

Ballineaspig Parish Bulletin

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Easter Sunday (B)

4th April, 2021

Gospel: Mark 16: 1-7

“Christ is risen, alleluia!”



Many people have stood by an open grave and wondered whether this is the end of all. Is everything over for the deceased? Is there really something more beyond the grave? Certainly, when Jesus died, the disciples thought it was all over for Him and their own future looked pretty bleak as well. They had seen the miracles and everything else He had done. They had listened proudly to the wonderful things people said about Him.

Indeed, they were so captivated by His achievements that they failed to even glimpse the person behind them, the One who was loved so fully by the Father in the Holy Spirit from all eternity and for all eternity. It was only through the gift of the Holy Spirit after the Resurrection that the disciples came to recognise the person of Jesus who would live among us forever.

This is the core of our faith. We are more than our accomplishments, our possessions or our reputations. After death, these become irrelevant anyway. The only thing that lasts is love. The essence of who we are is that we are unique individuals loved by God. When God loves, it must be forever. In Him, there is no change. So whatever happens at death, our identity remains the same, we are God's chosen ones.

At the first Easter day, the same Jesus who was crucified but is now transformed by the Holy Spirit, returned to His mother and to the disciples, to show them and us that He would live forever in the bosom of the Father and that the same destiny awaits us. It is when we settle for the success oriented identity that the world assigns us, that we lose our nerve about death. The Easter gift is to believe in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit so that we can grow in the belief that each one of us is the Beloved of God who will love us forever in a way that is totally beyond our understanding just now but which is the cornerstone of inner peace and indeed, of world peace.



Christ
is
Risen!

Alleluia

Lord, increase our Faith.

Happy Easter

Fr. Tom Clancy