



OUR ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL CHURCH IS OPEN FOR EASTER 2019. WILL IT BE OPEN FOR EASTER 2020? IT'S UP TO YOU!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

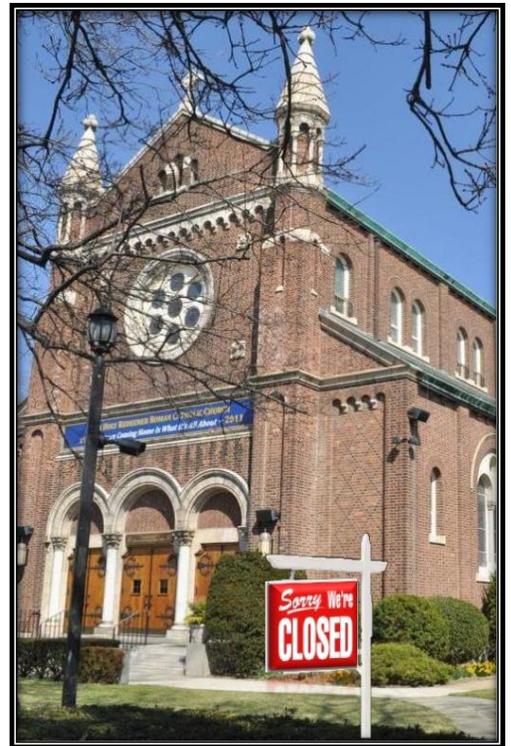
He is Risen! Truly Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! How wonderful those words must have sounded when they reached the ears of believers such as Mary Magdalene outside the Empty Tomb and the Apostles in the Upper Room! Mary Magdalene, upon hearing the Good News outside the tomb “ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, ...” (Saint John XX:2a). Simon Peter and John (the disciple whom Jesus loved) “went out and came to the tomb. (And) They both ran, ...” (Saint John XX:3,4a).

The Good News of the Lord’s Resurrection did not remain in the ears of Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, and John. It did not remain in their heads like some scientific theory that needed to be proven with help from a scientific method. No, the Good News found its way from their ears to their hearts, and so they ran to proclaim It!

In 1903, that connection of the Good News to the heart established the Parish of Our Holy Redeemer in Freeport. And in 1911, that connection built our absolutely beautiful church. If we want to keep that church’s doors open so that our children can be Married here, our grandchildren can be Baptized here, our parents can be remembered at a Mass of Christian Burial here, ... then we must be (in the words of Bishop Barres) “**radically faithful to participation in the Sunday Mass**”. If we don’t make this commitment, then the doors to our absolutely beautiful church may in fact be closed the next time we try to enter through them.

Please, don’t be so foolish as to think that anything less than being “radically faithful” (that means everybody; every Sunday) will keep the doors of Our Holy Redeemer church from closing. Just remember what happened to Our Holy Redeemer School in 1995: 50 years after the connection of the Good News to the heart opened it; it was closed!

The doors of your church at 37 South Ocean Avenue in Freeport, New York opened for you on EASTER Sunday 2019 because 20% of Freeport’s Baptized Catholics allowed the Good News to enter their hearts and bring them to that church EVERY Sunday in 2018. Our Holy Redeemer suffered, died, and rose from the dead to open the doors of Heaven for 100% of us. It is time for the other 80% of Freeport’s Baptized Catholics to start *coming home* EVERY Sunday, and to help keep the doors open for Him, so that He can enter into your hearts and transform them, and you in turn can run into the world proclaiming the Good News that makes *coming home* what it’s all about: He is Risen! Truly Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Let us Pray

*Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I come to You in Thanksgiving, knowing that all that I am and all that I have are gifts from You. Teach me to be generous as You have been generous with me. I offer to You this day all the facets of my life, whether at home, at work or at school – to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous and to be holy. Keep me mindful that as Your disciple, I am called through the Holy Spirit, to be an instrument of dramatic missionary growth, **radically faithful to participation in Sunday Mass**, deeply devoted to the Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist, and courageous in living the truths of our Faith and sharing the “Good News” with the world. Make us One Family in Mission so that together, we may ignite our Church with the joy of the Gospel. Amen.*