



Jesus Lives!

Let us Rejoice!

Easter 2018

Dear Parishioner,

Easter reminds us that life always has new beginnings in God. That, irrespective of where life might take us, there is always the possibility of a new beginning — the ongoing resurrection work of Christ in our lives leading us to reconciliation, hope, compassion and grace.

The giving of eggs — a pre-Christian Hebrew tradition — was a symbol of that new possibility. Christians reinterpreted it as represented the new life even in the tomb. While this tradition has become highly commercialized and symbolic of our society of excess and consumption, the symbolic value is well worth recovering.

During Lent it is well worth asking God to show us where we need the hope of resurrection in our own personal lives and in the communities that we play a part in. We can then spend Lent investing ourselves in a process of discernment of discovering our part in that resurrection journey. Easter might then become a marker of a new beginning — a place of resolve that helps us move on in the reconciliation hope, compassion and grace of the Gospel.

This is not meant to be the stuff solely of contemplation and platitude, but rather an opportunity for real life engagement that is transformation. The resurrection was as tangible for the early church as Thomas placing his hands on Christ's wounds and as real as a community of the faithful coming out of hiding and dispersal into a place of visibility and the courage of faith. It moved them on.

My hope and prayer is that we would find those types of resurrection moments in our personal lives as much as we find it together as a community of faith. That we journey beyond Easter into new opportunities for reconciliation, new opportunities to find hope, new opportunities to give and receive compassion and new opportunities to live lives of grace.

I hope you have a blessed Easter.


Rev. Simon Bell

Incumbent