

Our Lady of Lourdes is a pilgrim church coming to know the Kingdom of God by being Christ to the world

Our Lady of Lourdes

Catholic Church

April 2017

“Practice Resurrection”

I’ve been musing on the meaning of Easter and its relevance in this day and age. As a child, Easter meant egg hunts, Easter baskets, and sometimes a new dress or shoes. It was a time when the forsythia, tulips, and daffodils burst into life symbolizing spring had truly arrived. Today, Easter resonates on a different level for me.

A favorite poet of mine, Wendell Berry, wrote a collection of poems entitled *Sabbaths*, which he composed on Sundays over a period of years. At the end of an Easter Sunday poem, he challenged his readers to “practice resurrection!” What could he mean? What could it mean for us? At the very least, it is a challenge to understand Easter in a different way—that it is not just a day “to remember” that Christ rose from the dead, but something more, something that includes us, that puts “resurrection” in our lap, our lives, and our world.

I was thinking about this and about how dark and death-dealing the world can seem these days. To be sure, there is so much pain, poverty, and anger that is a part of our world. More insidious, perhaps, is the moral and spiritual decay that seems pervasive. Each and every day, the media surrounds us with all that is seemingly wrong with the world. Much as we might dream of a return to a simpler, less complicated world, the Andy Griffith “Mayberry” days are long gone.

It is good to remember that Christ, too, in his day was surrounded by the evils of his time—the power hungry, the oppression of the poor, intolerance, sexism, racism—all of this was a part of his world. Yet in the midst of it all, he stood for love, tolerance, acceptance, forgiveness, and peace among all people. This was the “light” that Christ embodied, and he bore it in the face of all the death-dealing of his time when many succumbed to fear and depression. In the midst of it, he rose above and was a living testament to the power of good over evil, life over death.

This Easter season, consider how you might strive each day to be a living light of hope and love in the darkness of our time. In the midst of social, moral, emotional, and spiritual death, where can we be a life-giving sign of resurrection for the world?

Practice resurrection! Each day, every day!

Easter Blessings,
Chris Deily
Director of Liturgical Ministries

3722 South 58th Street Milwaukee, WI 53220-2053

www.ololmke.org PHONE (414) 545-4316 FAX (414) 541-2251 olol@archmil.org

**Our Lady of Lourdes Stewardship Contribution
May 2017**

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Regular Offering-Operating Fund .. \$ _____

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Ascension of the Lord (May 25)..... \$ _____

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As of M/DD/YY Pledge Contributions

Weekly/Monthly Offering \$ 0.00 \$ 0.00

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«STATEMENT NAME»
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«DELIVERY ADDRESS»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP CODE»

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Hello! My name is Taylor Baar and I am excited to be the new Director of Youth Ministry here at Our Lady of Lourdes. I have heard so much about this parish, the welcoming community, and the transformative programs, such as GIFT, that are offered here; I am thrilled to be joining you all!

I have worked in a variety of ministries which have directly and indirectly supported the faith lives of young people. At Marquette University, I was involved in planning and leading retreats, organizing service opportunities and reflections, and I spent some time assisting the Director of Religious Education at St. Michael's Parish. After I graduated, I moved to Aberdeen, Washington and lived in intentional community as a member of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest. As the youth minister for a cluster of parishes, I led middle and high school youth groups and planned social and prayer opportunities. Most recently, I worked at Inspirio promoting the mission of the organization and helping with retreats. For me, these experiences have illustrated the importance of lifelong faith formation. I am excited to now have the opportunity to accompany the young people here on their faith journey.

As I begin this ministry, I hope you feel free to stop by and introduce yourselves. I look forward to meeting you in the coming months! I begin my full-time ministry at the parish on June 1st.



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An Evening for Adults on Adolescent Addiction

Monday, May 8, 7:00-8:00 pm

Join us for an informative video from the HBO series on Addiction.

We will learn:

- * The adolescent brain differs from the adult brain because it is not yet fully developed.
- * This puts teens at a much higher risk for developing an addiction.
- * It is very common for co-occurring mental disorders also to be present in adolescent addicts.
- * Often these conditions are not being identified properly, so adolescents are not getting the type of treatment they need.
- * Family involvement in adolescent treatment has been shown to be effective.

Please call Mary Osep if you have any questions, (414)545-4316, x15

