

EASTER MESSAGE 2024

We greet you all a blessed EASTER! WE rejoice with the whole of humanity and all creation in the Risen Lord who is HOPE!

St Augustine wrote: **“And He departed from our sight that we might return to our hearts and there find Him. For he departed and behold, He is here!”**



Easter is the affirmation and celebration that Jesus has been raised from the dead. Easter confirms that the resurrection of Jesus is also our rising to new life. Jesus is our resurrection.

The resurrection is not a return to human earthly life, a life still subject to evil and destruction. The life that the Risen Christ now possesses is God’s very life. That is why He will not die again. Sin has no more power over him. In Jesus the Risen One, we are assured that God was, is and will be victorious over sinfulness, viciousness, wickedness, corruption and violence.

Yes, we suffer as we have our Good Friday. We are betrayed and abandoned. There are pain and problems. There are hardship and suffering. We experience tragedies. We encounter crises. We face death.

But we know that before us, Jesus underwent all these terrible things. We know that Jesus overcame all these human afflictions. But the Risen Christ is our Hope!

So we have to turn and trust Jesus, to raise our will spirit to God. Easter promises us new life as Jesus has won for us. With the resurrection of Jesus, we have redemption. We can now return to the Father. We have been reconciled with Him. We are saved!

Let us then embrace/start a new beginning, another chance, and fresh opportunities. Our lives are now full of hope, full of meaning and love. Yes, God is with us. His grace is upon us.

Let us accept the invitation of Easter: to live a life of hope, of fidelity to God, and a total commitment to His divine plan. Let us together walk the way of Jesus, and leave behind the darkness of grief and doubts.

Let us then reflect and find hope, meaning and inspiration from St. Paul in his letter to the Romans: **“By this Baptism in His cross, we were buried with Christ and as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we begin walking in a new life. It was an image of His death when we are grafted in Him, and so we will also share in His Resurrection.”**

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL!

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