

“He is not here, for He is Risen, as He said” (Mt. 28:6)



Dear Sisters,

The celebration of Easter is at the heart of our Christian faith, as the Resurrection of our Lord is the very hinge of all our beliefs and hope. This celebration is an invitation to open our hearts to the wonder of this mystery and walk with Jesus, sharing in his life and his peace, bringing his message of hope to all.

As we celebrate Easter this year, one might ask if this is the appropriate time in the midst of this global fear and challenges experienced with the COVID-19 pandemic, to proclaim the Good News that Jesus Christ is Risen. Those who first witnessed the resurrection offer a response which is timely and very comforting. The women in Matthew's Gospel who go to the tomb are burdened with disappointment and grief having witnessed his sacrificial death. They are overcome with fear and in that precise moment, they encounter Jesus who says to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." (Mt. 28:10) Jesus' response to the woman resounds for us today. As we face this pandemic, we are assured not to be afraid and we are called to proclaim Jesus as the Risen Lord in whose ever-abiding presence we trust.

As St. Paul reminds us, we believe that the destiny of Jesus is also our destiny and that we, along with all our loved ones, through the life-giving power of God, will be transformed and shall live forever. It all depends on what we believe; that is, what we repeatedly tell ourselves. If we believe that the situation is without any hope, it remains hopeless. If we believe in a God who will ultimately get us through all unpredictable and unpleasant situations of life and lead us to a joy that is everlasting, then we become Easter people, proclaiming the Resurrected Christ, knowing that He has brought forth life from death, light from darkness, and hope from despair. This is what Jesus told His disciples at the Last Supper: "You are in anguish now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you!"

This Easter, in these unusual times, let us find within our faith the sustenance and resolve to proclaim, "He is risen." Being convinced that we live only because he lives, together now, united in him, let us set out on fifty days of joyous Easter celebration – celebrating Life and self-giving Love. During these days, may our Faith in Jesus Christ deepen, our Hope in the fullness of life with him may become ever more profound, and may our Love for one another, especially in our communities, increase. May the Risen Lord grant us his grace to lead a renewed life in the light of Easter Glory.

***My dear Sisters I sincerely wish each one of you
abundant Joy this Easter!***

Yours affectionately in the Risen Lord,

Sr. Selin Karikkattil
Superior General