

## FROM FR. JASON



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

### Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

This is the cry that echoes through the ages, the announcement that shatters the silence of the tomb and fills the world with the light of a new creation. On this Easter, we gather as the People of God to proclaim once more the kerygma, the Good News that is the very heart of our faith: Jesus Christ, the Crucified One, has conquered death. He has passed from this world to the Father, and in Him, we too are invited to pass from death to life.

We have walked together through the desert of Lent, listening anew to the Word of God as it was proclaimed to the first Christians. We have remembered the history of salvation: how the Lord called Abraham out of his land, how He led Israel through the Red Sea from slavery to freedom, and how all of this was a preparation for the definitive Passover, the Passover of Jesus Christ.

On Holy Saturday night, we celebrated the Easter Vigil with profound joy. We lit the new fire in the darkness, listened to the great deeds of God in the readings, and renewed our Baptismal promises. There, in the silence of the night, the Church becomes once again the womb that gives birth to new life. The Risen Lord appears to His disciples, just as He appeared to Mary Magdalene, to the Apostles, and to the two on the road to Emmaus. He opens their eyes to recognize Him in the breaking of the bread.

These are not stories from the past. This is the event that happens *today*. The Resurrection is not merely a historical fact to be remembered; it is a living reality that transforms our existence. In a world marked by so much suffering, division, and the shadow of death (wars, illness, personal failures, and the emptiness of a life without God), the Risen Christ comes to us and says: "Do not be afraid. I have overcome the world."

He calls each one of us by name, as He called Mary in the garden: "Mary!" And she recognized Him. Today He calls you: "Do not remain in the tomb of your sins, of your fears, of your old way of living. Come out! I am the Resurrection and the Life."

The Easter Vigil, and every Eucharist, is this passage made present. It is the memorial of Christ's Passover, in which we are plunged into His Death and raised with Him to new life. As we receive the Body and Blood of the Risen Lord, we become what we receive: a new creation, a sign of hope for the world. Are we learning to live this reality together? Is our parish a living sign of the Church, a place where the Word of God is announced with power, where we support one another in conversion, and where the Liturgy becomes the source of our joy and mission? Do we sing with one voice the songs of the Resurrection? Are we able to share what the Lord is doing in our lives, walking step by step toward a faith that is adult, responsible, and missionary?

This Easter, I invite all of you to open your hearts to this announcement. Let the Risen Christ enter your home, your family, your struggles. Let Him heal what is wounded, forgive what is broken, and give meaning to what seems meaningless. Go and announce to others what you have seen and heard: "The Lord has truly been raised!" Bring this joy to your workplaces, your neighborhoods, and to those who feel farthest from God. The Church needs witnesses, not just of words, but of a life that has passed from death to life. May the Virgin Mary, who stood at the foot of the Cross and rejoiced at the empty tomb, accompany us. May she help us to be, like her, servants of the Word and bearers of the Resurrection.

A joyful and blessed Easter to all!

Peace,

Handwritten signature of Fr. Jason.