



In the Gospel from Matthew at the Easter Vigil, the angel at the tomb said to the women (Mary Magdalene and the other Mary) “Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for He has been raised just as he said.” Promise made. Promise delivered. And, we are the beneficiaries. Death has no more power over us. The offer of eternal life is ours for the taking, now! For what is eternal life? Life with God, freedom

from sin. We can taste this now.

May we hear the same words mentioned to “the two Marys” this Easter, “Do not be afraid. I know you are seeking Jesus the crucified.”

Do not be afraid. Mentioned some 365 times in the Scriptures, this “letting go” of fear must be pretty important. May we not be afraid to let the saving work of Christ on Calvary be real for us every day. We DO NOT have to be slaves to sin, to addiction, to separation from God and one another. We can change and live new lives. God can make this happen. He will coerce but never force us.

May we not fear going deeper in relationship with Christ to places where we used to put up boundaries, so that he can enter to heal and to forgive. May we not fear to seek new heights trusting in God’s plan, God’s will, and God’s providence. May we not fear the FREEDOM this new life offers. Let’s anticipate with hope what is offered, what can be.

I know you are seeking Jesus the crucified. Let us seek him in ourselves. Here is where God most wants to reside. God wants to enter the shadows of our lives to be the light. Remember, it is the Easter Vigil where we trice proclaim: **Christ our Light! Thanks be to God.**

We can be tabernacles hosting the presence of Christ. As He took on flesh, our flesh can take on his presence, his word, his love, his forgiveness, each day. We can be instruments of his ongoing incarnation. We can die, so as to let Jesus live. Live Jesus!

Let us seek him in one another, always and in all ways:

- in the people who come into our life, those easy to love and those, not so much.
- In those who have yet to know him or have moved away from him for a while
- In the situation we find ourselves, the good and the difficult
- In the vibrancy of our lives and in the various deaths we go through (youth, loss of ability to multitask, to remember well, loss of a job, loved one, and the like)
- In the here and now, the present moment, especially now, this Easter 2020, Coronavirus Easter when we are socially distancing and may realize more than ever how much we need God to come into our lives, fully...let us not be afraid for it is He, Jesus the Christ who we are seeking





This Easter Vigil, Pope Francis remarked that Easter offers hope in the darkest hours. Of course, we all know this hope is the Risen Christ, the one that neither death, nor a tomb, nor a huge stone rolled in front of it could contain. So, let us get out of the tombs that confine us. Let us not be afraid. Let us go and seek him.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

God Bless you all. You are terribly missed. Please know that you are in my prayers. I hope we soon find ourselves and many others gathered around the table of our Lord soon. Let us keep in mind and prayer those who have lost their lives to this virus, those who have died of other causes and were not afforded a funeral service befitting them, those who are lonely, lost employment, have little to eat and anyone who may be hurting in one way or another. Let us be grateful and pray in a special way for our health care workers, first responders, all essential employees.

How are we going to move forward? When will this end? What will the future be like? HAVE NO FEAR; SEEK JESUS, THE CRUCIFIED ONE.

