

EASTER SUNDAY
THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
APRIL 12, 2020

ALLELUIA

THIS IS
THE DAY THE *Lord*

HAS MADE; LET US

rejoice

AND BE GLAD.

PSALM 118





On behalf of all of us on the staff here at Saint John the Baptist – Aggie Howard, Vicky Gammell, Gina Bishop, John Huffman, Deacon Frank Iannarino and family – we wish you a very Blessed and Holy Easter.

FROM THE DEACON'S DESK

Dear friends in Christ,

Witnesses in a courtroom are always admonished to tell what they know in precise and unembroidered terms: "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. Telling the truth in these terms is harder than it looks at first glance. Tell, for example, the truth about yourself, in **100** words or less. Without undue explanation, excuses, deletions, and rationalizations, that is. We discover at once that we are not very practiced at this mode of truth.

Not long after the **Resurrection**, as we will hear in the **1st** reading from the **Acts of the Apostles**, **Peter** stands before a gathering of **Gentiles** and tells them **the gospel truth** as he has come to believe it. This is **40** years before the first gospel will be written, **20** years before one word of the **New Testament** is set down. **Peter** tells a story that exists only in the memory of those who lived it. He doesn't waste time narrating how he got involved in this story or mention the towns **Jesus** passed through during the years of his ministry.

Peter seems so wise and collected in his encounter with **Cornelius** and his household. But we must keep in mind that other **Peter** that we will hear about this **Sunday** in the **John's Gospel**, running in the predawn of **Easter** morning along with the beloved disciple. The **Peter** of **Easter** morning doesn't know what to believe, or what to think. He has just heard terrible news, that the tomb of **Jesus** is empty, and the body gone - or - maybe it's wonderful news. Terrible... wonderful . . . he doesn't know how to interpret these unexpected facts. He hopes that seeing for himself will produce believing and clarity.

And so, there he stands at the scene of unvarnished truth. It's an open, empty tomb, all right. Nothing but the burial cloths and a neat placement of the face covering. No body, no real clue as to what could have happened. Sometimes the truth is too simple, and too hopeful, to be believed all at once.

Easter Sunday is the celebration of the great, simple, gospel truth at the center of our faith. We can express it in one marvelously short sentence: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!** When it comes to the "mystery of faith," perhaps long catechisms and creedal professions only conceal what is finally a very simple thing. We have nothing to fear, not even suffering and death.

Jesus is here and invites us to share his life without end. Saint John the Baptist, pray for us!

Deacon Frank

Dear St. John Parishioners,

Please join me periodically on our **St. Brigid of Kildare Parish** livestream. If you missed it, the videos are available at our **YouTube** channel and our **parish Facebook** page.

**ALL EVENTS/MEETINGS CANCELLED
UNTIL FUTHER NOTICE**

2020 LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS READINGS

Apr. 12, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5-6 b-8

Jn 20:1-9 (42) or Mt 28:1-10 (41) or at an afternoon

Apr. 13, Monday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33 Mt 28:8-15

Apr. 14, Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:36-41 Jn 20:11-18

Apr. 15, Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:1-10 Lk 24:13-35

Apr. 16, Thursday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11-26 Lk 24:35-48

Apr. 17, Friday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12 Jn 21:1-14

Apr. 18 Saturday within the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13-21 Mk 16:9-15

Apr. 19, Second Sunday of Easter

(Or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

Acts 2:42-47 1 Pt 1:3-9 Jn 30:19-31

***Pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, & consecrated religious life.**

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

****If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. For Vienna D'Alberto who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village.**



Office Hours:

The Parish office hours are **Monday** through **Friday** from **9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Renovation in Sala Hall: Sala Hall will be closed for renovation of the bathrooms. **All ENTRY** to **Sala Hall** will be closed until further notice.



BANNS of MARRIAGE

Joe Williamson and Maria Massenelli

April 18, 2020

LECTO DIVINA IN THE WEEKLY BULLETIN:

Please note that we have added the **Lecto Divina** to the printed and website versions of the weekly bulletin. This is a great resource with the weekday **Gospel** readings, insights, and reflections.

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: The month of **April** is dedicated to **The Holy Spirit**. The first eleven days of the month fall during the season of **Lent** which is represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remainder of **April** falls during the **Easter** season which is represented by the liturgical color white — the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored).

