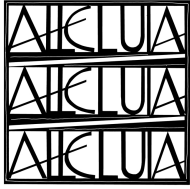


Happy Easter to All



Our praise word has been silent for forty days. Alleluia means “Praise the Lord”, we sing it out joyfully today. Praise is a common part of our liturgical life of prayer, but at times we tend to overlook it. The Eucharistic prayer is the heart of the Mass; it is a prayer of praise and thanksgiving. Praising God flows naturally from grateful hearts. Our responsorial psalms, interspersed throughout the Easter Vigil and sung at every Mass, dance with the opportunity to give praise to the One who keeps all promises.

Alleluia, Praise the Lord, Alleluia.

Today, we gather as God’s family to proclaim the good news of Christ’s resurrection. Let us pray that the love and forgiveness that flows from the paschal sacrifice of Jesus will always give us the confidence to follow Him and to trust Him alone as “the way, the truth and the life.” Only then can our lives be worthy of the new creations we have become in the Spirit. I pray that God will continue to strengthen your faith in the promises of Christ, and that you might look upon the less fortunate with the same compassion and mercy that Christ has shown to you. As Christians, we have a new spirit within us; a Spirit that fills us with freedom, joy and life.

We are called to abide always in the love of Christ. His abiding presence and Spirit are most perfectly found in His body, the Church, especially in the Eucharist. Yes, this Easter is certainly a time of celebration, a time of renewal and hope, a time to sing Alleluia – Praise the Lord! God invites each of us by name no matter what our vocation or status in life to rededicate our lives to Christ. Each one of us has the opportunity to renew our baptismal faith and commitment to Christ in our own personal profession of faith. It is Christ’s priestly prayer that we might always be one with Him and the Father. He invites us to live in Him and calls us friends. One day we will share His presence forever with all the saints who have done His will throughout the ages. But today we are called to give glory to God as we celebrate together the Risen Lord who is among us now and forever as our great high priest, our brother and our Savior. Christ now extends to us His life giving spirit in the sacraments of the Church.

I want to thank all who participated in our Lenten liturgies and Easter Masses. The beauty and solemnity of our liturgies reflect the care and dedication of our many volunteers and ministers. I wish to give a special thanks to all involved in our music ministry. Our liturgies would not be the same without their willingness to give of their time, talent and voices. May God continue to bless our parishioners, visitors, families and friends through out this Easter Season. Have a Holy and joyful Easter day.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Mike