



St. Joseph Catholic Church

A PARISH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAN JOSE

My dear parishioners of St. Joseph Parish:

Alleluia! This is an expression rooted in the Bible where we express our joy for the most marvelous event that took place in the history of our salvation – that is, the resurrection of Jesus. Alleluia! This is not a simple word, in it is contained all that we believe, all that we have become, and all that we shall be, because “alleluia” is synonymous to the resurrection which makes our Easter celebration truly meaningful. The alleluia, therefore, becomes a prayer, an expressed joy for having encountered Christ in our lives, for having been chosen to benefit from his resurrection.

The resurrection, as Bishop Robert Barron says, is the be-all and end-all of our Christian faith. Without the resurrection we would be nothing and our ministry would be nothing. Without the resurrection, good deeds would be empty and, without the resurrection, even sacred scriptures would just be words without an effect in our lives. In fact, St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 15: 14 says it clearly: “...And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is worthless, and so is your faith. In that case, we are also exposed as false witnesses about God...”

The resurrection of Jesus reveals to the world that the fullness of God’s revelation is in us believers in Jesus and for that reason Jesus becomes the center of our lives. Either we accept Him on one side or reject Him on the other side; there is no middle ground. And thus, St. Paul, in the second reading of the Easter Vigil taken from the letter to the Romans 6: 11, reminds us: “Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.”

Happy Easter to all!

Rev. Engelberto G. Gammad, JCD
Pastor