



Easter Sunday

With each celebration of the Resurrection we are drawn deeper into the mystery that is the foundation of our faith. Jesus was born, put to death on a cross and rose again bringing eternal life for each of us. We know that evil did not triumph in Jesus' life and will not triumph in our lives. Alleluia

Fr Antony Kadavil writes:

'The Resurrection is the greatest of the miracles -- it proves that Jesus is God. Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained forever a good person who had met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings, and a handful of people might try to live according to them.'

Joan Chittister OSB reflects:

"To say 'I believe in Jesus Christ... who rose from the dead,' is to say I believe that the Resurrection goes on and on and on forever. Every time Jesus rises in our own hearts in new ways, the Resurrection happens again. Every time we see Jesus where we did not recognize him before — in the faces of the poor, in the love of the unloved, in the revelatory moments of life, Jesus rises anew. The real proof of the Resurrection lies not in the transformation of Jesus alone but in the transformation awaiting us who accept it.

To say, 'I believe in Jesus Christ... who rose from the dead,' is to say something about myself at the same time. It says that I myself am ready to be transformed. Once the Christ-life rises in me, I rise to new life as well. 'Christ is risen, we are risen,' we sing at Easter. But it has a great deal more to do with life than with death. If I know that Jesus has been transformed, then I am transformed myself, and as a result, everything around me."

What transformation might I bring in conversation about:

- the Muslim massacre
- the shame we suffer as members of the Church in the face of the abuse scandal
- the violence against other human beings that is presented to us nightly in the news
- the lack of respect of the earth and its resources which shows in climate change.

Joan Chittister continues:

"Until we find ourselves with new hearts, more penetrating insights, fewer compulsions, less need for the transient, greater awareness of the spiritual pulse of life, resurrection has not really happened for us. Jesus has risen but we have not. Resurrection is change at the root of the soul. It marks a whole new way of being in life.

Jesus, help me to understand that in every life, something good fails, something great ends, something righteous is taken unjustly away, something looms like an abandonment by God. Give me the wisdom to know that You rose from the dead as a sign to us that every one of these 'little deaths' is life become new all over again. Be with me in living Your Resurrection over and over again."¹

Kathleen Hitchcock rsj

The links below are included that they may enrich your celebration of Easter:

['Christ Is Risen. We Are Risen' - Joan Chittister](#)

['Easter-Should Be an Eye Opener' - Ron Rolheiser](#)

['Dying Into Life' - Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM](#)

¹ Source: Way of the Cross: Gateway to Resurrection. Published by Benetvision