

Homily for Easter 2021:

Happy Easter!

I continue on with the theme of intimacy, which I have offered to you for Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

The events of the mysteries of our Salvation are worthy of big budget movies and the finest artwork in the world. How else can we even begin to grasp the meaning of the creator of the universe reducing Himself (the famous word from Saint Paul is “emptying”) to take on our humanity and do the heavy-lifting for our reconciliation with Him? How else can we attempt to communicate that Christ then changed the game completely in the Resurrection? How else do we portray the possibility of new life we can live here and now in Christ?

Yet all these events are spelled out in details that hint at Christ’s desire is for us to engage Him personally - one-on-one. He is familiar with us, and He wants us familiar with Him.

Today that cosmic happening is related to us by very human events. We hear of an early morning effort, walking to a tomb, a large stone moved from the entrance, an Empty tomb. We hear of the confusion and wonder of Mary Magdalene and Peter and John.

These small, personal, intimate details - and the ones that continue after these – are the introduction to something new. A new morning, bringing on a new and renewed Creation.

We are invited into these intimate details because God invites us to intimately know Him.

So...

Let us take our fears of dread and fear, our experiences of rejection and smallness, our thoughts of failure and aloneness – and come to Him. We are not alone. We need not fear. We have been reconciled. His defeat by worldly standards shows for the victory and wisdom of the divine.

He is Risen. In the midst of this cosmic newness, He cares for each of us personally and intimately. And he wants us to converse with Him about the details of us, and God in our details.

Happy Easter. May we continue to speak and listen to Christ - who Risen and Alive.

[At the Easter Vigil] Greetings to all of you about to enter into a new relationship with the Triune God through Water and the Spirit. Greetings to all of you already one with us in Baptism who will join us around the Table of the Lord.

[On Easter Sunday] Greetings to all of you who have entered the Church last night.

Greetings to everyone who are back home with us, who are visiting, who are with us through watching from whatever screen is available.

May all of us give thanks to God who knows us so intimately, and who formed this wonderful method for us to be even closer to Him than before the Fall in the garden.

As we rejoice in the grandness of the World made ever-new in Christ, let us also rejoice that we can spend time with Him intimately, and recognize Him - Here in the Sacraments and at every waking moment of our lives.

Happy Easter.