The Pope's Intension for April 2020: We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

Masses Available via Online

Please remember there are many other daily and weekend **Masses** available via online sources, including:

- **St. Gabriel Catholic Radio 820 a.m.**
- **EWTN Global Catholic Television Network**
- **CatholicTV.org**
- **Word on Fire daily Mass by Bishop Barron**
- **St. Brigid of Kildare YouTube channel and our parish Facebook page.**

Resources During COVID-19 Isolation A List of Faith Formation Programs

I. Family/Domestic Church Resources

- A. During this time together, families could**
<https://throneofthecatholic.com> the Sacred Heart in their homes.
- B.** <https://TeachingCatholicKids.com>
- C.** <https://MessyFamilyProject.com>
- D.** <https://CatholicCing.com>
- E.** <https://52Sundays.com> **sends out weekly ideas for Sunday celebration in the domestic church**
- F.** <https://CatholicMomSundayActivitiesforKids.com>
- G.** <https://TeachingtheSaint.com>
- H.** <https://Magnifikid.com> and <https://Magnificat.com> **online are being offered for free.**
- I. Damascus is providing content for youth and families on their Facebook page.**
- J. Share these online resources for married couples:**
- i. <https://MarriageKit.com> **for relationship skills**
 - ii. <https://CoupleCheck-up.com> **for Churches**
 - iii. <https://AlexanderHouse.com> **Marriage Community**
 - iv. <https://OfftheCharts.com> **Community for NFP**

II. Online Faith Formation

- A.** <https://UpperRoom.com>: **Franciscan University offers webinars and other resources**
- B.** <https://TheQuarantineCatholicHub.com> (**Scott Hahn**)
- C.** <https://HomiliesatHomeCollection.com>
- D.** <https://TheThomisticInstitute.com> **is offering free lectures**
- E.** <https://WalkingwithPurpose.com> **is offering a weekly Bible study for women's groups**
- F.** <https://BlessedisShe.com> **offers daily devotions via email**
- G.** <https://BeNotAfraidOnlineConference.com>
- H.** <https://CatholicOnlineSummit.com>
- I.** <https://PrayMoreNovenas.com>
- J.** <https://WordonFire.com> – **daily livestreamed Mass, courses, resources, etc.**
- K.** <https://TheWildGooseIsLoose.com> – **video series and study guides**

Holy Week

Lenten Prayer for Holy Thursday: Jesus, in these last few days leading up to Easter, as I recall Your Passion and death, let me remember that, above all, I am called to feed Your sheep. You have given me a model of how to live; may I strive to be all that You created me for, spreading the love of **God** and the truth of our **Catholic** faith wherever I am able. You are the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

Lenten Prayer for Good Friday: Jesus, no one knows change better than You. You died on the cross, and three days later You rose from the dead. Forty days later, You ascended into heaven and left the world transformed for the rest of time. Help me to transform my soul, to die to sin and death and be reborn in Your love and eternal life. Amen.

Lenten Prayer for Holy Saturday: Jesus, You are courage incarnate. As You hung on the cross for my sins and the sins of the world, You showed me that all things are possible. You knew that life did not end on the cross. It was only the beginning of a new and glorious eternal life. Amen.

CatholicMom.com: is a rich resource for all **Catholics** seeking spiritual enrichment for their families. It provides fresh perspectives from the enriching columnists and contributors with daily articles and reflections, as well as book and tech recommendations.

COVID-19 Concerns and Response: Please check out the **Dioecian Website:** <https://columbuscatholic.org/> for a complete list of the **Church's** response to **COVID-19**, and all of the wonderful virtual and spiritual activities that are planned to celebrate **Holy Week**. There are many ways to participate!



**"This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalm 118:54"**

Prayer

Catholic Easter Prayer Lord, the resurrection of **Your Son** has given us new life and renewed hope. Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the **Christian** ideal. Grant us wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do it, and the strength to complete it. **Amen**

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

“The Gospel of Easter is very clear: we need to go back there, to see Jesus risen, and to become witnesses of his Resurrection. This is not to go back in time; it is not a kind of nostalgia. It is returning to our first love, in order to receive the fire which Jesus has kindled in the world and to bring that fire to all people, to the very ends of the earth.” ~POPE FRANCIS

Monday, April 13 ~ Monday in the Octave of Easter

Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:8-15 Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce the news to his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.” While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had happened. The chief priests assembled with the elders and took counsel; then they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, telling them, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.’ And if this gets to the ears of the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” The soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has circulated among the Jews to the present day.

