\$1.00 kpcnews.com



# aster PRAYER & WORSHIP

Albion Dew Fra | The Garrett Clipper

THE NEWS SUN | THE HERALD REPUBLICAN | The Star

**Easter Prayer & Worship** kpcnews.com • ©KPC Media April 15, 2025

# Knowing Jesus the Shepherd

At Nevada Mills Community Church. we have been exploring Lent/ Easter through the lens of Jesus the Shepherd. We have looked at Jesus the Loving Shepherd, Calming Shepherd, Kingly Shepherd, and Sustaining Shepherd to just name a few. Every season is a wonderful time to explore and dig into a closer relationship with Jesus.

So, my question for us to explore is how do you know Jesus?

Do you know Him as the Good Shepherd? John 10:11"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd

lays down his life for the sheep." As we approach Easter we just need to sit in this verse. What I mean by that is write it down. say a prayer of thanks for the way He has been good, and make a list of all the ways you recognize the goodness of the Lord. outside and see all the great things that we did nothing to receive. There are trees we never planted, birds we never raised, returning hummingbirds we didn't have to call or invite, a season was made for their return, and that is just a few minutes of sitting outside.

Do you know Him

as the Calming Shepherd? I can never read that without thinking of Jesus calming the storm. Do you know the story? Jesus is asleep on the boat and a storm comes up. The disciples awaken him. He awakens and tells the storm to be "Quiet! All we have to do is sit Be still." How powerful is that! I trust that the Calming Shepherd shows up on time, although His time and mine may differ.

> Do you know Him as King? When we think king's in America we think of monarchs. musicians, or sports figures. But a King, as in Jesus, cares about His subjects. How do we know that? You

cannot read any of the New Testament without bumping into Him caring about someone. One of my favorite phrases that is used is "He had compassion on ..." It is used a few times in the New Testament. and it always makes my heart warm, Jesus is a Shepherd who cares about His flock. A Kingly Shepherd provides for their people. Psalm 23 is full of reminders on what a great providing shepherd our Jesus is.

Jesus is the Shepherd who saves. Shepherds stay close to the flock in order to protect them and guide them. Jesus tells us He will never leave us or forsake us, that is staving close for sure. The shepherd guides his flock to water and to food. Jesus tells us that He offers living water. Not only that, but He also tells us

to come together in remembering Him. One of the many ways we can do that is communion, to partake of the bread of life and the wine (grape juice at my place) that represents His blood poured out for the forgiveness of OUR sins.

The amazing part to all of that for me is that it is corporate and individual. Jesus cares about the one sheep as much He cares about all the others. I pray that you are striving to know Jesus. At Nevada Mills Community Church, we strive to know Jesus and to make Him known. May this Easter you experience the presence of the Risen Savior!

He is RISEN! He is RISEN INDEED!

> ~ Tracey Zimmerman Nevada Mills Community





Jenny Ernsberger jernsberger@kpcmedia.com General Manager

Ann Saggars asaggars@kpcmedia.com Print & Design Manager

Stevie Lockridge slockridge@kpcmedia.com Special Sections Graphic Designer

Sue Carpenter scarpenter@kpcmedia.com Special Sections Editor

**ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES** Mitch Anderson Lisa Burnett Michele Trowbridge Machele Waid

Easter Prayer & Worship is a special supplement to Garrett Clipper, Albion New Era, The Star, The News Sun and The Herald Republican, which are publications of KPC Media ©2025 All rights reserved

### Easter Joy!

While I was growing up, we always sang in Sunday school. One of my favorites was, "I Have the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy Down In my Heart ---to Stay!"

Of course, while living all these many, many years, I have discovered that we all have times, and reasons for; highs, joy, and despair, lows, and sometimes when we can choose between the two.

Which do we choose? As Christians, we have been given the answer. We have the Bible with both instruction and example. My Bible targeted "joy" in 29 Scriptures and "Joyful" 5

times. Some examples: Matthew 25:21, "Enter into the joy of your Lord." Galatians 5:22 lists joy as one of the fruits of the Spirit. Psalm 100:1 "Make a joyful shout to the Lord." Psalm 30: 4 & 5 says, "Sing praises to the Lord. Weeping may endure at night, but joy comes in the morning."

Surely Lent and Easter give us excellent examples of the deepest low followed by the very highest possible, joy! Imagine Jesus' followers as they saw their beloved teacher, miracle worker, most loving, caring leader ever, first on Palm Sunday, praised triumphantly by the crowds! And less than a week later, treated like a criminal, humiliated, tortured!

