IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH April 27, 2025, Second Sunday of Easter



APRIL 27, 2025, SECOND Saturday, April 26, 2025 8:00 a.m. Gene Manik (Friends) 4:30 p.m. Anna Bach (Family) Sunday, April 27, 2025 8:00 a.m. Theresa & Anthony Sciulli (Family) 10:00 a.m. Nick DeFelice (Wife) 11:30 a.m. Our Parish Family *First Holy Communions Celebrated at Mass* Monday, April 28, 2025 7:45 a.m. Constance LaBarre (Family) Tuesday, April 29, 2025 7:45 a.m. Colleen Scholl (Husband John) 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. - Confessions 6:30 p.m. Our Parish Family Wednesday, April 30, 2025

7:45 a.m. Bess & Russ Alberts (Family)

Thursday, May 1, 2025

7:45 a.m. Joe Wilson (Family)

Friday, May 2, 2025

7:45 a.m. No Mass at Immaculate Conception8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Saturday, May 3, 2025

8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton4:30 p.m. James Armstrong (Family)

Sunday, May 4, 2025

8:00 a.m. Paul Tucci (Michelle)

10:00 a.m. Ron Beatty (Darlene)

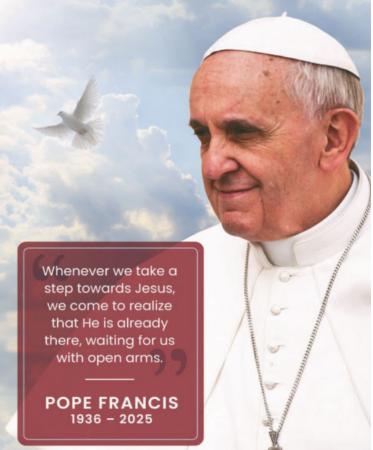
11:30 a.m. Alexander Family (Denise Martin)

Queen of Angels Catholic School Jennifer Filak, Principal jfilak@queenofangelssch.org www.queenofangelssch.org 724-978-0144

Diocese of Greensburg www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

HELP LINES St. Vincent DePaul www.svdpgreensburg.org - 724-691-3711

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org - 724-837-1840



Rev. Michael Crookston, Pastor mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Rev. Louiegene Arnold Valdez, Parochial Vicar lvaldez@dioceseofgreensburg.org

> Rev. Vijay Kumar, Parochial Vicar vkumar@dioceseofgreensburg.org

> Courtney Ruby, Business Manager cruby@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bridget Deveney, Director of Music Ministry bdeveney@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Tracy DeFelice, Administrative Assistant tdefelice@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Susan Cheplic, Director of Faith Formation skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Katelyn Waterhouse, *Regional Director of Youth Ministry* kwaterhouse@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Immaculate Conception Parish Office 308 Second Street Irwin, Pa 15642 Parish Office: 724-863-9550

> Parish Office Hours: 8 am to 3 pm

PASTOR'S NOTES

Resurrection People, Alleluia!

Today's gospel gives us a lesson on persistence and forgiveness. We find that the disciples were hiding in their grief, crushed with disappointment sorrow. They had lost their best friend and all of their hopes and dreams were suddenly gone. They didn't know what to do or how to go on living. When Jesus came to them they were given back the peace that they had lost, their hopes and dreams were restored and they were a people reborn with hope in what the risen Lord. It just so happened that one of the original apostles was not there when Jesus came and it was his doubt that we focus on today. I am sure that I probably would have reacted in much the same way as Thomas. If someone told me that my best friend had just risen from the dead, I would certainly have my doubts. However, nothing deters Jesus from sharing his Spirit and new life with his disciples. He persists until he brings all – not just the early disciples and Thomas but all of us today – to peace, forgiveness, and new life. Jesus is caring for his disciples and calling them to a belief in him which brings new life and presence.

During this Easter Season we will be hearing from the Book of Revelation as the source of the second reading. This book can help us understand not only the signs of the times in the early church but also our time as well. Revelation invites us to think about current events in our world and see what we are to learn and how we are to grow. We must first understand that in the biblical world it was acceptable to exaggerate in order to make a point. Embellishment is certainly not new to any of us. We all embellish a story in order to get our point across. We find some of this embellishment in the first reading which shows the early church to be somewhat "ideal" even with all of the advisories it had to deal with. Despite it all, the story that is told is done so with great optimism as if everything is fine.