Meditation: Have you ever asked what the basis is of our faith in the resurrection? The scriptures tell us that “faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen”(Hebrews 11:1). Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. Our faith is a free assent to the whole truth which God reveals to us through his word. Faith is certain because it is based on the very word of God who cannot lie. Faith also seeks understanding. That is why God enlightens the “eyes of our hearts” that we may know what is the hope to which he has called us (Ephesians 1:18). Peter the Apostle says we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (1 Peter 1:3). Through the gift of faith, the Lord reveals himself to those who believe in his word and he fills them with “new life in his Holy Spirit”. Do you live in the joy and hope of the resurrection? And do you recognize the presence of the Risen Lord in his word, in the “breaking of the bread”, and in his church, the body of Christ?

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, though in our weakness we fail, we may be revived through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Are you always prepared to meet the Risen Lord? The disciples of Jesus were as unprepared for his resurrection as they were for his death. The empty tomb made them fearful and joyful at the same time. “Where did they put the body or did he really rise just as he predicted?” Even though Jesus had spoken to them before of his death and rising, they could not believe until they saw the empty tomb and met the risen Lord. Aren't we the same? We want to see with our own eyes before we believe! The guards brought their testimony to the chief priests and elders who met the news with denial. They were resolved to not believe that Jesus had risen and they bribed the guards in the hope of keeping others from believing.

Tuesday, April 14 ~ Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

Holy Gospel: John 20:11-18 Mary Magdalene stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the Body of Jesus had been. And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken my Lord, and I don't know where they laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” She thought it was the gardener and said to him, “Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned

and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, "Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and then reported what he had told her.

Meditation: The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of our hope – the hope that we will see God face to face and share in his everlasting glory and joy. "Without having seen him you love him; though you do not now see him you believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy. As the outcome of your faith you obtain the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:8-9). And so, do you recognize the Lord's presence with you, in his word, in the "breaking of the bread", and in his church, the body of Christ?

Prayer: O God, who have bestowed on us paschal remedies, endow your people with heavenly gifts, so that, possessed of perfect freedom, they may rejoice in heaven over what gladdens them now on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: How easy it can be to miss the Lord when our focus is on ourselves! Mary did not at first recognize the Lord because her focus was on the empty tomb and on her own grief. It took only one word from the Master, when he called her by name, for Mary to recognize him. Mary's message to the disciples, I have seen the Lord, is the very essence of Christianity. It is not enough that a Christian know about the Lord, but that we know him personally. It is not enough to argue about him, but to meet him. In the resurrection we encounter the living Lord who loves us personally and shares his glory with us. The Lord gives us "eyes of faith" to see the truth of his resurrection and victory over sin and death (Ephesians 1:18).

Wednesday, April 15 ~ Wednesday in the Octave of Easter

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:13-35 That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his Body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the Eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Meditation: St. Augustine provides a reflection on the dimness of their perception: "They were so disturbed when they saw him hanging on the cross that they forgot his teaching, did not look for his resurrection, and failed to keep his promises in mind" (Sermon 235.1). "Their eyes were obstructed, that they should not recognize him until the breaking of the bread. And thus, in accordance with the state of their minds, which was still ignorant of the truth "that the Christ would die and rise again, their eyes were similarly hindered. It was not that the truth himself was misleading them, but rather that they were themselves unable to perceive the truth" (from *The Harmony of the Gospels*, 3.25.72) How often do we fail to recognize the Lord when he speaks to our hearts and opens his mind to us? The Risen Lord is ever

ready to speak his word to us and to give us understanding of his ways. Do you listen attentively to the Word of God and allow his word to change and transform you?

Prayer: O God, who gladden us year by year with the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection, graciously grant that, by celebrating these present festivities, we may merit through them to reach eternal joys. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: We often wonder how it would have been difficult for the disciples to recognize the risen Lord? To put it simply, Jesus' death scattered his disciples and shattered their hopes and dreams. They had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. They saw the cross as defeat and could not comprehend the empty tomb until the Lord appeared to them and gave them understanding. Jesus chided the disciples on the road to Emmaus for their slowness of heart to believe what the scriptures had said concerning the Messiah. They did not recognize the risen Jesus until he had broken bread with them. Do you recognize the Lord in his word and in the breaking of the bread?