Personally, I can't dwell on the agony for Jesus, both physically and His having to endure my sins, without crying. Even nature reacted to the horror Jesus endured; blackness, graves opened, earthquake, rocks split apart, the curtain in the Temple torn from top to bottom.

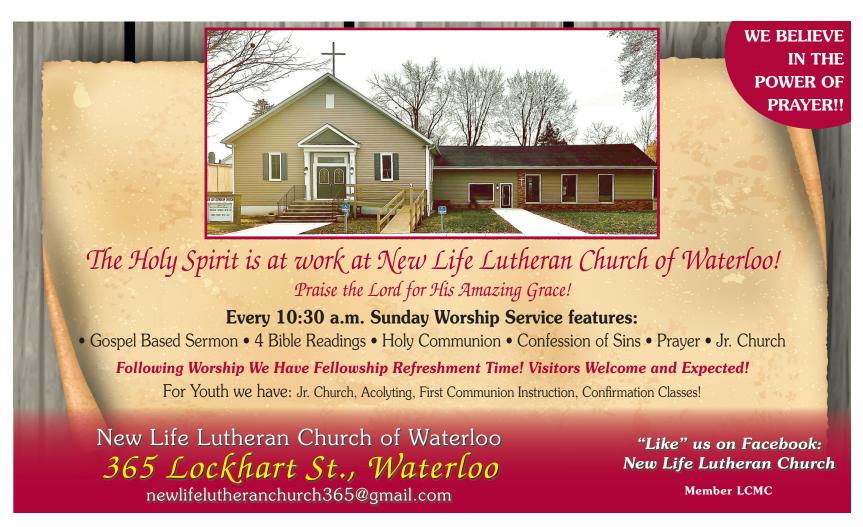
But imagine the bright JOY that followed on Sunday, EASTER morning! How fantastic! An empty tomb! Jesus is alive! He lives; He lives! Such a joyous outcome that His followers finally

understood. They wanted to tell everyone about Jesus. They spread the Word. No hardship was enough to stop them, and today Jesus' followers, all who accept Jesus Christ, still want everyone to know about our dear Savior. How can we not spread our joy about Jesus, God of the universe? Or, as my husband Merle always said:

Easter: Jesus wins, and He wins big!

Satan loses, and he loses big!

Happy Easter, everyone, from New Life Lutheran Church, Waterloo. Written by Judith Holden



4 Easter Prayer & Worship kpcnews.com • ©KPC Media April 15, 2025

## The mark of Discipleship

As I am writing this, I am in the process of preparing for Maundy Thursday. Maundy Thursday takes place the Thursday of Holy Week (the week leading up to Easter) and highlights the meal Jesus shares with his disciples before his crucifixion and resurrection, as recorded in the Gospel of John. One aspects of this meal in John's Gospel is that Jesus gets up from the table and washes the disciples' feet. This action would usually have been done by a servant/slave. When Jesus is finished, he tells them that, as their Lord and Teacher, he has set them an example. They are to wash each other's feet. Later in this same chapter, Jesus issues a command to love one another as Christ has loved them. Jesus tells us that this is how the world will know who the disciples of Jesus are, if they have

love for one another (see John 13 for the full account).

Each year I reflect on this commandment of Jesus, wondering alongside the members of the Body of Christ how well we, as the church, are fulfilling it. Does the world recognize us based on our love? Are we loving one another as Jesus has loved us? This year, I am struck by another aspect of this passage, one that comes at the beginning of it. Jesus is fully aware that his time has come. He knows that he is about to die and ascend on high. It is with this knowledge at the front of his mind that he gets up and performs the task of a servant. With precious few hours left upon this earth. this is what Jesus chooses to do with his time: wash the feet of his disciples, and share a meal with

them. If the timing was not enough, he makes it abundantly clear that this is important, that this is something his followers and friends should pay close attention to.

Following the Gospel accounts, and just hearing what Jesus is up to in the world as he goes around teaching, healing, and driving out demons, can cause us to forget that the world of Jesus' day is similar to our own. There was injustice in the world and conflict. There were laws that were unfair and there were both natural and man-made tragedies. There were rebels committing insurrection (as we will be reminded of when Barabbas is released) and there were harsh punishments designed to instill fear (as we will be reminded at the crucifixion). In short, the

list of needs of the world was long. There was much that could stand to be corrected.

