

Happy Easter to you and your families,

We know we are living a rather Passion-like time rather than a Resurrection one. But even during this time of pandemic, there are so many good reasons to celebrate Easter. Easter is a time for us to remember that God in His lasting Love, has given us life in Christ; an everlasting life that, when we abide in faith, we are strengthened by the hope of a better life, we are reminded that God's plan of salvation is always at work. Faith increases our hope in God's eternal Kingdom of peace and in our unity in the love God offers us in Christ.

Sometimes we would like to find God in our own ways, sending him SOS alerts, while we just remain still and waiting for his response, feeling that He has abandoned us; we want to listen God only through good news. But it is not so. Love is not measured accordingly with what we are living in a specific moment, love endures everything and last forever.

When asked if I didn't mind when my mom didn't recognize me when she was suffering with dementia senile, I answered, "No, she already made me feel her love and care all those years that she was fine, now it is my time to love and take care of her." In the same way, we shall be sure of God's love for us.

We can read in the Scripture the times when God is asking Israel to keep their faith through their journey on the desert, and also during the exile in Babylon, where life was not good for them most of the time. God wasn't "cleaning their way," but He asked them instead to remember the way he delivered them from slavery, and to let their children know about the wonders God has made for them. After Christ's resurrection, time of persecutions came, and through all of them, the apostles and their disciples encourage the first Christian communities to celebrate the Love of God, and to endure with faith even, and especially during the time of tribulation; remembering that God always remains faithful to His covenant, and that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ.

Easter has been celebrated through many adverse moments in our history with the same fervor and devotion as the first one: time of persecutions, time of wars; time of economic depressions and time of plagues.

Our celebration of Easter is not based on what God should or shouldn't do at this moment, but rather in what God has done for us once for all. He has forgiven our sins and has given us everlasting life. In Christ's death and resurrection, we praise God's faithfulness to His eternal covenant.

As we rejoice and sing together "Alleluia" this Easter, let us proclaim our unity in Christ and, with Him, let us make known God's care and love for the whole world.

Christ has defeated death and lives with God, our Father, wanting to share God's Divine life with us.

This Easter, let us celebrate that united with Christ through our baptism, and our following in His steps, our Hope in the Resurrection is, already, abiding in God's love. Alleluia.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Manuel Fraguoso Carranza
Pastor

