

Rectoría San Juan de Dios

Easter Day Cycle A

Acts 10, 34. 37-43; Ps 118; 1Cor 5, 6-8/Col 3, 1-4; Jn 20, 1-9

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Let Us Live as Witnesses

That morning of the first day after the Sabbath,¹ when it was still dark, and Mary Magdalene saw that the rock that had closed the sepulcher had been moved away, and Peter and John discovered the signs that Jesus was alive, we, the new witnesses, were born into the life of the Good News. From that moment on, those of us who look into the empty tomb become contemporaries of the first witnesses, and we take on life in the faith and love of Jesus who died and was resurrected.

If we have come here to the celebration of the Paschal mystery, it is because we believed and we accompanied Jesus in his first ministry, and later in the giving up of his life on the cross. We are new witnesses of the great event that changed the direction of history and the destiny of mankind.

How important it is that we keep our testimony current today! Especially when unreality and social pretense come disguised as reality. A world in which few dare to testify to the reality of faith in the experience of the Risen Christ.

¹ In the theology of John, the “first day” indicates the first day of the new creation in which Christ wants to raise all humanity to Himself.

Let us live as new witnesses of the Resurrection.

1-Let us live according to what has happened.

Since we have known Jesus through his Word and the sacramental life, what holds us is the experience of love for His person. We are not the same after Easter. What happened there marked us and gave us a new personality. We remain associated with the first witnesses because the basic fact of the Resurrection is still there, intact, just as it was that same morning that they encountered it. We discover it in the same way today after two thousand years.

We can say as Peter did, *we are witnesses of everything that Jesus did in Judea and in Jerusalem...and we have eaten and drunk with Him after He was resurrected from the dead.*

2-Let us live from the Eucharist.

Now we are not leaven for the dough; now we are Eucharistic bread as the body of Christ so that we can give life and nourishment to the world. We look for the good things from above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. (cf. Col 3, 1-4)

3-Let us live to enter the empty tomb every time.

We recover the trace of Jesus not only in his burial cloths folded in a place apart, but we are carried by love and faith. We enter behind Peter who, upon entering the tomb, understands that the cloths and bandages no longer bind Jesus. We enter also to distinguish signs of life that at times we are slow to understand. Behind the beloved disciple who *entered and believed*, we also enter: *we see, we believe, and we take in the life of the resurrected one.*

And we follow behind Mary Magdalene until we recognize the resurrected Jesus and touch him. (v 17)

We live as witnesses today in order to be missionaries of the new life of Jesus.