#### From Father Nik

#### Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Jesus Christ is our Covenant. Covenant is the special relationship God establishes with a free Gift and with a Promise. Jesus, himself, is the free, unearned gift of God become one of us, and he is the promise that all things will be reconciled and made new in him. His life, the life of a Jewish peasant from a nearly forgotten town on the edge of an ancient empire, is the fulfillment of the promise of the Covenant established with Abraham—that through his offspring all peoples would be blessed. His crucifixion and death, in which he reconciled all to God by being both High Priest and sacrificial victim, is the fulfillment of the promise to Israel at Sinai—that they would be a holy nation and a kingdom of priests. And his resurrection from the dead, by which he became the first fruits of all who will rise again to new life, is the fulfillment of the promise that God justifies us and is drawing the whole world toward righteousness. That is to say, Christ's resurrection is both the fulfillment and the continued promise that God is restoring this world to justice and each of us to right relationship with Him and one another in his Kingdom. On this Easter, this Feast of his Resurrection, we can be "sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).

The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

### Ník+

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

### **Flowering of the Cross**

Please remember to bring fresh flowers in water Sunday morning for the Easter Cross

### **Easter Breakfast**

All are welcome to a pancake breakfast at 9am in the Parish House before Easter Sunday Eucharist

## Celebration of a New Marriage

Emily Gill & Aaron Lazar invite you to celebrate their new marriage with a reception in the Parish House after the Eucharist on Sunday, April 19. They are having a small, family only wedding on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Parish Dinner & 2014 Opera Viewing

Saturday, April 25 we will celebrate our new kitchen with a parish dinner and viewing of the 2014 opera in the parish hall. (Donations encouraged: \$5 per person, \$20 per family)

#### **African Team Ministries**

The African Team Ministries' artifacts and jewelry will be available on Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, April 26, after church in the Parish House. Come over and shop for your spring look and help others to obtain clean water for their villages. The prices are reasonable and the need is great.

Fr. Nik will be away from Monday, April 27 through Saturday, May 2.

The office will be closed Monday & Tuesday of Easter week (April 6 & 7).

Office hours: Jacquie Alleva, our parish secretary, works Tuesday & Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. If you would like to submit an announcement, please do so by noon on Thursday.

# **Christian Education**

**Godly Play**: Children are invited to hear the Word in a fun, learning environment in the Parish House during the first half of our Sunday worship, then join their parents for Communion.

J2A Youth Group meets twice a month for fun, fellowship, food, & formation. The next meeting is Sunday, April 12 @ 5pm in the parish house.

Adult Forum meets Sunday mornings at 9am. During the seasons of Lent and Easter we're studying St Paul's Letter to the Galatíans. Come join us for coffee and good conversation.

# **Small Groups**

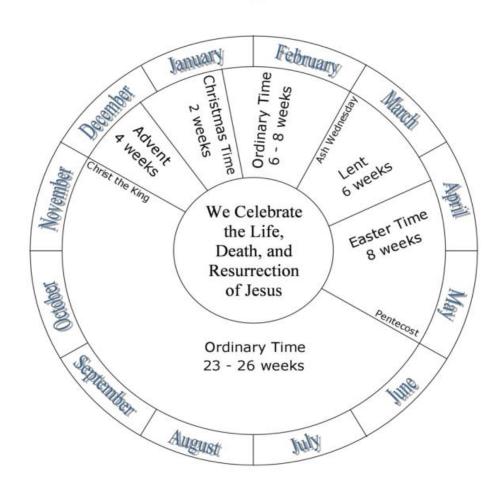
**The Women's Book Group** meets every other Thursday at Kathy Thomas' house from 10am-noon. The next meeting is Thursday April 16, the book is *Daring Greatly* by Brene Brown. Please contact Kathy for directions or more info: <a href="mailto:boysthree@embarqmail.com">boysthree@embarqmail.com</a>

**The Men's Book Group** will meet Thursday, April 16 at 7:30am at Ashland Coffee & Tea. They are reading *Resident Aliens: Life in the Christian Colony* by Stanley Hauerwas & Will Willimon – (pages127 - 143). Please join us!

# **Christian Formation**

If you're interested in being Baptized or would like to become a member of this Church, please contact Fr Nik –<u>KNicholasForti@gmail.com</u>

# The Liturgical Year



#### **Looking Ahead**

Monday, Apr 6 – Office Closed

Tuesday, Apr 7 – Office Closed

Sunday, Apr 12 - Youth Group, 5-7pm

Wednesday, Apr 15 - Catechism & Confirmation class, 6:30-7:30pm

Thursday, Apr 16 - Men's Book Group, 7:30-8:30am

- Women's Book Group, 10am-Noon

Saturday, Apr 18 - Gill/Lazar wedding, 11am

Sunday, Apr 19 – Gill/Lazar reception for the parish after Eucharist, 11:30am

Monday, Apr 27-Saturday, May 2 – Fr Nik will be away