

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



risen? If he had died and remained in the tomb and that tomb had been preserved then I could visit his tomb. But it is only because he is risen that I can have a living encounter with him just as Saul did on the road to Damascus. If Christ's resurrection were

guru worshipped by his disciples. Jesus has made us partakers of his resurrection. When Paul says that it is no longer he who lives but Christ who lives in him he means not the Christ who died on the cross but the risen Christ. Isn't this the meaning of our baptism? we have died with Christ and we have risen with Christ. St Athanasius wrote that God became man so that man might become God. And who is this God that we become? The risen Christ.

If we were to ask the question: "What is Christianity?" we should have no hesitation in answering: "It is an encounter with the risen Lord." Who is more of a Christian than the disciple Thomas who meeting the risen Jesus says: "My Lord, and my God" (Jn. 20:28). Without the resurrection there would be no Christianity. For how could you and I encounter Jesus today if he was not

nothing more than a demonstration of his power and majesty it would merit our kneeling down in adoration before this power and majesty. But it is more than this. It is even much more than our human minds could imagine. It is a new creation, a cosmic transformation where the power of sin and death have been vanquished. The risen Jesus among us is not just a leader surrounded by followers, a



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL
FRATELLI TUTTI
BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



CHRISTIAN IDENTITY

278. Called to take root in every place, the Church has been present for centuries throughout the world, for that is what it means to be "catholic". She can thus understand, from her own experience of grace and sin, the beauty of the invitation to universal love. Indeed, "all things human are our concern... wherever the councils of nations come together to establish the rights and duties of man, we are honoured to be permitted to take our place among them".²⁷⁴ For many Christians, this journey of fraternity also has a Mother, whose name is Mary. Having received this universal motherhood at the foot of the cross (cf. Jn 19:26), she cares not only for Jesus but also for "the rest of her children" (cf. Rev 12:17). In the power of the risen Lord, she wants to give birth to a new world, where all of us are brothers and sisters, where there is room for all those whom our societies discard, where justice and peace are resplendent.

274. SAINT PAUL VI, Encyclical Letter *Ecclesiam Suam* (6 August 1964): AAS 56 (1964), 650.

Jubilee of Seminarians

St John Chrysostom –
Easter Sunday Year A 2026

Now is the time when the blessed light of Christ sheds its rays; the pure rays of the pure Spirit rise and the heavenly treasures of divine glory are opened up. Night's darkness and obscurity have been swallowed up and the dense blackness dispersed in this light of day; death has been totally eclipsed. Life has been extended to every creature and all things are diffused in brightness. The dawn of dawn ascends over the earth and "He who was before the morning star" (Ps 109:2) and before the other stars, the mighty Christ, immortal and all powerful, sheds light brighter than the sun on the universe. For all of us his faithful He has initiated a bright, new day, long, eternal, and unquenchable; it is the mystical Passover, celebrated in figures under the Law but fulfilled in very truth by Christ; the marvellous Passover, the wonder of divine virtue, the work of power, truly a feast, an everlasting memorial, impassibility born of suffering, immortality born of death, life born in the tomb, healing born from wounds, resurrection born from the fall, ascent to Heaven born from descent to Hell.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 138: 18, 5-6

**I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge,
alleluia, alleluia.**

COLLECT

O God, who on this day,
through your Only Begotten Son,
have conquered death
and unlocked for us the path to eternity,
grant, we pray, that we who keep
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection
may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit,
rise up in the light of life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. Acts 10:34a, 37-43

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'You yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and caused him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 118(117):1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R.24

**R. This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice in it and be glad.**

Give praise to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.
Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

The LORD's right hand is exalted.
The LORD's right hand has done mighty deeds.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians. Colossians 3:1-4

Brothers and sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia. 1 Corinthians 5:7b-8a
**Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed;
let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord.
Alleluia.**

GOSPEL

John 20:1-9

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going towards the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on the head of Jesus, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Exultant with the paschal gladness, O Lord,
we offer the sacrifice
by which your Church
is wondrously reborn and nourished.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

1 Cor 5:7-8

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed,
alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your Church, O God,
with unfailing love and favour,
so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries,
she may come to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**