



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Our Easter congregation, like Christmas, is so diverse. Children home from college, relatives and friends visiting from out of town, as well as family members and friends from different denominations joining in worship with us. I welcome back others who for various reasons have been away from the church. On this beautiful Easter day I offer a sincere welcome to all. It is my hope that all of you, especially our visitors, will feel the warmth and hospitality of our parish and will leave filled with the peace of the Risen Christ.

Sharing a reflection on the Easter Egg, I am reminded of an e-mail my nephew, Paul, sent me a few years ago. As the Director of Continuing Adult Education at Bryant University in Rhode Island, he was invited to bring his two sons to a new event - the *Spring Egg Hunt*. As a matter of principal, he declined the offer reminding those directing the affair that "*there is no such thing as a Spring Egg Hunt or Spring Eggs.*" How proud I was that he stood up for what the day is really all about - the Resurrection of Jesus - Easter Day - not just another spring day.

The Easter Egg is an ancient symbol of resurrection - new life. The tiny bird encased within its shell experiences life only after it breaks forth from its hard shell. At times we can be enveloped in our "*shells.*" *Shells* of anger, *shells* of pride, *shells* of intolerance. Our shells can be walls that separate us from relatives or friends. Walls that oftentimes were put up for such insignificant reasons in the first place. And only until *we* break out of our *shells* can we really experience life. All that is usually needed, on our part, is a small dose of humility.

We have bought 84 dozen colorful, plastic eggs to hand out to our children as a symbol of Easter. It would be nice to have had the real thing, but not very practical. One of our parishioners, Michelle Mack, has filled them with jelly beans and a short message from me. My wish for all is that you will truly experience the peace, love and joy of Easter.

For those who are still encased in any *shell* that separates you from another, I hope you will have the determination and courage to break forth. Life is too short for walls.

New life, peace and love are what the Resurrection is all about. Happy and blessed Easter to all of you.



Some Interesting Easter Facts!!



1. In the early Church, there was much controversy concerning the setting of the date of the annual Pascha, or Easter. It took the Council of Nicaea, called by Emperor Constantine in 325 AD, to bring an end to this controversy by making the decision that Easter would be observed on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox. It wasn't until the year 664 AD, that the Celtic church in Britain and Ireland accepted this decision from the Council of Nicaea. 2. The name "Easter" is common in English speaking countries. However, in many other countries, Christ's Resurrection is known as a form of the word "Passover". An example of this is Pasch, from the Hebrew *Pesach*. 3. Easter Sunday did not exist in the early church. What we know today as Easter occurred during the night hours preceding the dawn of Sunday, or during the Easter Vigil. That is why Easter Sunday is known as the **first** Sunday **OF** Easter, meaning that Easter, itself, has already happened. In other words, everything that we do at Mass on Easter Sunday has already been done, with great solemnity, during the Easter Vigil. **Happy Easter Everyone!!**



	<u>Monday, April 25</u>	
Lourdes Q. Tumale	7:30am	Fr. Martin
	<u>Tuesday, April 26</u>	
Vincent Kubersk	7:30am	Fr. Martin
	<u>Wednesday, April 27</u>	
Ernest Lapp,	7:30am	Fr. Martin
	<u>Thursday, April 28</u>	
Donna Ste	7:30pm	Fr. Korpi
	<u>Friday, April 29</u>	
Daniel Buckanavage	7:30pm	Fr. Korpi
	<u>Saturday, April 30</u>	
Gary Storey	9:00am	Fr. Korpi
Angela Hughs	5:00pm	Fr. Wilson
Hispanic Mass	7:00pm	Fr. Wilson
	<u>Sunday, May 1</u>	
Alice DeForest	7:30am	Fr. Korpi
Lucille Gallo	9:00am	Fr. Korpi
Parishioners	11:00am	Fr. Martin
Mafak Sarafa	12:45pm	Fr. Wilson

Parish Prayer List

Please remember, in your prayers, the sick of our Parish Community:

Pearl Bragg, Sarah Buckley, Barbara Burnett, Mary Del Arco, Stephanie Hoang, Phyllis Kerns and Ted Simms

For the deceased:

Robert DiGregorio, Father of Susie Miller
 Mary Hadley, Mary Hoffman, Mother of Karl Hoffman,
 Alfred Rossi, Son-in-Law of Diane Brady
 David Wedding, Father of Beth Downey

Pray for our military men and women and their families. May God keep them safe and out of harms way.

