



Friday, April 11, 2014

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write today to warmly invite you to join us for Mass this [Holy Week](#) and for the celebration of Christ's Resurrection at Easter. Whether or not you attend Mass regularly, we welcome you to join us at a [parish near you](#) or at the cathedral church of the Archdiocese, the [Cathedral of Mary Our Queen](#) in Baltimore.

The Holy Week liturgies and Easter Sunday bring us to the very heart of our faith. In these celebrations we truly encounter God's love for us, a love that is stronger than sin and more powerful than death itself. These liturgies not only inspire us, they also have the power to touch us inwardly, to bring about our encounter with the crucified and risen Christ as we re-live what he said and did to save us.

All of Scripture refers to the Person of Christ. All of Scripture culminates in the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter in the power of the Holy Spirit. It is in Christ's rising that we come to participate in and reflect God's true power and His great love for us. This is what unites all followers of Jesus, from His day to ours: the promise of everlasting life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Those who share this hope begin even now to model their lives on Christ's gift of self. Those who have hope live differently.

In my [column](#) in this week's Catholic Review, I cite Pope Francis, who [wrote](#) about the importance of the Resurrection in our lives today. "Often it seems that God does not exist: all around us we see persistent injustice, evil, indifference and cruelty. But it is also true that in the midst of darkness something new always springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit. However dark things are, goodness always re-emerges and spreads ... such is the power of the Resurrection, and all who evangelize are instruments of that power."

This goodness will be evident here in our Archdiocese on the evening before Easter as our Church welcomes 700 new members. It is during the Easter Vigil that Christ breaks the chains of death and the Church welcomes new sons and daughters in whose lives the saving power of Christ's Death and Resurrection becomes real through the sacraments. I pray their lives will be blessed by the graces of our Catholic faith just as I know the whole Archdiocese will be enriched by their presence among us.

Over the course of the coming days, I pray each of us will be inspired to share with others the joyful news of Christ's Resurrection, that is, His triumph over sin and death. I pray that, in turn, others will find newness of life: that hope, peace, and self-giving love that is modeled on and shares in the love of our Risen Lord.

May you and your family have a holy and blessed Easter Season!

Faithfully in Christ,

+ William E. Lori

Most Reverend William E. Lori
Archbishop of Baltimore



Archdiocese of Baltimore
320 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)