



Easter Message from Our Pastor

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

This ancient Paschal greeting is not only a way of Christians to greet one another with the joy of the risen Lord, but it also serves as a reminder to us that the resurrection is not a distant reality but indeed, is alive for us today. St. John Paul II once proclaimed “We do not pretend that life is all beauty. We are aware of darkness and sin, of poverty and pain. But we know Jesus has conquered sin and passed through His own pain to the glory of the Resurrection. And we live in the light of His Paschal Mystery – the mystery of His Death and Resurrection. We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!” As we lit the Easter candle last night, we prayed: “May the light of Christ rising in glory dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.” In other words, may we remember that Christ has paid the price and won the ultimate victory, that nothing else can ever define us, and nothing else can ever have control over us.

Today's readings reveal that we view Easter in terms of personal conversion. They help us understand Easter as the transformation experience of Jesus, which is to become the transformation experience of Christians. The empty tomb is the invitation to a fuller life. Easter Sunday is not intended to be a quiet reflection on the emptiness of the tomb. Rather, it is the recalling of Jesus' transformation that calls for conversion in our lives. All of us are to become cornerstones. Those who labor for the transformation of the poor, the indigent, and the disenfranchised are the new stone of the empty tomb, announcing the defeat of death and the victory of the truly human life Jesus won for us on the cross.

Thank you everyone who made the Holy week Liturgies so amazing, thanks to those who contributed to it. Special thanks to our Church decorators, that made our Church and Altars look so beautiful, Altar servers, Ushers, Sacristans, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, to our amazing choir for all their angelic voices this week. My special thanks to all the committee members and staff, every one of you. Thanks for your time, treasure, and talents.

And to you, my fellow parishioners, **MY DEEPEST GRATITUDE FOR YOUR CONTINUOUS PRESENCE AND GENEROSITY** to our parish. Without your time, talent, support, and generosity, it would be difficult for us to accomplish all we do here in the parish. I appreciate all of you ~ continue to be the greatest gift to your parish! Thanks for your Lenten outreach this year. It was awesome. I pray that the Risen Christ who conquered death will remove any fear or doubt and bring you and your family great love, unity, and peace of mind. May the Risen Lord be a living experience to you, pervading every aspect of your life, blessing you, strengthening you, inspiring you, guiding you and supporting you in all you do!

Fr. Maria