The Church of the Nativity

6400 Nativity Lane Burke, VA 22015
Office hours Monday thru Friday...8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday...9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastor	Rev. Richard B. Martin
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Wilson I. Korpi
Visiting Priest	Rev. Cedric Wilson
Deacon Dale Avery	(703) 455-2400
Spanish Ministry:	Deacon Jose Pardo
Parish Office	(703) 455-2400
Nativity School	(703) 455-2300
CCD Office	(703) 455-0372

Daily Mass...Monday thru Friday...7:30 am
 Saturday...9:00 am; 5:00 pm...Vigil Mass
 7:00 pm...Hispanic Mass

Sunday Masses...7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 12:45 pm

Confessions...Saturday, 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Last chance to purchase veils for First Communion on April 30th. There is also an assortment of gifts for the First Communicant. Stop by and see what is available.



ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK
McCarthy Services
1-866-924-1650



Easter Holiday — all Religious Education classes are cancelled during Holy Week and Easter Week, April 17 through April 26. Classes resume on Sunday, May 1; Monday, May 2; and Tuesday, May 3.

Practice for First Communicants in the church, 6:00pm-7:30pm — Group I on Wednesday, April 27; Group II on Thursday, April 28.

Mass for First Communicants on Saturday, April 30: Group I at 9:00am; Group II at 11:30am.

Religious Education Program Graduation for Seniors on May 1, 6:00pm in the church.

Mother's Day, May 8 — Sunday classes only cancelled; classes will be held on Monday, May 9 and Tuesday, May 10.

Final Religious Education classes — Sunday, May 15; Monday, May 16; and Tuesday, May 17. Report cards will be distributed.

Student Registration for 2011-2012 is now open. Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, and at website: www.edu.nativityburke.org; on the Nativity CCD tab click

May 9, 2011 - Nativity Catholic School's First Annual Golf Tournament & Friend-Raiser!

Help support our parish school while enjoying a morning of 18 holes of golf and lunch!! Shotgun start at 9:00am on **May 9, 2011**, at **Laurel Hill Golf Club in Lorton, VA**, ranked 15th in *Golfweek's* 2009 list of the nation's 50 best municipal courses. Not a golfer?? Volunteers, advertisers, and donations for the raffle are needed. Registration forms and information are located at <https://nativitymn.ejoinme.org/golf>. **Registration is open until May 2, 2011.** If you can help or participate in any way, please contact Jean Lewis at (703) 426-8735 or email at NativityGolf@gmail.com



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8th. Remember your Mother, living or deceased, in a Novena of Masses during the month of May. Cards are available in the back of Church or in the Church office.



The Altar Flowers this week are
In Loving Memory of

Liberato & Giuseppina Ianiero
And
Douglas & Ethel Denise
From
The Guido Ianiero Family

WATCH LIVE COVERAGE OF THE BEATIFICATION OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

Join EWTN on Mercy Sunday, May 1st, as Pope Benedict XVI presides over the much anticipated beatification of his predecessor, Pope John Paul II, live from St. Peter's Square. Beatification is the last major step before possible sainthood! See it all on EWTN on Channel 161 or your EWTN station. Visit www.ewtn.com for more information or to watch coverage live online!



MEMORIAL DAY MASS

At 11:00 am on Monday, May 30, 2011, Holy Mass will be celebrated at Fairfax Memorial Park, formerly Calvary Cemetery, 9900 Braddock Road, Fairfax, by Rev. Terry Specht. If outdoor services at the Cemetery are cancelled due to inclement weather, Father Specht will offer an 11:00 am Mass at Holy Spirit Catholic church, 8800 Braddock Road, Annandale, VA 23003.

ECHO COLLECTION

Next Sunday, May 1st



The pantry at **ECHO** is running dry. They are in need of many products. Listed below is a list of the products that are needed: Mac & Cheese, boxed potato & stuffing mix, canned meats, baked beans, cooking oil, 6oz. tomato paste, canned tomatoes (14.5oz.), dry milk, canned pasta, sugar, bagged rice/beans, jello/pudding mix, tea bags. Personal items needed are: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, razors, feminine products, shampoo, paper towels & napkins, toilet tissue, over the counter pain meds. Please bring food to the Church foyer. **ECHO** also accepts small appliances, pots and pans, blenders, lamps, microwaves, etc. All household must be in good condition and taken to the **ECHO** Center at 7205 Old Keene Mill Rd. For their hours call 703-569-9160. Thank you for helping the less fortunate.