Thursday, April 16 ~ Thursday in the Octave of Easter

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:35-48 The disciples of Jesus recounted what had taken place along the way, and how they had come to recognize him in the breaking of bread. While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed, he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them. He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

Meditation: Isn't amazing how much each of can be like the apostles? We won't believe unless we can see with our own eyes. The gospels attest to the reality of the resurrection. Jesus goes to great lengths to assure his disciples that he is no mere ghost or illusion. He shows them the marks of his crucifixion and he explains how the scriptures foretold his death and rising. Saint Jerome, a Bible scholar, comments: "As he showed them real hands and a real side, he really ate with his disciples; really walked with Cleophas; conversed with men with a real tongue; really reclined at supper; with real hands took bread, blessed and broke it, and was offering it to them...Do not put the power of the Lord on the level with the tricks of magicians, so that he may appear to have been what he was not, and may be thought to have eaten without teeth, walked without feet, broken bread without hands, spoken without a tongue, and showed a side which had no ribs." (*From a letter to Pammachius against John of Jerusalem 34, 5th century*)

Prayer: O God, who have united the many nations in confessing your name, grant that those reborn in the font of Baptism may be one in the faith of their hearts and the homage of their deeds. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: A central teaching of the gospel is the cross; but it does not stop there. Through the cross Jesus defeated our enemies – death and Satan and won pardon for our sins. His cross is the door to heaven and the key to paradise. The way to glory is through the cross. When the disciples saw the risen Lord they disbelieved for joy! How can death lead to life, the cross to victory? Jesus shows us the way and he gives us the power to overcome sin and despair, and everything else that would stand in the way of his love and truth. Just as the first disciples were commissioned to bring the good news of salvation to all the nations, so, we, too, are called to be witnesses of the resurrection of Jesus Christ to all who live on the face of the earth. Do you witness the joy of the gospel to those around you?

Friday, April 17 ~ Friday in the Octave of Easter

Holy Gospel: John 21:1-14 Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself in this way. Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We also will come with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night

they caught nothing. When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish. So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord." When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad, and jumped into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, for they were not far from shore, only about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish. When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord. Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead.

Meditation: Why didn't the apostles immediately recognize the Lord when he greeted them at the Sea of Tiberias? John gives us a clue. He states that Peter decided to return to his home district of Galilee, very likely so he could resume his fishing career. Peter was discouraged and didn't know what to do after the tragedy of Jesus' death! He went back to his previous career out of despair and uncertainty. The other apostles followed him back to Galilee. When was the last time Peter was commanded to let down his net after a futile night of fishing? It was at the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Galilee when the Lord dramatically approached Peter in his fishing boat after a futile night of fishing and commanded him to lower his nets (see Luke 5:4-11). After the miraculous catch, Jesus told Peter that he would be 'catching people' for the kingdom of God. Now Jesus repeats the same miracle. John, the beloved disciple, is the first to recognize the Lord. Peter impulsively leaps from the boat and runs to the Lord. Do you run to the Lord when you meet setbacks, disappointments, or trials? The Lord is ever ready to renew us in faith and to give us fresh hope in his promises.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, who gave us the Paschal Mystery in the covenant you established for reconciling the human race, so dispose our minds, we pray, that what we celebrate by professing the faith we may express in deeds. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Skeptics who disbelieve the resurrection say the disciples only saw a vision of Jesus. The gospels, however, give us a vivid picture of the reality of the resurrection. Jesus went out of his way to offer his disciples various proofs of his resurrection – that he is real and true flesh, not just a spirit or ghost. In his third appearance to the apostles, after Jesus performed the miraculous catch of fish, he prepared a breakfast and ate with them. Peter's prompt recognition of the Master and exclamation, "It is the Lord!" stands in sharp contrast to his previous denial of his Master during the night of arrest. The Lord Jesus reveals himself to each of us as we open our hearts to receive his word. Do you recognize the Lord's presence in your life and do you receive his word with faith?

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

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Available on-line: "On Faith in the Resurrection"

by Pope Francis

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?id=10207&repos=1&subrepos=0&searchid=2000353>



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