Jesus, as the One who had come from God and was going to God, had the power and ability to correct all these things. In the final moments he shared with us on earth. he could have addressed these problems, or left a road map for his disciples to have to address these problems. Yet, Jesus does not. This is not because of ignorance or lack of wisdom. Jesus, as the Word of God made flesh, is the One through whom the whole world came into existence (John 1). Jesus' focus at the time of his death tells me, and I think should tell us all, what is of chief importance when living in a world that is divided, corrupt, punitive, and unjust: to serve one another and love each other.

Now, many of us will likely think that this is not a solution. It does not seem to address the many and various issues that we see. But the rest of our Easter story proves us wrong. It is in great love for the world that Jesus goes to the cross. It is a willingness to be emptied to the point of death that means we can in turn know the fullness of life. All the power of sin, death, the devil, and our broken wavs of being are overcome at the cross and the power of the resurrection shines forth from the empty tomb.

It is not new policies, a show of force, or any of the paths we might take to accomplish the goal of making the world function as it should that accomplishes this amazing feat. It is pure, unbounded, and unbelievable love that does this. It is God's love for us and for the world that means those forces that bind us in our unhelpful patterns of behavior that lead to suffering, conflict, bitterness, anger, and death are fully and completely overcome. Though we still see signs of these forces today, we know that they are defeated. Christ has conquered these forces and has won the victory that leads to eternal life for us all. Christ has made possible a peace that is rooted in love and justice.

As we celebrate the joy of Easter, I hope you do not hear in these words a cry for inaction. This is not the commandment we have received as disciples. No, we are called to hard and difficult work in this world: to love with the kind of love that we have received from Christ. We are to stare the evils of this world in the eye and respond by becoming servants of one another, by loving all the more. We can only do this because of our Lord and Teacher who has loved us so greatly and filled us with an indescribable joy! Happy Easter everyone, and may the light and love of God fill you, surround you, and flow through you this day and always. It is nothing less than what the world desperately needs.

Written by 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!

Maundy Thursday (April 17): 6:00 PM Good Friday (April 18): 6:00 PM Easter Vigil (April 19): 6:00 PM Sunday Easter Service (April 20): 9:00 AM

To join us remotely, please go to our website (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

Celebrating and Sharing Christ's Love

April 15, 2025 ©KPC Media • kpcnews.com Easter Worship & Worship 5

# Easter Sunday Mass draws crowds

#### BY METRO CREATIVE CONTENT year.

Easter Sunday is a time for Christians to embrace the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Easter is the holiest event on the liturgical calendar, and Easter Sunday Mass is often the most-attended service of the entire

Although the faithful are encouraged to attend Mass every Šunday, pews are not typically as full on most Sundays as they are on Easter Sunday. According to a 2024 report released by Lifeway Research, 90 percent of surveyed Protestant pastors listed Easter as either the most-attended Sunday Mass or in the top three across the United States. Some estimates

suggest that 30 million people attend Easter services who would not normally go to church regularly. Pew Research Center states there

is a sharp increase in church attendance during Easter as well as Christmas. Mother's Day also is a day that sees increased Mass attendance.