Annual Multi-Car Raffle Thank you to those who have already returned their sold tickets. There is still plenty of time to enter the raffle, but don't wait to the last minute.

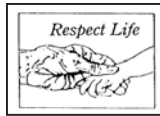
Remember each \$5.00 ticket is a chance to win all five 2011 vehicles from Koons of Manassas (Honda Civic Hybrid, Honda Accord, GMC Sierra Truck, Honda CRV sport utility and Honda Odyssey Van) plus up to \$20,000 in cash. Thank you for your continued, generous support. If you have any questions or need more tickets to sell, please contact Sam Morthland at 703-455-2816.

Thought for the Week:

Bricks and mortar make a house, but the laughter of children make a home.

Bits and Pieces

PRO-LIFE CORNER



Easter is the ultimate celebration of a Life as no other. Greet your fellow Christians with the true meaning of Easter, "Rejoice, Christ is Risen!", as they reply "Truly, He is Risen!" **Chose Life Today. Chose Life Tomorrow. Pray Always. We Must Do No Less.**

A Happy and Blessed Easter to all!

Are you suffering from an abortion experience? **PROJECT RACHEL** offers spiritual and psychological healing. Call 703-276-0373 (projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org) for a referral for private, sensitive and confidential counseling and/or reconciliation. (Project Rachel is a post-abortion healing program open to all and sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington).

24-Hour Crisis Pregnancy Hotline: 1-800-395-HELP (4357)

Project Rachel (healing after abortion): 1-888-456-HOPE (4673)

Pregnancy Resource Centers Phone Numbers:

Catholic Charities National: 1-800-CARE-002

Catholic Charities Local: 703-425-0100

A Woman's Choice: 703-538-4305

Gabriel Project: 1-866-444-3553

**THE WEEK AHEAD
IN OUR PARISH**

Sunday, April 24 EASTER SUNDAY

2:00 pm.....Hispanic Mass (CH)

Monday, April 25

8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

Saturday, April 30

9:00 am.....First Holy Communion (CH)

11:00 am.....First Holy Communion (CH)

All activities cancelled for this week.

**WATCH SPECIAL HOLY WEEK AND EASTER
PROGRAMMING ON EWTN:** Join EWTN in

remembering Christ's love for us through His passion, death and resurrection.

During Holy Week and Easter, EWTN brings you special programming and live Easter Masses from Rome and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C.

Watch EWTN on Channel 161 or your local carrier. For more information please visit www.ewtn.com

The monthly peer support group for survivors of clergy abuse and others affected by the abuse will meet on Wednesday, April 27, from 6:30-8:00 p.m in the conference room of the Tysons-Pimmit Hills Regional Library, 7684 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA. This group is sponsored by Voice of the Faithful-Northern Virginia affiliate and meets on the last Wednesday of every month. Free. Confidential. No registration required. For more information or directions, contact Ellen Radday at 703-538-6128.

PRAY THE ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like Easter Sunday because it's a weekend full of fresh love, rebirth and new beginnings. All married couples deserve a richer, fuller life together! The next local Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are **May 13-15** in Herndon, **May 20-22** in Rockville, MD or **June 3-5** in Richmond. Register soon as the Herndon weekend is filling quickly. For more information call Mark and Cathy Stangler 703-378-4150 or visit <http://wwme-nova.org>.



FORTHCOMING PROGRAMS AT DOMINICAN RETREAT, ADVANCE RESERVATIONS NEEDED

May 10, 2011...Spring Day of Reflection...9:30am to 3:00pm, directed by Fr. Greg Solomone, O.P.

May 13, 2011...A Marian Day of Reflection and Prayer for Women...Tuesday 9:30am to 3:00pm, directed by Fr. Lee Havey, C.P.

May 13-15, 2011...General Weekend for Women... Friday 7:30pm to Sunday 3:00pm, directed by Fr. Lee Havey, C.P.

May 17, 2011...Dia en Honor de Nuestra Senora... Con los Directores Espirituales de Asociación Cristo Rey de Argentina, martes 9:30am-3:00pm

May 17, 2011...An Evening for Separated and Divorced People...7:30 to 9:30pm, presented by Sr. Agnes B. Gott, OP

May 20-22, 2011...Centering Prayer...Integrating Welcoming Prayer and the Forgiveness Practice Friday 7:30pm to Sunday 3:00pm, directed by Fr. Bill Sheehan, OMI

May 27-29, 2011...Retreat for People Facing Serious Illness...a time for spiritual Renewal.