The second reading is full of exaggeration and symbolism. John, the author of the book uses stark images to convey religious truths. At the time of this reading there were seven churches in Ephesus and they all lived in fear. But the symbols in this reading intend to give believers hope. The writer intends to reassure these believers not to be afraid. As Jesus died but now lives, so, too must suffering Christians have faith in the one who has triumphed over death. If we look at our world today there is certainly much fear and suffering. We also must take hope in the same way that the early Christians did in the peace that the risen Lord brings.

Thomas represents the doubt in all of us who believe even though we have not seen. Today the Church brings the presence of the risen Jesus to others, and we are the Church. Faithful disciples are Jesus' persistent presence in our world. We forgive when we see and treat someone who has hurt us as the risen Christ. We preach when we share with our young ones the gospels and the Christian way to live what they announce. We teach when we live in ways which clearly put the other ahead of ourselves. We heal when we touch others physically or emotionally. We add to our numbers when our lives witness the love and care that Jesus had in real tangible ways. God doesn't ask us to be heroes in our witnessing in resurrection faith and bringing Jesus' presence to others. God only asks that we be as alive to new, new Easter life as was the Jesus who showed the disciples his hands and side. *~Father Mike*



CANDLES

Sanctuary Candle: In Memory Gene Manik (Friends)

Divine Mercy: In Memory of Irene Brooks (Judy & Barb)

St. Peregrine Candle: Special Intention for Cancer Patients

Easter Flame Candle: In Memory Ron Balcerek (Family)

St. Joseph's Candle: Month's Mind

Altar Candles for the Month of April: In Memory of Patrick Newcomer (Family)

Paschal Candle:

In Memory of James & Anna Tempero (Daughters)

If you would like to have a candle lit in memory of your loved one, please call the parish office. We will be glad to help you. 724-863-9550

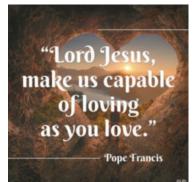


Please pray the families of Dolores Moir, Theresa Ubinger and Fred Ubinger and all of our faithful departed.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Prayer for Pope Francis

Dear God, We thank You for the years of service Pope Francis gave to our Church: his encyclicals, his prayers, his pilgrimages, his work for a brighter tomorrow. May his life and service remind us of our ultimate goal — You and You alone. Amen.





Prayer of Divine Mercy

O Blood and Water that redeems and saves, have mercy on us! O Blood and Water that heals and restores, have mercy on us! O Blood and Water that strengthens and renews, have mercy on us! Amen.

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament is available during Confession hour and after each Mass.

Matrimony

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact the parish office one year in advance of the Wedding.

Baptism

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized please email Susan Cheplic at skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register for Baptism Preparation.

Confession

Tuesday 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. & Saturday 9-10 a.m. (except for the first Saturday of the month)

Divine Mercy

Join us for the Divine Mercy Chaplet Monday through Friday at 3:00 pm in the church.



Eucharistic Adoration is on Tuesdays after 7:45 am Mass & continuing until 6:15 pm.

"The Eucharist is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak." ~Pope Francis

Sunday Offertory April 13 - \$16,342.28

Online Giving

April 12 - April 20 - \$6,725.90

Thank you for supporting our parish!

Immaculate Conception Parish offers Online Giving.

- Scan QR Code on the new Pew Cards or QR Code below.
- Click Create a new account.
- Create an ID and password.
- Allow 2 minutes to complete the
- process.



If you decide to switch to online giving and would like to discontinue your envelopes please contact the parish office. Thank you!



Attention Graduating Seniors Mark your calendars the Graduation Mass will be held on Sunday June 1, 2025 at 10:00 am Mass. An invitation was mailed last week with more details. If you

do not receive an invitation please contact the parish office.

GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUPS

Two Grief Share groups are available:

Monday evenings Grief Share support group will be held at Immaculate Conception in the Children's Liturgy Room on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. beginning May 5. Contact Gerri Dornin at gdornin@comcast.net to register or for additional information. You are welcome to start attending at any point, as each session is "self-contained."

Thursday afternoons Grief Share support group will be held at St. Agnes in the Bertolina Room in the Faith Formation Center (Old Convent), Thursdays from 1:00 pm - 2:30 p.m. Contact Audrey Quinlan at audreyquinlan@comcast.net to register or for additional information. You are welcome to start attending at any point, as each session is "self-contained."



