

From the Pastor's Desk...

Easter 2013

Dear Parishioners,

Jesus Christ is Risen from the dead. He lives forever in glory. And, if we put our faith in Him, we can be filled with His Life now, and the fullness of His Life forever. Because He lives, nothing can completely and ultimately hold us down or hold us back - not economic slowdowns, or recessions, not Hurricane Sandy, not personal setbacks, or the death of loved ones, not even our own impending deaths.

All is changed because Jesus is Risen. He has won the victory and we through faith join in that victory. During this Lent, our church underwent a big change as Pope Benedict retired and was replaced by Pope Francis. Francis' election represents an emphasis on the "New World" of the Americas, the Third World, the poor. By emphasizing poverty and simplicity, as Saint Frances did, the Pope returned more closely to the Gospel Message of Jesus. The reaction of the crowds to the new Pope shows that when Jesus' light shines people respond. But, in a larger sense, it doesn't matter so much who is the pope or what he says or does. Jesus Risen from the dead is head of the church, and popes, and bishops and priests are just poor instruments and pale reflections of His love no matter how well they follow and submit to Him.

It's all about Jesus! The more we, as a church, and as individuals put the Risen Jesus in the center of our lives, the more He lives in and through us. I pray that the Resurrection and New Life of Jesus happens in the hearts of all of our parishioners, and throughout the Church, so that our Catholic Church may truly be renewed and come to life this Easter.

May the Risen Jesus become even more alive in you, your families and our parish.

Sincerely,

*Msgr. Jeff Conway
Pastor*