If you are interested in making the retreat there is an application process where we will talk about your needs And help plan for your retreat.

For reservations and more information call Dominican Retreat at 703-356-4243 or visit www.dominicanretreat.org.

The Catholic Healing Ministry of the Diocese of Arlington will be Thursday, April 28 at 7:30pm at St. Thomas a Becket, Reston. For more information call 540-347-0809 or visit www.healingministry.net

Something to think about...**SENT** by David J. Wolpe

This is a marvelous story of a man who once stood before God, his heart breaking from the pain and injustice in the world. "Dear God", he cried out, "look at all the suffering, the anguish and distress in the world. Why don't you send help?" God responded, "I did send help. I sent you."

Prime Time Single Catholics (PTSC) is open to all single Catholics, 40 and older, who have never married, are widowed or are divorced with a Church annulment.

Some of our events scheduled for May 2011 include:

May 1 - Sun., 10:15 AM Mass at Missionhurst, then lunch, in Arlington, call Jack 703-971-8665

May 8 - Sun., 5 PM Dinner Dance at the Elks Lodge in Fairfax, call Tom 703-313-8388

May 15 - Sun., 2:30 PM Dance at Glen Echo Park in Glen Echo, MD, call Pat 703-27-3455

May 21 - Sat., 2:30 PM Country/Western Dancing in Burke, call Al 703-569-0077

May 22 - Sun., 2:30 PM Enjoy a Social Day in Occoquan, call Tom 703-313-8388

May 29 - Sun., 4 PM Dine at Phillips Seafood Buffet in Washington, DC, call Beth 703-683-0222

Anyone with questions about PTSC may call Jack Emery, 703-971-8665, for more information

SOCIAL JUSTICE REFLECTION: CHILDREN IN POVERTY IN VIRGINIA

FACTS. Despite the prosperity most of us experienced over the last decade—average income in Virginia grew in real terms from about \$44,000 to slightly less than \$50,000 between 2000 and 2009, according to the state government—the rate of Virginia's children living in poverty grew from about 12 percent to 14 percent, according to statistics from US Census Bureau.

REFLECTION. Not all of us are sharing in our society's growing prosperity over the past decade. In fact, a larger percentage of Virginians are not participating in our state's economic growth. Should we try to find out why this is happening? Should our elected leaders devote more attention to the problems of growing poverty?

The American bishops, in urging Catholics to practice "faithful citizenship," tell us, *"responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. This obligation is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do."*

The bishops also remind us of Pope Benedict's teaching that, *"love for widows and orphans, prisoners, and the sick and needy of every kind, is as essential to the Church as the ministry of the sacraments and preaching of the Gospel."*



OPERATION STARFISH® NEWS

www.operation-starfish.org

Resurrection...

Today our faith, our scripture readings and the teaching message of our clergy all bring us to greater understanding of the resurrection of Christ. Today our hearts are filled with joy over the fact of His resurrection. And today we also anticipate a form of resurrection that will come from the Starfish Basket at the back of the church.

The Catholic Encyclopedia defines “resurrection” as “the rising again from the dead, the resumption of life.” With the knowledge we have gained, the compassion we have developed, and the resources we have marshaled during this year’s Operation Starfish, more than 100 families in Haiti’s desperate Shada slum will be “resurrected” from disease and death and moved into safe shelter.

God willing, our parish will again “make a difference” in the lives of the poor. We are working with Food For The Poor, Inc. to develop our 7th “Nativity Village” project and continue to move destitute people toward a better life. Fr. Duken Augustin, who will oversee the construction and the relocation of families from the terrible conditions in Shada to the new Nativity Village, has identified a 20-acre parcel of land near Cap Haitien and is ready to begin work.

While Easter Sunday marks the end of this year’s Lenten Starfish campaign, it also marks the beginning of new life for those who so desperately need us. People like Durna Clervil and her family, whose photos became our Lenten meditation this year, will have new hope because of us. They will leave the dead slum that oppresses them and sickens their children, and they will resume a life of dignity with clean water, decent shelter, and opportunities to learn and to work. They will be “resurrected” from poverty.

The Starfish basket will be out for a couple more weeks. Please feel free to continue to offer your support. Fr. Martin recently remarked that “Operation Starfish is no longer confined to Lent; it has become a year-round ministry for learning, for growing our compassionate hearts, and for doing the work of Christ on earth.”

