

# EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESSURECTION OF THE LORD – APRIL 9, 2023

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Alleluia, Christ has risen ... See you again!!

At Easter, we celebrate great mysteries of our faith in the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. We rejoice because Christ offers us new life and hope of a better tomorrow. Everything around us speaks to this new life because very soon the grass will be green again, flowers will bloom, crops will sprout, and our gardens will once again be comely. As we celebrate this important event which changed human history, it is also a time of change in our parish as we welcome a new pastor, Fr. Hayden Starczala. I arrived here 2 years ago during COVID-19 pandemic with all the challenges the pandemic brought upon our world, families and even the Church. I came to a congregation whose faces I could not see since everyone wore masks. At the time, there were policies which kept changing every now and then, but we all stuck together to combat the pandemic. Gradually, we got to know one another, and we have worked together to keep building this family of faith.

In the last 2 years, we had celebrated various sacraments; we welcomed some persons into the faith through baptism, our young ones received first Holy Communion, young couples were wedded in Holy Matrimony, and we were there for bereaved families. May the souls of our departed parishioners continue to rest in peace, amen. To the glory of God and thanks to your generosity, we had accomplished some projects both in Elora and Drayton in the last 2 years. Apart from repairs around both Churches, in Elora for example, we provided accessible entrance, renovated office spaces through the Capital Campaign and installed new rectory kitchen through Ex Corde grant. I can not thank enough many persons who provide various ministries in our parishes. I also thank Bishop Crosby, Bishop Lobsinger and Msgr. Kroestch for the opportunity to serve our parishes. As I move to BC, be assured of my prayers as I humbly ask for yours also. I wish our new Pastor, Fr. Hayden, an enriching pastoral engagement both in Elora and Drayton. May the joy of this Easter season abide with us always and may Mary Immaculate and St. Martin of Tours continue to intercede for us, amen. See you again!!

Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Olusola, PhD  
Pastor (2021-2023)

## MASS SCHEDULE: APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> TO 14<sup>th</sup>

**Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. +Eliane Lussier (Louise & Mike Bilodeau)**

**Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. +Jean Sparry (Colleen & Steve Cudney)**

**Thursday: 6:30 Adoration, 7:00 p.m. Special Intention**

**Friday: 9:00 a.m. The Intentions of Fr. Emmanuel (St. Mary's Parishioners)**

## BISHOP CROSBY'S EASTER MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As we gather to celebrate the Easter Feasts this year, I offer my greetings and good wishes. It has been encouraging to see such large numbers of faithful gather once again for the Holy Week celebrations! The gathering of so many at the Cathedral for the celebration of this year's Chrism Mass is a sure sign that the covid restrictions are behind us and that fear no longer inhibits us from coming together as a community of faith to give thanks to God for blessings showered upon us.

Following the Holy Thursday and Good Friday remembrance, we gather for the Easter Vigil, hearing the scriptures, singing the psalms, and praying the prayers in anticipation of our Easter 'ALLELUIA"! The lighting of the Easter candle is a powerful reminder that even a flickering flame makes a huge difference in a darkened room. Our faith, as tentative and fragile as it might seem, can make, can make the world of difference for our children, our families, our friends and our neighbours. And when we act as Christ teaches, our faith can mean everything for the little one who experiences the generosity of our love.

After weeks of fasting and deprivation, we now experience the joy of Easter feasting! We remember all too clearly that many still experience the pain of hunger and thirst, the misery of war and destruction, and the sorrow of hatred and rejection. As we sing our Easter Alleluias in the light of the Easter candle, we offer our greetings and goodness to those who live on the edges of darkness – praying that they too, might know HIS LIGHT, and ours.

May you be richly blessed this Easter! And through you, may many know the love that God showers upon us by letting us be called "His children" – "for that is what we are" (1 Jn.).

Happy Easter to all!

Sincerely in the Risen Christ and Mary Immaculate,

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI  
Bishop of Hamilton