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

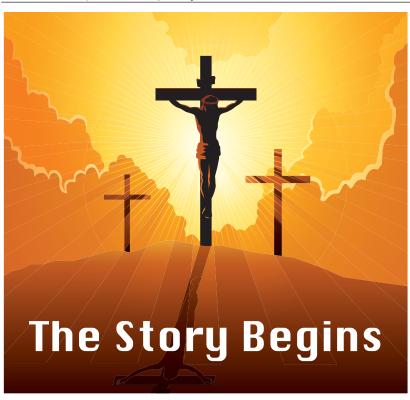


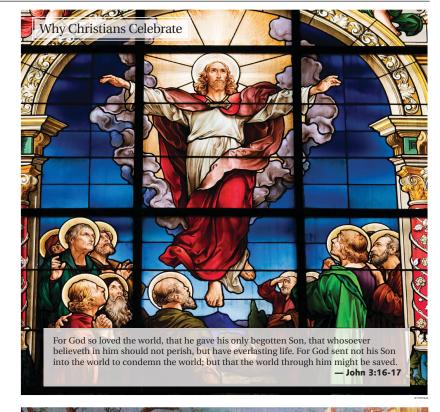


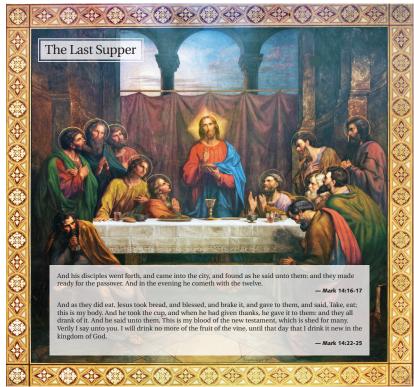




6 Easter Prayer & Worship kpcnews.com • ©KPC Media April 15, 2025

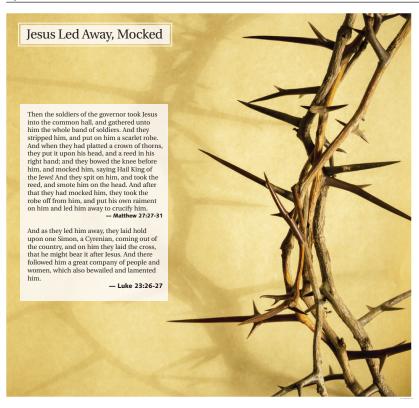


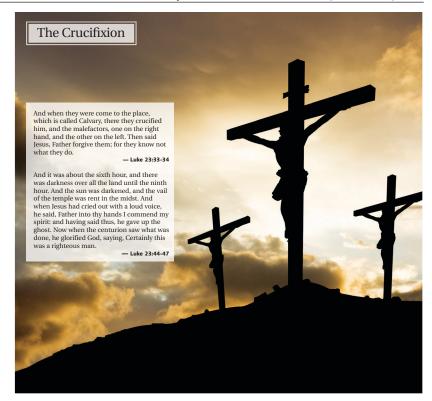


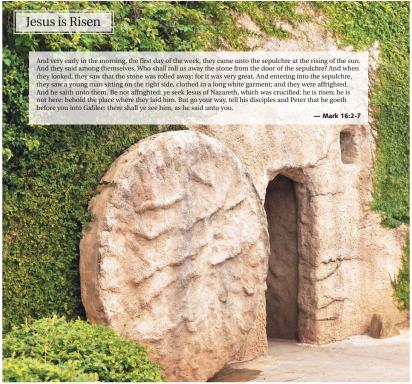
















Easter Prayer & Worship kpcnews.com • ©KPC Media April 15, 2025

# Significant days during Holy Week

### BY METRO MEDIA **CONNECTION**

Each year in early spring, Christians across the globe

**GOOD FRIDAY** 

APRIL 18, 2025

12 PM

celebrate their faith on Easter. Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, an event which

Easter

Angola United Methodist Church

is described in the New Testament.

Mass on Easter Sunday annually attracts millions

**EASTER SUNDAY** 

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 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

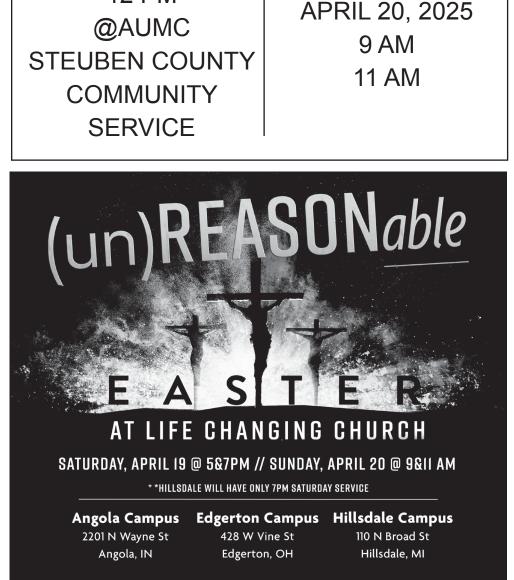
### **Good Friday**

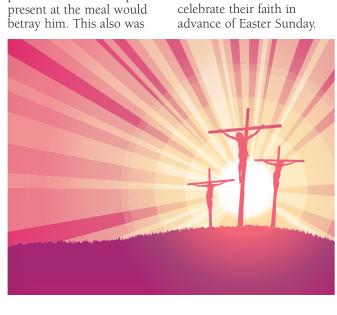
Good Friday commemorates the trial of Jesus and his resulting death sentence, torture, crucifixion, and burial. It's hard to characterize any of those things as "good," which can cause a little confusion among Christians and non-Christians alike. However, Trinity College indicates that, in this context,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

Holy Week is a time for faithful Christians to celebrate their faith in





April 15, 2025 ©KPC Media • kpcnews.com Easter Worship & Worship 9

### What is the Easter celebration?

### BY METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Most Christians and Orthodox Christians celebrate Easter on April 20, 2025.

