

Fr. Rudy's Reflections
The Resurrection of the Lord
March 31, 2024

Details Do Matter

My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

Happy Easter and Alleluia!

As you know, I begin my column each week with this salutation: "My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord" to commemorate the most important day of the Church's calendar year: the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Like many others, I carry this day in my heart, as it is the culmination of all I believe in and treasure. I love reading and hearing about its every detail—from Mary Magdalene arriving in the dead of night to attend to Jesus's body, to Peter and the presumed John running at a frantic pace toward the tomb, to the specific way the way Jesus's burial clothes were found, to the atmosphere of confusion and worry among all, to the beautiful final verse: "For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead." These all-important details intrigue us and drive the magnitude of what occurred on this day over 2,000 years ago. Jesus, our Lord, rose from the dead to save us from our sins and offer us eternal life. Through the darkness of his death to the light of his resurrection, we, in that moment, received the ultimate gift of his everlasting love to change our lives forever.

Easter is a time of celebration, as we attend Mass, wear our Easter attire, gather with family and friends, and hopefully reflect on what this day means to us. Easter is a time of remembrance, and many of us recall days gone by with fondness, when our loved ones, some still with us, some who have passed away or have passed through our lives, were present at some Easter event of the past. All these individuals might have been integral to our lives at that moment in time, and thus, we remember them with affection. We might ask ourselves, however, if our remembrances about the Resurrection itself have resonated similarly. Do we focus more on the holiday or the holy day? It's an interesting question, and one we might reflect upon as we celebrate Easter in the weeks ahead.

On Easter morning, alerted by the women, Peter and John ran to the tomb. They found it open and empty. Then they drew near and "bent down" in order to enter it. To enter into the mystery, we need to "bend down", to abase ourselves. . . The world proposes that we put ourselves forward at all costs, that we compete, that we prevail. . . But Christians, by the grace of Christ, dead and risen, are the seeds of another humanity, in which we seek to live in service to one another, not to be arrogant, but rather respectful and ready to help. This is not weakness, but true strength!—Pope Francis, Easter 2015

Let us also celebrate on this blessed day exciting news for our parish family with "details" to follow in the weeks to come: the reopening of St. Joseph Catholic School and the Pastoral Plan of the S-12 family of parishes.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Rudy