



EASTER MESSAGE - 2024

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« On the first day of the week... » (John 20:1-9)

He is risen. He is truly risen! This song of victory became the first Christian proclamation, the kerygma. It is the Easter proclamation that has been going through the world for 2000 years and that never ceases to arouse joy and hope. In this lost world, it sounds like a cry of protest, like a revolt, like a commitment. Protesting the dubious choices of materialistic and atheistic humanity! Revolt in the face of so much hatred, injustice, and ignorance! Commitment to more humanity, spirituality, and transcendence. The Resurrection of Christ is the Father's response to the expectations of the Son and to the questions of humanity. It shines like a light that pierces the universe, transforms hearts and transfigures bodies. It springs up like a freshness in a bland, faded world, losing its identity. It revitalizes a universe in extension, a nature in motion, a humanity in decline. It energizes our seasoned minds, our darkened souls, our sleeping bodies. For Christ is risen, the faith of believers, the hope of the world. He springs from the tomb as love springs from the heart of the Father. He embraces the universe like the tenderness of the Spirit enveloping

creation. He proclaims mercy as a promise forever acquired. Christ unveils his divinity to clothe our humanity with it. He transfigures our flesh to breathe the divine into it. The Resurrection is the heart of our hearts, the love of our love, the ever-unshakable hope. Life is our future because God is life and love.

Light on the World

The Gospels are astonishing on Easter morning. The Letters of St. Paul complete the reflection. Peter and the others proclaim the unbelievable. The book of Revelation expresses its relevance. Jesus' passage from death to life is full of hope and light. A flame is deposited within us that cannot be extinguished. It is the flame of divine love that warms our hearts to eternity. It is nourished by the Trinitarian love that burns eternally. The divine ray, glimpsed at Christmas, spreads infinitely throughout the universe and into the heart of mankind.

Cosmic aspects: The light of the Resurrection passes through the infinite universe to illuminate and sustain it. The universe is created, and every element created is connected to the others. Nothing is the result of chance or blind advancement. Everything is settled with harmony and determination. Everything is moving towards wholeness. Everything comes from God and returns to God. Easter reminds us of the fundamental unity of the universe and its vocation.

Physical aspects: The light of the Resurrection passes through matter, especially our flesh. Matter is no stranger to the spirit. There is spirit in matter. The spirit welcomes this transfigured and renewed matter. There is now harmony between matter and spirit. There is the Holy Spirit who transforms matter for the encounter with the Trinity. The resurrected Body of Christ takes all flesh with it and presents it to the Father to establish his eternal Kingdom. The history of the Church

gives us many examples of saints who were able to make the light of the Resurrection shine through their faces, in their lives and in their relationships with others and with the world. Easter reminds us of the fundamental unity of creation.

Anthropological aspects: The light of the Resurrection flows through humanity like a stream of love. Man/woman is not a being lost in the immensity of the universe, but a being loved by the One who has desired him. Man/woman, worthy by creation in the image and likeness of God, acquires greater dignity by becoming sons/daughters of the Father through Christ in the Spirit. It is now his vocation and his identity. It's his lifestyle, his spirituality, his future. Easter reminds us of the fundamental unity of the human being and of human beings among themselves in respect for otherness and differences, in the common vocation of filiation.

The light burst forth on Easter morning, not as the awakening of a sleeper but as the transformation of the Conqueror who shares his victory with creation and with humanity.

The Light in our Lives

"He saw and believed," says St. John (20:8) of the disciple looking into the tomb. It is a question of seeing, of understanding, of grasping. It's about believing, trusting, and committing. We are given to SEE the Father's love through the resurrected Son in the Spirit. To see the invisible. To grasp the impalpable. To experience in one's flesh the light of the Risen Lord. We are given to BELIEVE that love is at work, that hope surpasses understanding, that the relationship with Trinitarian communion is possible and even necessary to become oneself, that God IS.

The arrow that pierces our heart: Naïve iconography has taken up this image to express love. It speaks of the depth of feeling and passion. Religious iconography makes it a burning of love that consumes the heart with divine love. Easter has deposited the truth of love in us. It has reached the depths of our being. The relationship with God is made in love as the Trinitarian relationships are only love. Love is the way to the divine, our daily journey, our raison d'être.

The flame that burns our bodies: It is impossible to depict the Risen Body of Christ emerging from the tomb. It's too big, too beautiful, too bright. It is so big, so beautiful, so luminous that it draws us into its greatness, its beauty, its light. If love burns our hearts, it ignites our bodies and energizes the mind. Our bodies are called to be resurrected, to encounter, to eternity. Christ became flesh so that our weak flesh might receive eternity through his Resurrection. With our transfigured bodies, united to the Risen Body of Christ, we will be able to meet the Father and see him "face to face" in the love of the Holy Spirit. Trinitarian beauty that reflects Trinitarian goodness and soothes us in the love of the Trinity! Our lives are turned upside down. Our daily life is the way to Heaven.

Victory of Love

Christ is risen. The universe is drawn to him to respond to his vocation of praise.

Christ is risen. The world is transformed to respond to his vocation of harmony.

Christ is risen. Humanity is transfigured to respond to its filial vocation.

Christ is risen: our lives are transformed by the power of love that pushes us to otherness, unity, sharing and communion. Wonderful work of the Holy Trinity in us.

Christ is risen. Happy Easter.

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