The Immaculate Conception Creation Care Team follows the Church's teachings to Care for Our Common Home with various programs such as recycling, ecological education, and service. The team meets the third Tuesday of each month (the location varies). Please contact Dave Wasil at dwasil@dioceseofgreensburg.org for more information.



Father Mike is celebrating his 45th year Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday May 3rd Please keep him in your prayers. May He continue to bless Father Mike as he seeks to serve Him.

Knights of Columbus St Jude Council 9019 - will have their monthly meeting on Monday April 28, 2025, at the St Agnes Convent Building, Fr Gianni Room. The meeting starts at 7:15 with the Rosary. St Jude Council covers the parishes of IC, St Agnes, and St Elizabeth Ann Seton. If you are interested in joining the Knights, or would like to transfer to our Council, please contact Al Borgony at 724-864-3487 or email a.borgony@comcast.net ,or you can check out our website at kofc.org and join online.



For the month of May our local St. Vincent De Paul Conference will be sponsoring a "Hygiene Help Donation Program" to benefit Brother's Brother Foundation of Pittsburgh. Boxes will be set up in the vestibules of both St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and

Immaculate Conception churches. We are asking parishioners to purchase & donate one or more of the following items for BBF's Disaster Relief efforts locally, in the U.S. and around the world. Please note that each item should be *trial or travel size only* except for bar soap. Items needed include: hand sanitizer; deodorant; body wash; tissues; toothpaste; toothbrushes; shampoo; conditioner (or both in one); bar soap; lotion, Chapstick, flushable wipes, feminine hygiene tampons and feminine hygiene pads. Brother's Brother Foundation will use your donated items to put together "Personal Hygiene Kits" for people suffering from war and natural disasters. Their most recent humanitarian aid efforts have included the California wildfires: Hurricane Helene in North Carolina and the war in Ukraine. For more information about Brother's Brother Foundation, please visit their website: www.brothersbrother.org. For info about our "Hygiene Help Donation Program," please contact Carl Becker @ 412-751-5029. Thank you for helping those in need.

All Adults 21 years or older are invited to

Theology on the Vine

Walking with God on the Road You Never Wanted to Travel

Stories of Hope in the Shadow of Grief

Panel Moderator : Gerri Dornin Panelists: Audrey Qinlan, Meg Shiffler, Roberta Waltz

Wednesday April 30, 2025

Doors open 6:00 pm

Program begins at 6:30 pm

OUR LADY'S PLAZA

Immaculate Conception Parish Hall

A great opportunity for Catholic adults to meet in a comfortable setting to explore our faith and how it affects our lives. Wine, cheese and light beverages are served.

Food-Faith-Fellowship

MAY CROWINING



TUESDAY MAY 6TH 6:30 PM MASS IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

PLEASE JOIN US FOR MASS WITH A PROCESSION BY OUR 1ST COMMUNICANTS TO CROWN MARY COOKIE RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

DONATIONS OF POP AND WATER ARE NEEDED FOR BURGER BASH!!

COLA

Keep your eye on the "Sales" and buy an extra cube or case for our parish fundraiser!! Please drop it off at the garage between 8:30 am- 3 pm, Monday thru Friday. If the garage door is closed please place it outside of the door.



2025 BURGER

BASH

Immaculate Conception Church

Corner of 2nd and 0st Streets

Travin PR

Saturdays

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

May 10, 2025

June 14, 2025

July 12, 2025 August 9, 2025 CHRISTIAN MOTHERS/ WOMEN'S GUILD OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH MOTHER/DAUGHTER LUNCHEON

MAY 4, 2025

Ferrante's Lakeview Banquet Facility 6153 US-30, Greensburg, PA 15601

All women are welcome!

Women \$30 – Children (3-10) \$18 Children under 2 are Free.

Advance Ticket Sales Only

Tickets for sale after all Masses April 26 & 27 and at the Parish Office Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Last Day to Purchase April 27

Our Diocesan goal is **\$162,067.00.** On the diocesan level, these monies support the international priests, seminarian's education, faith formation programs, Catholic Charities, and other diocesan ministries. Secondly, any monies over the diocesan goal will stay here at Immaculate Conception parish to support our missions, ministries, and to assist with upkeep of our parish buildings and grounds.

As of April 14th, total pledged is \$72,594.00. That is only 44.8% of our Diocesan goal.

