

# St. Gregory's Parish



## EASTER SUNDAY

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." - Mt 28:5b-6

**2223 Dorchester Avenue**

**Lower Mills, Massachusetts 02124**

**Pastor:** Fr. Jack Ahern

Email: bowdoin9043@gmail.com

**In Residence:** Fr. Brian F. McMahon

Fr. John J. Ronaghan

**Business Manager:** Julie A. Hayes

**Music Director:** James Busby

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM

### DAILY MASSES

Monday - Friday – 6:45 AM

### TELEPHONES

617-298-2460, 617-298-0478

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Email: stgregoryparish@gmail.com

Website: [www.stgregoryparish.com](http://www.stgregoryparish.com)

## WELCOME

### WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all guests and parishioners of Saint Gregory Parish. We are delighted that you have come to worship with us, and we very much hope that you feel at home here! Newcomers are encouraged to register as members of the Parish. Registration forms are available in the entryways of the Church and in the Parish Office and can be placed in the offertory basket or mailed to the Parish Office.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Second Sunday of every month at 11:00 AM, in the upper Church. (Call rectory in advance to register).

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Confessions will be heard from Noon to 1:00 pm on Saturdays to allow both the celebration of the Sacrament weekly, and also to schedule funerals.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Couples planning to be married should contact Fr. Jack at least six months prior to the date requested.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:** Anytime by request and following all Masses the first weekend of the month.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** First Saturday of the month from Noon—1:00 pm.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Classes begin in September each year. Please contact the rectory for more information.

### ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC ACADEMY -LOWER MILLS

Lisa Warshafsky, Principal

For more information call 617-265-0019 or visit

[www.sjp2ca.org](http://www.sjp2ca.org)

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Monday morning.

*Please visit our website often for news and information.*

[www.stgregoryparish.com](http://www.stgregoryparish.com)

*Please turn off all cell phones and pagers upon entering the church.*

## An Easter Prayer For Hope

Sister Joyce Rupp, osm

Risen Presence, stir hope in us when we waver in our belief about the goodness of humanity. Turn our face toward the sunrise of each morning. Assure us that every day brings light after night's heavy darkness. Let it remind us that a fresh beginning continually awaits us.

Open our eyes to recognize signs of your endless love. Draw us close on our own Emmaus roads. When our hearts are disconsolate surprise us with your peace-filled presence. Rekindle our love.

Clear our mind of the tendency to close off the possibility of a world warm with the glow of human kindness. Veer us away from negativity. Help us delete our thoughts of inner strife and the apprehension of doomsday prophecies.

Bring us into a remembrance of your empty tomb when we want to give up on humanity's care for one another. Restore our recognition of your presence abiding in each and every human being.

Let us look deeply, beyond despicable behavior and brutality, and find the pure essence of your love abiding there.

Risen One, breathe hope in us. Again and again. Help us keep it alive by how we think, feel, and live. We dare not let this virtue die.

Abundant peace.

*Servite Sister Joyce Rupp, osm, is an author and retreat and conference speaker.*

Visit [www.joycerupp.com](http://www.joycerupp.com)

***Christ is Risen!  
He is truly Risen!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!!!***



## Church Open Daily Octave of Easter for Private Prayer

10:00 AM – Noon

Because of our the ever increasing concern for our health and the need to limit trips from the safety of our homes and our responsibility to disinfect the Church on a daily basis we have been asked to limit the time when the Church is available or prayer. I apologize for the inconvenience.

*Fr. Jack*

### PRIVATE MASS INTENTION

Each day I say a private Mass to remember each of you and your intentions. I also remember the intentions that were booked prior to the shut-down. **Remembered this week:** On Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> a Mass will be said to remember the victims of the Boston Marathon; Martin William Richard, Lu Lingzi, Krystal Marie Campbell, MIT Officer Sean A. Collier and BPD Officer Dennis Simmonds. On April 18<sup>th</sup> a Mass will be said for Bob Golka and Irene and Arthur Gallius.

### Church Carillon

Over the past few weeks there has been an unsettling silence in Lower Mills. Breaking that silence each hour has been the sound of music coming from our carillon. I seldom heard it before. Now almost hourly I pause to say a prayer for all those on the front lines of the COVID-19, those who have succumbed to it here and around the world, those who are now well, all of you who are adjusting to the much needed restrictions and our civil leaders, especially Mayor Walsh and Governor Baker, who have responded to the crisis so well and in doing so calmed our spirits.

**“The great gift of Easter is hope –  
Christian hope which makes us have that  
confidence in God,  
in his ultimate triumph,  
and in his goodness and love,  
which nothing can shake.”**

***Basil Cardinal Hume***

## **Easter Homily 2020**

Over the past few weeks many images of hope and healing have flooded Facebook, You Tube and the varying news services.

One of the more startling and powerful images was Pope Francis standing alone in the midst of a barren St. Peter's Square in Rome at dusk with the rain steadily falling. Pope Francis spoke to the world on the crisis that envelops us:

"Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by," the pope said.

"We feel it in the air, we notice in people's gestures, their glances give them away. We find ourselves afraid and lost."

"We find ourselves afraid and lost," Francis said, insisting that for Christians, the present moment is time to choose between "what matters and what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not."

The heart of Francis' argument was that the disciples too felt fear, and the antidote lies in Christ and the promise of the resurrection that Easter celebrates. This is a trying time for us all -- yet with Christ there walking with us there is healing and hope; courage and confidence; newness of life.

In the midst of this Coronavirus Pandemic there are an abundance of stories where good people have brought a spark of Easter light to this difficult time.

Physicians, nurses and other medical staff are on the front lines in the war against COVID-19 and are stressed to the max but continue to provide critical care. I also think of those who work in our hospitals in environmental service, transportation, food service and more. They are truly giving their all in the most unsettling of situations.

I am also struck by the goodness of first-responders, teachers teaching virtually, store clerks, delivery service and farm workers, sanitation collectors, journalists, and more. To them all, take care of yourselves.

Sparks of Easter light are also visible in the generosity of the Lower Mills Tavern and other restaurants bringing free meals to area hospitals; the Easter light is able to be seen in the goodness of the Feeney Brothers, the Kraft Family and Annisa Essabi George and friends from the Stich House Dorchester who provided much needed masks.

The Easter light clearly shines, and I'm always moved by the sight of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren holding signs of love and affection outside Standish Village to loved ones who for the time being cannot have visitors.

For the moment we are kinder to one another, making sure our family is well and that our neighbors are OK.

In the midst of the darkness that hovers over us there is Easter light.

As we quietly celebrate Easter 2020 may we remember that God — who possesses a love we cannot begin to fathom — refuses to let death be the victor or have the final word. Jesus has been raised from the dead and he walks with us offering us healing and hope, courage and confidence, newness of life.

To you and your loved ones may you have a blessed Easter Season.

*Fr. Jack*