Many religious holidays like Easter are known as "movable feasts," which means they are not fixed dates on the calendar, but are celebrated in accordance with the lunisolar calendar. Easter occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon, which is the first full moon of spring, according to the Farmer's Almanac. Easter occurs shortly after the vernal equinox.

Easter is a central holy day of Christianity and commemorates the Resurrection of Jesus three days after His death by crucifixion. Jesus's resurrection is an awe-inspiring component of Easter. Prior to Easter, on what is now known as Good Friday, Jesus sacrificed Himself for all humankind and redeemed the public from sin through His death on the cross. Sacrifice, death and resurrection are key tenets of what developed into the Christian faith and set it apart from other religions, including Judaism, with which Christianity shares many components.

To prepare for Easter, celebrants participate in Lent, which is marked by prayer, repentance and fasting. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends during Holy Week on Holy Thursday, which marked Christ's Last Supper. Lent is immediately followed by the Holy Triduum, a liturgical season in its own right, according to Catholic.com.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops says the word "Easter" comes from Old English meaning the "East." Since the sun rises in the East and brings light,

warmth and hope, it is a symbol for the rising of Christ who is the true light of the world. The Paschal Candle used during the Easter Vigil is a symbol of this divine light.

Easter is the most important time on the Christian liturgical calendar. Much like Christmas does not simply end on December 25, Easter is celebrated over the course of a season. Ultimately there are 50 day of Easter, beginning on the first Sunday and culminating with the Pentecost, which marks the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after His Ascension into heaven.

Easter is a time of profound reflection and joy. While the arrival of Christ through his birth on Christmas is worthy of celebration, the Church recognizes that Easter is the foremost Christian celebration.



### **FAIRVIEW MISSIONARY CHURCH**

Helping people take their next step toward Jesus



**Easter Prayer & Worship** kpcnews.com • ©KPC Media April 15, 2025

# 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, 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

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 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."

### 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

• Crowns

Chair Rails

from the dead, and behold, he 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 vou, 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

SEE GOSPELS, Page A11









April 15, 2025 ©KPC Media • kpcnews.com Easter Worship & Worship 11

# The origins of Easter Sunday

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 2025, the western Christian Easter celebration occurs on April 20 and the Eastern Orthodox Easter is observed on April 20.

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 Eostre, the goddess of

**BY METRO CREATIVE CONTENT** 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



### GOSPELS

#### **FROM PAGE A10**

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.



12 Easter Prayer & Worship kpcnews.com • ©KPC Media April 15, 2025



COUNTY LINE CHURCH

MAIN CAMPUS | 7716 N COUNTY LINE RD, AUBURN, IN 46706 SUNDAY, APRIL 20 @ 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

AUBURN CAMPUS | 602 ERIE PASS, AUBURN, IN 46706 SUNDAY, APRIL 20 @ 10:00 AM

GARRETT CAMPUS | 105 W 6TH AVE, GARRET, IN 46738 SUNDAY, APRIL 20 @ 10:00 AM

TLEARN MORE AT COUNTYLINECHURCH.ORG/EASTER

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER CATHOLIC MASS SCHEDULE



### St. Anthony Catholic Church

Holy Thursday - April 17 Bilingual Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 18 Bilingual Service at 3:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil - April 19
Bilingual Mass at 9:00 p.m.
Brass Quintet & Choir at 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 20 English Mass at 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Spanish Mass at 12:30 p.m.

> 700 W. Maumee Street Angola, Indiana 46703



### St. Paul Catholic Chapel

Holy Thursday - April 17 Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 18 Service at 3:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 20 Mass at 9:00 a.m.

8780 E. 700 N. Fremont, Indiana 46737



### St. Joseph Catholic Church

Holy Thursday - April 17 Bilingual Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 18 Bilingual Service at 3:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil - April 19 Bilingual Mass at 9:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 20 English Mass at 10:00 a.m. Spanish Mass at 12:30 p.m.

> 50 N. 100 E. LaGrange, Indiana 46761