Please remember if Immaculate Conception Parish does not reach our diocesan goal, the parish will receive a bill for the difference that must be paid out of our parish savings. It is important to note that every penny we raise above our Diocesan goal is ASSESMENT FREE. That means all those dollars stay here at Immaculate Conception parish.

Thank you to all who have already given a gift to the 2025 Diocesan Lenten Appeal and to those who will give a gift. Thank you for your support! To donate online visit - https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/ diocesan-lenten-appeal/dla-donate/ Or Scan the QR Code

| SUMME | 4 12 Registration |
|-------------------|--|
| | R 1 Timothy Instagram |
| We ki snack | currently in grades 8th-11th are welcomel now you are hungry, so there are always s, but we know your soul is hungry tool his summer to learn who you are as a child of God and find your people. |
| мау 4 | 4:12 Game Night 6-8pm @ Youth Ministry Building (located in the rear of Queen of Angels School); fellowship, fun, games, and snacks! |
| JUNE 22 | 01 Obdy and find your people. Log of the sear of Queen of Angele School); fellowship, fun, games, and snacks! Campfire Stories & Snacks S-8pm @ St. Agnes Bring your bible, an appetite, and your friendly competitive spirit. Soesenity of the Assumption of the Blessed Vingin Mary Check your buildetin for details. Campfire Stories & Snacks Bring your bible, an appetite, and your friendly competitive spirit. Soesenity of the Assumption of the Blessed Vingin Mary Check your buildetin for details. Campfire Stories & Snacks G-8pm @ St. Agnes Bring your bible, an appetite, and your friendly competitive spirit. To so the spirit. Check your buildetin for details. Campfire Stories & Snacks So the spirit. Check your buildetin for details. Campfire Stories & Snacks So the spirit. Bring your bible, an appetite, and your friendly competitive spirit. So the spirit. |
| JULY 13 | Campfire Stories & Snacks 6-8pm @ St. Agnes Bring your bible, an appetite, and your friendly competitive spirit. |
| AUGUST | Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Check your bulletin for details. |
| AUG 17 | Campfire Stories & Snacks 6-8pm @ St. Agnes Bring your bible, an appetite, and your friendly competitive spirit. |
| sep 14 | Color War Kick-Off the New Year 6-8pm @ St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Bring you game face and join us for a game of fun. |
| ^{SEP} 28 | Welcome Mass & Open House 6-8pm @ Queen of Angels Join us to celebrate mass (this counts for Sunday Obligation) and then tour the youth ministry building, play games, and learn more about high school ministry! |



Immaculate Conception Parish has two seminarians studying for the priesthood: Tyler Randolph and Ryan Scavnicky. When you support the Diocesan Lenten Appeal, you are helping to fun their formation! Pray for our future priests this Lenten Season ar commit your support because it truly is *A Time to Share*. Visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2025 to give a gift.



Donate today at DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2025

ANGELS CORNER—QUEEN OF ANGEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear Friends of Queen of Angels Catholic School,

Queen of Angels Catholic School 16th Annual Angel Ducky Derby will be held at Irwin Park on Wednesday, May 21, 2025. 500 rubber ducks will be sold for \$5.00 each by our school families. On the day of the race the ducks will be placed in the Irwin Park stream for a race to the finish. We are writing to you to ask for your support. A contribution to this race would be greatly appreciated.

*Cash donations will help to underwrite the prizes:

1st place \$200 2nd place \$100

2^{nd*}place \$100 3rd place \$ 50

Lame Duck (last) \$25

In support of your donation, your name will be posted the day of the event at Irwin Park. Again, this year, our race will be combined with our Fun Day. The event is a development effort to benefit the school's educational program. We are thankful for your generous and continued support within the local community. If you need any additional information, please contact Mrs. Ruth Ann Noblick at (724) 331-6216. All donations are due before May 14th and can be mailed to:

Oueen of Angels Catholic School

Attention: Mrs. Ruth Ann Noblick – Ducky Derby

One Main Street

North Huntingdon, PA 15642

If you would like to join in the FUN, please fill out the form below.

Yes, I would like to purchase ducks for the 16th Queen of Angels Catholic School Annual Angel Ducky Derby.

| Sponsor Name | Sponsor Phone | <u># of Ducks</u> |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Name:

Phone number:





THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER April 27, 2025 - Order of the Mass

VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by the Father: courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate, faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage. Holy Spirit, help us to live our universal vocation to holiness by listening to the Father's voice and responding with a sacrificial love. Holy Mary, Model of vocations, pray for us.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Christ, the Lord, is Risen Today



Text: 77 77 with alleluias; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: Robert Williams, 1781–1821.



Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: A New Mass for Congregations, Carroll T. Andrews, revised by Ronald F. Krisman © 1970, 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12-16

Many signs and wonders were done among the people at the hands of the apostles. They were all together in Solomon's portico. None of the others dared to join them, but the people esteemed them. Yet more than ever, believers in the Lord, great numbers of men and women, were added to them. Thus they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and mats so that when Peter came by, at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them. A large number of people from the towns in the vicinity of Jerusalem also gathered, bringing the sick and those disturbed by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

> The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118 Hal Hopson

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING Revelation 1:9-13,17-19

I, John, your brother, who share with you the distress, the kingdom, and the endurance we have in Jesus, found myself on the island called Patmos because I proclaimed God's word and gave testimony to Jesus. I was caught up in spirit on the Lord's day and heard behind me a voice as loud as a trumpet, which said, "Write on a scroll what you see." Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and when I turned, I saw seven gold lampstands and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, wearing an ankle-length robe, with a gold sash around his chest. When I caught sight of him, I fell down at his feet as though dead. He touched me with his right hand and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I hold the keys to death and the netherworld. Write down,

therefore, what you have seen, and what is happening, and what will happen afterwards."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the lews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

CREED

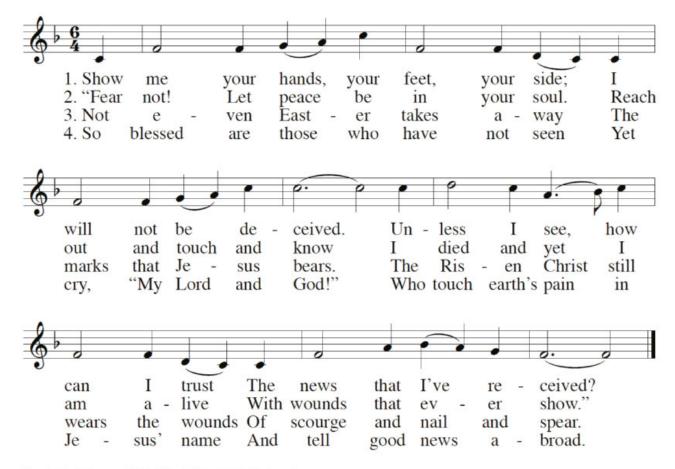
I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

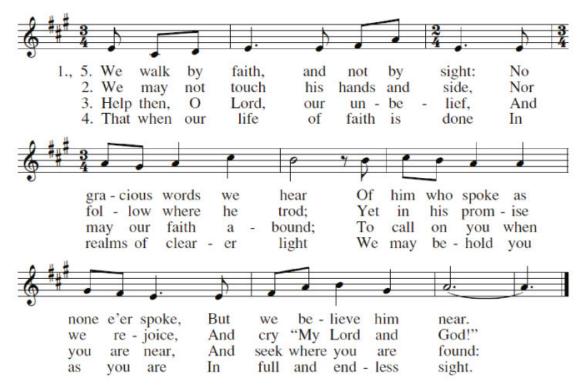
PREPARATION OF GIFTS

Show Me Your Hands, Your Feet, Your Side



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: LAND OF REST, CM; American melody; harm. by Annabel M. Buchanan, 1888–1983

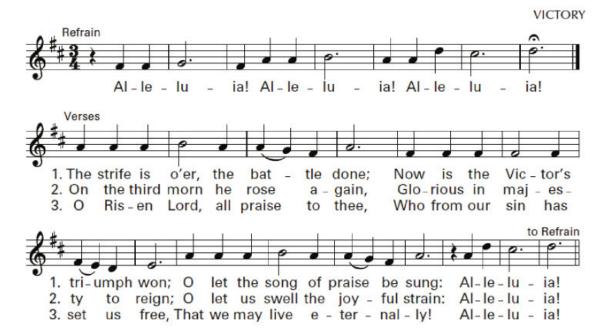




Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt. Tune: SHANTI, CM; Marty Haugen, b.1950, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Strife Is O'er



Text: 888 with alleluias; Finita iam sunt praelia; Latin, 12th cent.; tr. by Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt. Music: Giovanni da Palestrina, 1525–1594; adapt. by Willam H. Monk, 1823–1889.

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