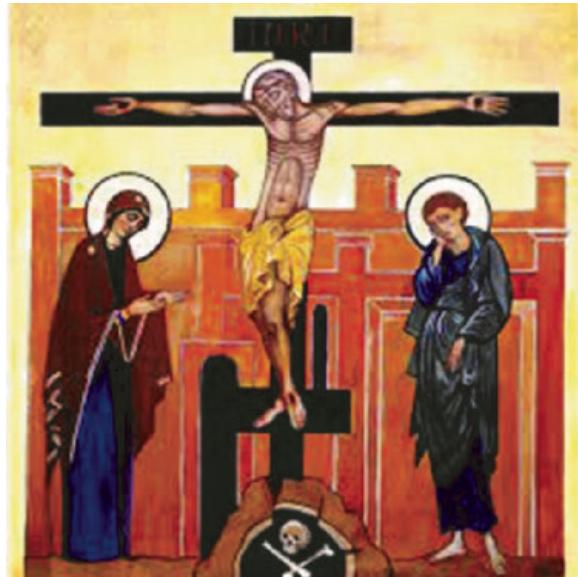


## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters



When the days for Jesus' being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem, and he sent messengers ahead of him. (Lk 9:51)

Jesus is always in motion in the Gospels, he is never sedentary. Our life has a beginning and an end, we were not created to settle down and gather dust.

Jesus' destination is Jerusalem, where he will go to the Cross on Calvary. Our destination is Heaven, and the road to get there always passes thru the Cross.

The Cross. Can either be the stone rejected by the builders, and a cause of blasphemy against God: "He saved others, let him save himself", or it can be the means by which we finally discover who we are, and who God is: "Into your hands Lord, I commend my spirit."

In a few weeks' time I will be accompanying a group of youth pilgrims to the Holy Land. We also will resolutely determine to journey to Jerusalem in the footsteps of Christ. We will hope to be enlightened about the meaning of the Cross, and the Resurrection in our lives.

This meaning was aptly described in an ancient Hymn to the Cross of the Risen Lord, translated, the text says:

"The Glorious Cross of the Risen Lord

Is the Tree of my salvation, on it I feed, in it I delight,

In its roots I grow, in its branches I lie down.

Its dew makes me glad, its breeze refreshes me,

In its shadow I have put my tent.

In hunger nourishment, in thirst the fountain, in nakedness clothing.

Hard path, my narrow road, Jacob's ladder, bed of love, where the Lord espoused us.

In fear defense, in stumbling support, in victory crown, in the struggle you are the prize.

Tree of Eternal Life, pillar of the universe,

Your peak reaches Heaven, and in your open arms shines the love of God."

May this text, fulfilled in our Lord Jesus Christ, be fulfilled in each one of us.

Fr. Sean