

Easter Sunday

The neighbor of a four-year-old child was with an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old Gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.'

Easter is the great celebration of victory over death. Jesus triumphed over in history. We are Easter people. The lilies bring us the message of Easter.

The Resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian Faith. It is the greatest of the miracles, for it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain" (I Cor 15:14). "Jesus is Lord, He is risen!" (Rom 10:9), was the central theme of the kerygma (or "preaching"), of the apostles, because Jesus had prophesied His Resurrection as a sign of His Divinity: The founder of no other religion has an empty tomb as Jesus has.

Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection. Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: "I am the Resurrection and the Life; whoever believes in me will live even though he dies" (Jn 11:25-26). 3) Easter is a feast, which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows, and tears. It reminds us that life is worth living.

The empty tomb echoes that we will all one day go to him. "Life doesn't end there. There is a new life starting. It says that Jesus goes always before us and is waiting for us. No matter who you are, how you are, Christ needs you. Christ loves you more. He will pull you out of me.

The tomb speaks to us, "I became the witness of new life who is looking for Jesus. Mary Magdalene, who came, got the Easter Message of joy from me. There is a darkness in me when I am closed. But I bring a new horizon, when I am empty and illuminated. "

Resurrection is Good News, but at the same time, it is sometimes painful because it involves death. Before the power of the Resurrection can take hold in our own lives, we're called to die to sin, to die to self. We may even have to die to our own dreams, so that God can do what He wants to do with our lives. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way.

Early that Easter morning, Mary Magdalene did not find what she was looking for, the dead body of Jesus. However, she found something better than she could have imagined. The Risen Jesus. Sometimes, the things we think we want most are not granted to us. What we get instead is an experience of God's new ways of working in the world. That is

the power of the Resurrection. When those moments come, we must spread the news just as Mary Magdalene did: "I have seen the Lord!" (Jn 20:18)

We need to remember Easter in our Good Fridays: Easter reminds us that every Good Friday in our lives will have an Easter Sunday, and that Jesus will let us share the power of his Resurrection. Each time we display our love of others, we share in the Resurrection. Each time we face a betrayal of trust and, with God's grace, forgive the betrayer, we share in the Resurrection of Jesus. Each time we fail in our attempts to ward off temptations – but keep on trying to overcome them – we share in the Resurrection. Each time we continue to hope – even when our hope seems unanswered – we share in the power of Jesus' Resurrection. In short, the message of Easter is that nothing can destroy us – not pain, sin, rejection, betrayal or death – because Christ has conquered all these, and we, too, can conquer them if we put our Faith and trust in Him.

"Because of the empty tomb, we have peace. Because of His resurrection, we can have peace during even the most troubling of times because we know He is in control of all that happens in the world." – Paul Chappell