus' empty burial tomb and reassure disciples they should not be afraid because He has been raised from the dead in glory.

Depending on the parish, refreshments may follow the Easter Mass and there is a fellowship of the community joined together on this holy day. Families then go home to their individual Easter celebrations, often sharing a lamb or ham dinner with family and friends.

*Rejoice for He is risen!*

**Share the greatest gift of all: the gift of faith!**

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Corder

Maunday Thursday Service, March 28th at 6 p.m.  
Easter Sunday, March 31, Communion Service, 9 a.m.  
No Good Friday Service this year

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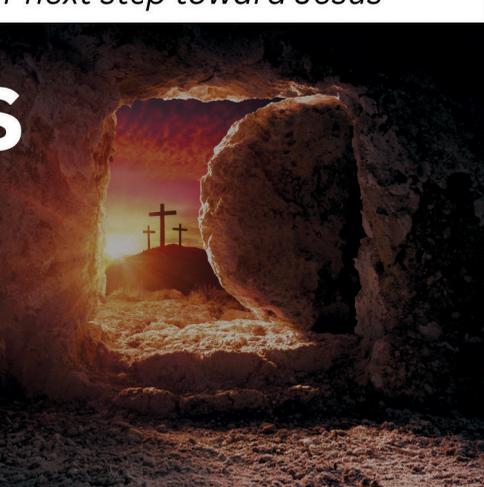
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# The significance of various symbols of Easter

**BY METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION**

Easter Sunday is a day when Christians across the globe celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Data from the Pew Research Center indicates there are approximately 2.4 billion Christians across the globe, which accounts for nearly one-third of the global population.

Though certain Christians groups do not celebrate Easter, many consider it the holiest day of the year. Given that significance, it's no surprise Easter is steeped in symbolism. The following are some of the many symbols of Easter and what they represent to faithful Christians across the globe.

**Eggs**

Eggs might now be more instantly associated with Easter egg hunts for children, but the American Bible Society notes that eggs are symbolic of more than just fun for kids. Eggs represent the new life that's symbolic

of spring, which is when Easter occurs in the northern hemisphere. Christians view eggs as a reminder of the resurrection of Jesus. Interestingly, though colored eggs are often seen as a fun Easter activity for kids, the ABS notes that the tradition dates back to the early days of Christianity, when red-colored eggs were used to represent the resurrection.

**Crucifix**

The crucifix, which is a distinct representation of a cross with Jesus Christ on it, is symbolic of the crucifixion and subsequent resurrection of Jesus. The ABS notes that the resurrection of Jesus symbolizes his victory over the power of sin and death.

**The Lamb**

Jesus is referred to in the Bible as the "Lamb of God" (Revelation 5:6-14), so the lamb is another important Easter symbol for

Christians. In addition, in John (1:29), Jesus is referred to by John the Baptist as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

**Easter Bunny**

Another symbol, like Easter eggs, that people could be forgiven for mistaking as purely secular, the Easter Bunny is not entirely separate from the spiritual meaning of the holiday. As noted, Easter, even though it's a moveable feast, takes place in spring in the northern hemisphere each year. Spring is symbolic of rebirth, and the hare was a symbol of fertility among the ancient pagans. The spirit of rebirth associated with rabbits, particularly in spring, also is reminiscent of the resurrection of Jesus from his tomb.

Easter is celebrated across the globe. Those celebrations feature many significant religious symbols that have withstood the test of time.



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