Happy Easter!

Diocesan Pilgrimage

All are invited to this year’s Diocesan Pilgrimage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. To encourage families to pray together both at home and in front of the Blessed Sacrament, two additional events featuring the Living Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration will be held in advance of the pilgrimage:

May 1, 2011, 5 p.m., Pope John Paul the Great High School, Dumfries (Day of the Beatification of Pope John Paul II)

September 11, 2011, 3 p.m., St. Michael Church, Annandale

Diocesan Pilgrimage, October 8, 2011, 9 a.m., Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

Give the Gift of Faith

More and more Catholics are responding to the idea of giving a gift that perpetuates our Catholic faith. Please consider remembering Church of the Nativity in your will. By doing so, you establish a legacy of love for others by enabling the Church to continue the expansion of our Catholic faith through its many ministries. For more information on naming our parish or the diocese in your will, please call Ryan at the Planned Giving office at the Diocese of Arlington (703) 841-3819 or visit www.arlingtondiocese.planyourlegacy.org

¡QUÉ GRAN NOTICIA!
Domingo de Pascua

Javier Leoz



Se mantiene todavía encendido el rescoldo de la Vigilia Pascual: **ya no hay muerto, sólo hay vida**. No hay oscuridad, todo es luz. La gracia ha vencido al pecado y la libertad a la esclavitud. No es poesía ni bonitas palabras. Jesús nos ha dejado profundamente marcados a todos. Su paso no nos ha dejado indiferentes y, su resurrección, ha marcado también un hito en la historia de la humanidad.

Ahora, esa humanidad, tiene oportunidad de engancharse a esa Buena Noticia que, además, nos pone en marcha hacia la fiesta celestial. ¡Aleluya! ¡Festejemos, acojamos y demos testimonio de esta Buena Nueva!

1. Como Iglesia gozamos, cantamos y expresamos lo que sostiene la razón de ser de nuestro cristianismo: **Cristo ha resucitado**. Creemos, desde lo más hondo de nuestras entrañas y por los testimonios que nos han llegado hasta nosotros, que Jesús surge victorioso e invencible de la muerte. ¿Pero ya interesa al hombre de hoy deshacerse de esa gran enigma? ¿Busca respuestas o sólo pone sordina a esa situación que tarde o temprano llega?

El milagro de la Pascua es que, además de poner a la muerte en su sitio, Cristo nos traslada vida divina y eterna para todos. Eso es lo que hemos de transmitir, sea como sea, allá donde estemos los heraldos del evangelio y los cristianos que sabemos que nuestra fe no está fundamentada en la muerte sino en la vida resucitada de Cristo.

Hemos de dejar atrás los caminos penitenciales de la cuaresma. Ellos tenían como objetivo aligerarnos de aquellas cargas que nos impedían subir a la cima de la Pascua. Ahora, después de la cuaresma, estamos celebrando el fin de ella: el acontecimiento más extraordinario de Jesucristo a su paso por nosotros con su Resurrección.

2. En medio de tantos motivos que tenemos para llorar o para el pesimismo la vida resucitada de Cristo nos trae una nueva primavera. El tronco viejo del mundo, al que nosotros estamos tan apegados, reverdece ahora y florece con otros aires: ¡Ha resucitado! ¿O es que las estructuras de nuestro mundo no necesitan un poco de alegría y de ilusión, de futuro y de coraje? El Domingo de Pascua nos invita a renacer con Aquel que ya ha renacido. Nos empuja a vivir ya desde el suelo para el cielo. La gloria de Jesús, al resucitar, será atraernos y llevarnos al encuentro definitivo con el Padre. ¡Aleluya, hermanos, por tan gran noticia!

En el Domingo de Pascua, Jesús que ha jugado todo a una carta, gana la partida y lejos de hacerse con el triunfo para sí mismo lo pone a disposición de todos nosotros. ¿Cómo no recibir tal triunfo cuando, a penas, nos ha costado nada? ¿Cómo no agradecer a Jesús su sufrimiento, su madero, su sufrimiento o su muerte que nos redime de nuestra propia muerte?

