



Christ is Risen... Christ is Truly Risen-

The richness of the **Sacred Paschal Triduum**, filled with so many images, words, and special liturgical actions—such as the washing of feet on **Holy Thursday**, the reverencing the wood of the Cross on **Good Friday** within the Passion of the Christ, the sacred incense, the blessed waters, **the Renewal of our Baptismal Covenant**- Life into the person of **Jesus Alive and Risen** with us and us in him—are powerful experiences that cannot pass without asking: What exactly happened at the liturgy? How are we affected by these rites? What are the implications of these liturgical experiences for our everyday lives?

The mysteries of the **Sacred Triduum** are remembered and celebrated for **Fifty Days till the Feast of Pentecost**...all there for us **to ponder, to pray... to deepen** the mystery of **Christ's Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension into heaven**. But how are we to relate and be a part of that mystery and allow it to truly become the ground of one's being?

The mystery of Christ is not abstract dogma but a mystery that forever changes the lives of those of us who descend into the **Tomb of the Waters of Baptism** and given the grace to **rise with Christ to New Life**. 'Our old order... way of acting, thinking and

living is passed...as I know the person I was, and I thank God every day for the grace to not be that person anymore.'

In the fourth century **Bishop Cyril of Jerusalem** preached this message to the newly baptized: **"Christ was really crucified—nailed to the Cross—really placed in the tomb; He really rose again. All these things were done through Love for us, so that, sharing by imitation in His sufferings, we might truly obtain salvation"**.

Letting 'go' of sinful behavior in order to walk the 'way' of Jesus can be so difficult that it does indeed feel like **death is at work inside us**. Gathered today at the font we are questioned, **"Do you renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?"** The ritual words are generic because what is asked is to fit everyone. **But each of us has to fill in the blanks from our self-examination when we hear "Do you renounce sin?"** We have to name the sin—and own up to whatever it is that stands in our way from following the 'way' of the Christ, who is always there with us to help us, to strengthened us—there to love us to New Life in avoiding the sin in the future.

Every time we enter the Church and approach to touch the **Holy Water of the Font...we sign ourselves with the Holy Cross...** and every time we gather at the **Baptismal Fonts**, and especially as we renew our vows each year at this time of resurrection we are putting ourselves once again into the tomb of waters with Jesus resolving to put to death what is unbecoming of his disciples. **In this, in us... Christ is Risen...Christ is truly Risen!**

May our little parish, and Island called 'the-Beaver', be lifted up with New Love...New Life!

We have received many greetings and continued support from our 'Snow Birds' warming us throughout the course of winter. We are very grateful...we are blessed indeed with so very much 'love'.

Thank You!

Skip McDonough shared this beautiful 'love' message from her parish in the Villages as we all are preparing to celebrate 'homecoming' at Holy Cross:



At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel on our side. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant, i.e., our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of our life. Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we don't realize they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship with all our passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves. The mystery to everyone is:

We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey on the train of life. Reap success and give lots of love. More importantly, thank God for the journey. Lastly, I thank you for being one of the passengers on my train.

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March 2015 Stewardship Offerings:

01 March: Envelope Checks & Cash: \$467.00, Loose Checks & Cash: \$93.00. Total Collection: \$560.00

08 March: Envelope Checks & Cash: \$477.15, Loose Checks & Cash: \$307.00. Total Collections: \$784.15

15 March: Envelope Checks & Cash: 385.00, Loose Checks & Cash: \$327.00. Total Collections: \$722.00

23 March: Envelope Checks & Cash: 746.00, Loose Checks & Cash: \$193.00. Total Collections: \$939.00

29 March: Envelope Checks & Cash: \$717.15, Loose Checks & Cash: \$87.00. Total Collections: \$804.15

**Mass Intentions: 15 March - \$10.00
20 March - \$10.00**

Mailed-in March Collections: \$850.00

Total For the month of March 2015: \$4679.30