



March 28, 2018

Holy Week

Dear Friends in Christ,

Every year, the celebrations of Holy Week call us to reflect on God's great love for the world, made visible in his Son, Jesus. "Indeed, God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17). What a privilege to commemorate the great mysteries of our salvation throughout this week: from Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to his gift of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, to his sacrificial death on the cross, to his glorious resurrection from the tomb at Easter. For the Church throughout the world, there is no week like Holy Week!

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has said that, seen from a merely human perspective, our journey seems to move from life to death. "Jesus turns this perspective upside-down and states that our pilgrimage goes from death to life: the fullness of life!" What a revelation it must have been for Mary Magdalene and the apostles that Easter day, to realize that Jesus was alive and that he had changed the meaning of life and death forever.

Whatever losses we have suffered in life, whatever pains we bear and whatever sorrows weigh us down, they cannot defeat us. The upside-down lens of faith invites us to see God's hand in all things, to detect the movements of His grace and to know that, even now, we can have some foretaste of eternal joy. Through Christ, with him and in him, we are moving toward the fullness of life.

I wish all of you a Blessed Holy Week and Easter and pray that God's graces may be experienced by you abundantly throughout this season of joy.

Yours in Christ,

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