



ARCHBISHOP'S MESSAGE

March 26, 2021

Easter Message

*You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified.
He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place where they laid him.
But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee;
there you will see him, just as he told you. (Mark 16, 6-7)*

I retain three key messages in this passage from the Gospel of Saint Mark, read at the Easter Vigil. First of all, just when the women thought they were entering the world of death, since they were going to embalm the body of Jesus in the tomb, they are told great news: Jesus has risen! What a surprise! For God, nothing is impossible. In the midst of our distress, our suffering, our darkness, the risen Christ reveals himself to us even today.

Not having had the chance to study the case, to verify the facts, to see for themselves that Jesus had really risen, they are immediately sent as messengers of the Good News. We too are messengers of the Good News, given the same mission as these women. Moved by the Spirit, let us not hesitate to be bearers of the joy of the Gospel. Let us not wait to have all the answers to our questions to witness to our faith.

The third key message is more subtle but carries great hope. "He goes before you into Galilee." "Galilee" is the place where the disciples live, it is their "home". The good news of the resurrection will be announced to them on their own ground. Jesus goes before them and meets them in their living and working environment, in all the events of their daily lives. Jesus also meets us in our own "Galilee", where we are physically, but also spiritually. He does not wait for us to be perfect Christians to enter a relationship with us. He goes before us every moment, here and now, and walks with us, as he did with the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Will we be able to recognize him and be witnesses of his transforming presence?

Happy Easter!

Please continue to pray for me, as I do for you.

Saint Joseph, pray for us.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.