

A Reflection from Fr. Canisius for Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Easter. Christ the Lord is risen! Alleluia, alleluia!

The Resurrection is both an event in human history and an event not subject to time. The *Logos*, the Word of God, the second person of the Trinity, became Incarnate to rescue us from the bondage of sin and death. Jesus himself became sin who knew no sin (2 Cor. 5:21). He took on all the sin of the past, present, and future, and he destroyed it so that it no longer has dominion over us or holds us captive. He truly set us free from Satan. And, in being raised from the dead, he has conquered death. By virtue of our baptism, we are grafted onto Christ and so we, too, witness to the Resurrection. We encounter the risen Christ in the Eucharist, and at an appointed time we will be raised with him to everlasting life.

Easter reminds us that God does fulfill his promises and that he will never abandon us. Jesus continuously provides moments of rising to new life in our lives. He is continuously setting us free from sin through the sacrament of reconciliation, reigniting our strength with reception of the holy Eucharist, and speaking to us through his word.

As we begin this holy Easter season, let us ask for the grace to fall more in love with the resurrected Jesus in the Eucharist. Let us ask him to continuously reveal himself to us, that every time we receive him, we recognize that we are tasting a bit of heaven. Whatever our fears or worries, may the peace of Christ console our hearts and give us joy and peace this day.

Thank you for participating with us in the Holy Week services. I thank all of you for your kindness, your faithful witness to the truth, and for all that you do to make this pastorate of Saint Charles Borromeo and Saint Gabriel a place of faith and of devotion to Our Blessed Lord and His Holy Church!

I wish to thank all of those who contributed to the celebrations of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. I am grateful to all who decorated the church, those who assisted with the music, our Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers, and the Altar Servers who assisted with some of our celebrations. The ushers and parish sacristans are such a help to us, and so thank you, too. I am grateful for all our office staff. Know of my prayers and deep appreciation for all you do.

May the Lord bless and protect you in the week ahead!

~ *Fr. Canisius*