¡Feliz Pascua de Resurrección hermanos! ¡Feliz y santa noticia! Ahora no nos importará morir un poco sabiendo lo mucho que nos espera. Ha resucitado el Señor y, su Palabra, se ha cumplido a pie de letra. Que todo ello sea nuestra fortaleza (la necesitamos), infunda en nuestros caminos la alegría (andamos muy escasos de ella), aliente nuestra esperanza (vivimos tan desasosegados) y contribuya a ser fieles en esta gran Verdad que la Iglesia, nuestros sacerdotes, nuestros padres, nuestros catequistas, religiosos, cofradías, hermandades y hasta la misma religiosidad popular nos han transmitido hasta el día de hoy: ¡Todo esto es porque Cristo ha resucitado! No lo olvidemos.

¡ Feliz Pascua de Resurrección! ¡Cristo ha resucitado

PREGÓN DE PASCUA

¡SI! ¡ESTE ES EL DIA DEL SEÑOR!

En que la oscuridad, es vencida por la luz de Cristo
donde el hombre regresa, por y con Cristo,
de la muerte que le atormenta.

Es el final feliz que da lugar a un nuevo comienzo:
¡Viviremos! ¡Resucitaremos!

La Iglesia, siglos y siglos después,
sigue engendrando hijos para Dios
marcha hacia Cristo con el mundo y por el mundo
y, en este amanecer con sol de cielo,
siente que su fe es renovada y confirmada

¡SI! ¡ESTE ES EL DIA!

En el que sentimos que, sin ser del mundo,
Cristo por su Resurrección nos invita a vivir en la tierra
pero con el color de la esperanza en nuestros ojos
Caminaremos con El, hacia El y por El
y, arraigados en El, pasaremos de mano en mano esta fe.
¡HA RESUCITADO! ¡EL SEÑOR HA RESUCITADO!

Este fuego nada ni nadie lo puede apagar.

Unamos nuestras manos y seamos fuertes en la fe
Unamos nuestras voces y difundamos este acontecimiento

Unamos nuestros caminos y que, en uno sólo,
desemboque en el lugar donde Dios nos espera:

la meta celeste, la patria celestial, el rincón de la eterna felicidad

¡SI! ¡ESTE ES EL DIA EN QUE EL SEÑOR SE EMPLEA Y A FONDO!

No es aventura que finaliza en el sepulcro

ni corazonada o sentimiento de unas horas o de un día

En este amanecer, el Señor, ha vuelto para que nosotros volvamos

Ha resucitado, para que nosotros resucitemos

Y, su resurrección, habla el poder inmenso de Dios:

la muerte no ha vencido, no ha tenido la última palabra

no es la protagonista del drama de Jesús en la tierra

Ha sido absorbida y colocada en el lugar que le corresponde

¡FELIZ PASCUA DE RESURRECCION!

¡FELIZ VIDA ETERNA PARA TODOS!

Javier Leoz



¿QUÉ NOS TRAES, CRISTO, EN ESTA MAÑANA?

Os traigo la luz, para que brille en la oscura tiniebla
y mi vida, ahora eterna,
para que vuestra muerte ya no sea un para siempre.

¿Aún me preguntáis qué os traigo?

Mi cuerpo lacerado, pero victorioso por el Creador
Mis manos taladradas, pero abiertas para abrazaros
Mis pies atravesados, pero dispuestos a acompañaros

¿Y todavía me preguntáis que qué os traigo?

Os traigo el secreto para ser fuertes: la fe
Deposito ante vosotros la posibilidad de ser libres
el esfuerzo de quien sabe que hay un Alguien después
la seguridad de que, tras el velo del Viernes Santo,
mi Padre os aguarda a los que esperáis y creéis en El

¿QUÉ NOS TRAES, SEÑOR, EN ESTA MAÑANA DE PASCUA?

Os avanzo una gran noticia: la muerte, con la mía
ha sido aniquilada y vencida.

Cuando un día caigáis en sueño profundo
comprenderéis el fruto de este amanecer pascual:

seréis eternos, como mi Padre es eterno,

estaréis convocados a una fiesta sin final

donde, vuestros ojos, se asombrarán

ante la belleza del rostro de Aquel que os creó

¿Todavía me preguntáis qué os traigo?

Frente a un mundo pequeño,

os regalo un Reino inmenso

Frente al llanto del suelo, os garantizo la dicha eterna

Frente a la cruz pesada, os anuncio el consuelo divino

Frente al absurdo de la muerte, la vida conquistada

Y, junto con todo esto, os traigo un ruego

¡CREED EN DIOS! ¡ESPERAD EN DIOS!

Que El, como a mí, os dará vida plena y resucitada

Amén.

Javier Leoz

Sacerdote Diocesano Diócesis de Pamplona