



EASTER SUNDAY 2020

He lives!

Easter Sunday

From the Readings

For the Lord is my strength, my song ...
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. *Isaiah 12:2-3*

My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life ... *Psalms 42:2*

Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again.
Death has no power over him anymore. *Romans 6:9*

When Christ is revealed – and he is your life — you too will be revealed
in all your glory with him. *Colossians 3:4*

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre ... And there, coming to meet them was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my disciples that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'
Matthew 28:1, 9-10

Reflections

Christ lives. He comes to meet us where we are.

The very being of God is selfless love with all that this implies.

Philip Sheldrake, Images of Holiness, 53.

The resurrection tells us it is never too late. Every so often we will be surprised. We must believe that the stone will be rolled back, and we must be ready to poke out our timid heads, take off the linen bindings of death, and walk free for a time, breathing resurrection air.

Ronald Rolheiser, Prayer: Our Deepest Longing.

Reflecting on the gift of unconditional love, I am remembering Maximilian Mary Kolbe. In the Nazi terror of 1941, a prisoner escaped in Poland. The commandant announced that ten men would have to die in his place. As the men were being marched to their death, Fr Maximilian requested that he be allowed to die in place of Francis Gajowniczek, who had a wife and children.
Macrina Widederkehr, Seven Sacred Pauses, 146.

Easter ... reminds us that God reaches us in human touch. It is in our physical, earthly humanity that we heal and save each other. We have learned this from a human God. John placed his ear on the heart of Jesus at the Last Supper. Mary Magdalene touched his feet, Thomas his wounds.

Daniel O'Leary, Unmasking God, 24.

CHRIST IS ALIVE!

Alive, he can be present in your life at every moment, to fill it with light and to take away all sorrow and solitude. Even if all others depart, he will remain, as he promised: "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Mt 28:20). He fills your life with his unseen presence; wherever you go, he will be waiting there for you. Because he did not only come in the past, but he comes to you today and every day, inviting you to set out towards ever new horizons.

Pope Francis, Christus Vivit, 124-5.

For Thinking and Talking

1. **From these readings and reflections**, what words, phrases and insights stand out for you?
2. **Imagine** what the Risen Jesus would say — as he comes towards you.
3. **Express** a hope or intention for the future.



Closing Prayer

Risen Christ, Father of Life, Spirit of Life,
your call unfolds a Word at a time,
Slowly.

A disciple is not made in a hurry.
Slowly I become like the One
to whom I am listening.

Life unfolds
a petal at a time
and we,
becoming followers of Jesus,
are disciplined into a new way of living
deeply and slowly.

May we be patient with life's unfolding petals.
If we hurry the bud it withers.
If we hurry a life it limps.
Each unfolding is a teaching;
a movement of grace
filled with silent pauses
breathtaking beauty
tears and heartaches.

Life unfolds
a petal at a time
deeply and slowly,
as you, Risen One, stay with us always. Amen.

Adapted from: Macrina Widederkehr, Seven Sacred Pauses, 120-121.



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