

Third Sunday of Easter

A Christian guy named Bill saw an ad online for a Christian horse, so he went to check it out. The horse's owner said, "It's easy to ride him. Just say 'Praise the Lord!' to make him go and 'Amen!' to make him stop." Bill got on the horse and said, "Praise the Lord!" Sure enough, the horse started to walk. "Praise the Lord!" he said again, and the horse began to trot. "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" he yelled, and the horse broke into a gallop. Bill was enjoying his ride so much that he almost didn't notice the cliff he and the horse were about to go over. Bill shouted "AMEN!" at the top of his lungs, and the horse stopped right at the edge of the cliff. Relieved, Bill said, "Phew! Praise the Lord!"

Dear Friends,

We are in the Easter season. We heard more witnessing events of Jesus' Resurrection. We are invited to be a witnessing disciple of Jesus' Resurrection.

The resurrected Christ and his apostles are getting more comfortable with their new realities. The apostles have returned to what they do best- fishing. Jesus encourages them to fish again even though they came ashore dissatisfied with their catch.

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, tells us how the Holy Spirit transformed Peter, whom Jesus had appointed head of his Church, from a man fearful of powerful men into a brave witness to the Resurrection. Peter stands before the Jewish Supreme Court – the Sanhedrin — boldly announcing that he and the others must obey God rather than men.

In the Gospel, Jesus gave them courage by having them do things they knew earlier, like fishing and breaking of the bread. Jesus commissioned Peter about his future.

Jesus cares for them and us. Jesus' Resurrection is just not about He is risen, rather it is a renewal of all creation. He makes the apostles realize, and then us. Remembering the past and bringing a new reality is a benchmark for any disciple of Jesus.

As we remember Mother Mary in the month of May, she brought new life to humanity. In her song of praise, she thanked what God has done to her and to humanity.

By knowing the mysteries, we celebrate, we are strengthened and renewed by the Holy Spirit. When we become Jesus' disciples, we become valued. Jesus values us the same way as ever.

Peter denied Jesus three times before his death. Now he gives him another chance to make him aware of things. Jesus asks this question three times. Do you love me?

It is the friendship Jesus wants to continue after Resurrection. The mission for disciples, the beginning of their call, and at the end of the resurrection, is the same, 'Follow me'.

He calls us the same way. Let us also follow him by doing what we do in our daily life. Jesus asks us, 'Do you love me?' If yes, then he says to follow him.