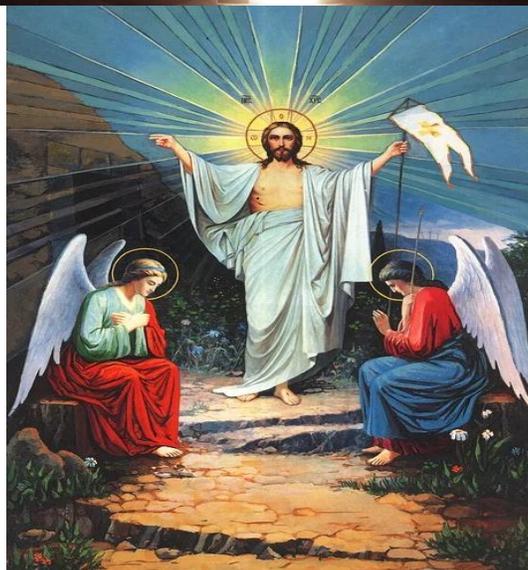


CELEBRATING EASTER FULLY

“We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!”



Alleluia! Alleluia!! Alleluia!!!

“We are not looking for a shallow joy but rather a joy that comes from faith, that grows through unselfish love, . . .” (St. John Paul II);

“OURS IS THE JOY THAT ENDURES FOREVER” (Fr. Patrick Nieniec)



We remember and continue to pray for all coronavirus' victims & heroes



“We do not pretend that life is all beauty. We are aware of darkness and sin, of poverty and pain. But we know Jesus has conquered sin and passed through his own pain to the glory of the Resurrection. And we live in the light of his Paschal Mystery - the mystery of his Death and Resurrection” (St. John Paul II). Again,

We are not looking for a shallow joy but rather a joy that comes from faith, that grows through unselfish love . . . (St. John Paul II).

<<I have said before on another occasion: “In a true sense, joy is the keynote of the Christian message”. As I said then, my wish is that the Christian message may bring joy to all who open their hearts to it: “joy to children, joy to parents, joy to families and to friends, joy to workers and scholars, joy to the sick and to the elderly, joy to all humanity”. I now add: . . . “joy - deep and lasting joy – ‘to all, especially those suffering and are affected more closely by the covid-19 pandemic, and all other ailments’”(insert mine).

2. Faith is our source of joy We believe in a God who created us so that we might enjoy human happiness - in some measure on earth, in its fullness in heaven. We are meant to have our human joys: the joy of living, the joy of love and friendship, the joy of work well done. We who are Christians have a further cause for

joy: like Jesus, we know that we are loved by God our Father. This love transforms our lives and fills us with joy. It makes us see that Jesus did not come to lay burdens upon us. He came to teach us what it means to be fully happy and fully human. Therefore, we discover joy when we discover truth - the truth about God our Father, the truth about Jesus our Saviour, the truth about the Holy Spirit who lives in our hearts.

3. We do not pretend that life is all beauty. We are aware of darkness and sin, of poverty and pain. But we know Jesus has conquered sin and passed through his own pain to the glory of the Resurrection. And we live in the light of his Paschal Mystery - the mystery of his Death and Resurrection. "We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!". We are not looking for a shallow joy but rather a joy that comes from faith, that grows through unselfish love, that respects the "fundamental duty of love of neighbour, without which it would be unbecoming to speak of Joy". We realize that joy is demanding; it demands unselfishness; it demands a readiness to say with Mary: "Be it done unto me according to thy word">>.(JOHN PAUL II, *ANGELUS*, APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO THE FAR EAST AND OCEANIA, Adelaide, Australia, Sunday, 30 November 1986)

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STILL CELEBRATING EASTER FULLY

Easter Sunday is what we've all been waiting for! The forty days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent was in preparation for this day, when our hearts and souls can drink in deeply the culmination of the Paschal mystery: the Resurrection.

"Therefore Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts', the 'Solemnity of solemnities', just as the Eucharist is the 'Sacrament of sacraments'. St. Athanasius calls Easter 'the Great Sunday' and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week 'the Great Week'. The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him." —The Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1168 and 1169

Basically, the Sacred Triduum is one great festival recounting the last three days of Jesus' life on earth, the events of his Passion, Death and Resurrection, when the Lamb of God laid down his life in atonement for our sins.

"Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery" (USCCB).

HAPPY EASTER EVERYBODY

Sincerely, in union with Prayers, *Fr. Patrick Nsionu*

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To meditate & enjoy more deeply this year's (2020) peculiar Easter Celebration, see another profound Easter Sermon by .

...to post later...for,

We have 50 days to celebrate Easter,

From Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday

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