

## Easter Sunday

2021

He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed.

My Dear Friends in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

“Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God ( 1 John 5.1 ) I must “believe in order to understand”.

Understanding the true meaning of Easter and its full implications is to understand our role in God’s purpose in furthering the Kingdom. In these days of decay we can see the evidence all around us of a world turning away from its creator God and turning more and more to things of the world.

For some, it could be argued that Christianity is now nothing more than a relic of something from ancient times, an irrelevance and for many a nuisance. The Gospel message distorted by muddled thinking of radical theology and the reckless trashing of Holy Tradition.

So in this age of endless change, we need more than ever to refocus our thinking on the latent power of the Laity of the Church. The word Lay comes from laos, the people and in particular the “People of God” It is therefore a title of honour: the laity, the people of God, the Church.

The Church is not only the people of God, but the expectant people of God. It looks ahead to the Kingdom of God, to the coming King. It is therefore the people of hope as witnessed by the events at Calvary. All service is given to this Kingdom. The “People of God” are governed first and foremost to this Kingdom. The “Kingdom of God is governed first and foremost by its future, and not for us by its past or its present.

So let’s consider, what is Man?

Man is Gods creature.

Man is Gods partner.

Man is God’s beloved child.

He is one to whom God speaks.

He is one whose sins have all been taken away by God’s Son.

He is one who has been made partaker of God’s Holy Spirit.

Critically as people of God is our need to endorse our Risen Lord as Saviour and Redeemer of all mankind. To constantly strive to live our own lives in His Name and to His Honour. Christ accepts us as one of His workers and wills we should co-operate with him in the building up of His kingdom and His righteousness. The Church is not a stronghold within which the redeemed can take their ease and sun themselves in the salvation of their souls; it is an army on the march against an objective which its commander has already subdued.

Calvary represents the reality of all believing Christians, that we all belong, body and soul in life and in death, not to ourselves but to our true Saviour Jesus Christ, who by His precious Blood has utterly discharged the debt of all our sins, and redeemed us from the whole domination of the Devil, and thus assures us that without the will of our Father in Heaven no hair from our heads can fall, but rather that everything must serve us to our blessedness.

Life in Time is the opportunity given to each one of us, that is why it is so important we affirm it, rejoice at it, thank God for it. Nevertheless it exists not for its own sake, but for the sake of the eternal life which stands behind it.

If we are fully convinced of Christ as a present reality, then we must not to be constantly talking about Him, but we must bear witness to Him by the way in which at all times we meet our neighbour with impartial love.

So Dear People of God, what is needed is the Church militant, individual men and women as a result of their encounter with Christ at Easter becoming visibly different; that individual families should become visibly different; that whole nations should become visibly different. And what matters above all is that our Church, the universal Church of Christ Jesus should become visibly different as a result of His presence.

These, however, are but temporal goals, and surely God's Kingdom is in eternity? Yes; but God became Time for Us, and we must now act as knowing what hour it is, how it is fully time for us to wake from sleep... The night is far gone, the day is at hand (Romans 13.11-12).

If in this given moment, in this our day, we are obedient unto the Cross, then it also becomes God's day, and that is eternity. It is up to each and every one of us to stand fast in this ever changing world, to remain obedient to the word and love of God and His Risen Son Jesus Christ. This is the moment Time and Eternity are united, and the Kingdom of God present in our very midst.

May you all have a Blessed and Joyous Easter

In the Name of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

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