

Essence of Jesus' life in Resurrection

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 "This is Baptism and Confirmation of adults," McEnhill said. "This is the most appropriate time for the profession of faith as Catholics."
 "It is spring, a new beginning, the commemoration of the beginning of

our church. It is a commitment for the new Catholic; it is the renewal of our commitment as Catholics and the meaning of our Baptism and our belief in the Resurrection."
 THE VIGIL, concludes with the

celebration of the Eucharist, which commemorates the sacrifice of the cross and the presence of the risen Christ.
 Parishioners bring bread, crackers and cheese to share after the service.

"Bring your bells," McEnhill said. "When we sing, 'Gloria to God,' our most joyful hymn, we make it even more triumphant with the ringing of bells. It's a tradition at St. Gerald."
 Easter Sunday Mass in the church begins at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon.

Passover marks 'the epic event'

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 zah, is eaten during the eight days of Passover.
 A special book, the Haggadah, is used during the seder. Haggadah

means "the telling" of the story or narrative. It is a book that has emerged over the centuries fixing the seder's rituals.
 The head of the household leads the seder and directs reading of the

Haggadah. Everyone present takes part. The youngest asks the Four Questions. The story of Passover is told through the answers to these questions.

No leavened bread is eaten during Passover. Certain other foods containing yeast or other leavening agents also are forbidden by Jewish law to be eaten at this time. All forbidden foods are removed from the

home no later than noon on the day before Passover begins.

Separate dishes, silverware and cooking utensils are customarily used during the eight-day celebration.

MATZAH is eaten throughout the seder. Three matzahs are placed on the seder plate and covered or placed in a cloth container. The seder plate is large, usually decorated, and has a place for each of the seder foods.

As a reminder of the lamb ritually slaughtered and then eaten by Jewish families on the eve of Passover in Biblical times, a roasted lamb bone is placed on the seder plate. Horseradish is one of the bitter herbs that serve as a reminder of slavery's bitterness. Charoset, a sweet mixture of chopped apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine, symbolizes the mortar made to hold together the bricks the Jews produced while slaves in Egypt. Karpas is a green vegetable, usually parsley or celery, used to symbolize spring and renewal. It is dipped in salt water, which symbolizes the tears of the Jews in Egypt.

A roasted egg is placed on the seder plate as a token of grief for the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem.

A special cup of wine is placed on the seder table for the prophet Elijah. According to tradition, Elijah is God's messenger who will foretell the coming of the Messiah. During the seder, there is a time when the door of the house is opened and Elijah is invited to enter.



TOM ARNETT/staff photographer
 The Rev. Gerald McEnhill tells about the Easter Vigil service he prepared for the St. Gerald Catholic Church parish family — the most joyous service of the year.

Active Parenting 6-part series opens

Nardin Park United Methodist Church is now offering information and registration for an innovative video-based program designed to enhance child-parent relationships. The sessions will take place from 7-9 p.m. on six consecutive Wednesdays beginning April 13 in the church's fellowship hall, 29397 11 Mile Road.
 "Active Parenting" is a video-based and group discussion program dealing with all aspects of child and teen problems. It has been used

throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe.

Its aim is for parents to recognize and resolve questions about responsibility, power, cooperation, love, unity, health and happiness surrounding their children.

Fee for the series is \$15, or \$21 per couple.

Calls are taken by Mary Tame, diocesan minister of Christian education for the church, at 476-8866.

55th wedding anniversary celebrated

Walter and Leah Pekio celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary with a family dinner at home. The couple were married March 17, 1933 in the rectory of Trumbull Street Presbyterian Church in Detroit. They have lived in Farmington Hills since 1951. The couple have two sons, Kenneth Pekio of Toledo, Ohio and Philip Pekio, of Farmington Hills. They have one grandson, Jack Pekio.

Among the dinner guests were Gwen and Glen Cantner, from Odesa, Texas who stopped here for the occasion on their way to Vermont.

Leah Pekio regularly joins the exercisers, the walkers and the bingo players at the Farmington Hills Senior Adult Center, and swims twice a week in the pool in Clarenceville High School.

Tell us about your event

When you submit a press release to the Observer, please provide us with the name and telephone number of a person with whom we can verify the information.

If you are submitting a photo for our consideration, please keep in mind that black and white pictures reproduce the best. Snapshots of large groups don't reproduce well and aren't considered suitable for

Centennial dancers in recital

Polish National Alliance Centennial Dancers' annual recital begins at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 24, in Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, Livonia.

Highlights of the recital are national and regional dances of Poland, the lively polkas and obereks of the United States and dances to Broadway show tunes performed in a cabaret setting.

Donation is \$4 in advance or \$5 at the door. Advance tickets are available by calling the Centennial Dancers Association, 464-1263.

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