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April 2021
Easter Season
University of Portland // Campus Ministry
One Body Initiative: Resurrection
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SCRIPTURE

“We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.”

- *Romans 6: 4*

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.”

- *John 3: 16*

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us... God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.”

- *1 John 4: 12, 16b*

RESOURCES FOR PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION

- Bishop Robert Barron’s homily for Easter Sunday:
 - o <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oU44CfXulNI>
- More Bishop Barron:
 - o <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UlbmCOM8jFs>
- Even more Bishop (then Father) Barron:
 - o <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEp8IPJ-YZE>
- Notre Dame Folk Choir – ‘Out of Darkness’
 - o <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7uuUkL6SNg>
- Notre Dame Folk Choir – ‘Hallelujah, My Father’
 - o <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKhWhBash9o&list=RDx7uuUkL6SNg&index=28>
- ‘One Word’: A Poem about Hope (Grotto Network):
 - o <https://grottonetwork.com/navigate-life/relationships/poem-about-hope/>
- 28 [Easter Prayers](#) to Celebrate the Lord’s Resurrection
- NT Wright: *The Resurrection of the Son of God* (NT Wright is a noted New Testament scholar and former Bishop of Durham in the Anglican Church.)
- Esau McCauley: *Reading While Black: African American Biblical Interpretation as an Exercise in Hope* (Esau McCauley is a priest in the Anglican Church and assistant professor of the New Testament at Wheaton College.)
- John 18 – 21
 - o (Passion Narrative of the Gospel of John)
- Mark 14 – 16

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- (Passion Narrative of the Gospel of Mark)
- Matthew 26 – 28
 - (Passion Narrative of the Gospel of Matthew)
- Luke 22 – 24
 - (Passion Narrative of the Gospel of Luke)

COMMENTARY ON THE RESURRECTION

“But of the Resurrection of the body to immortality thereupon accomplished by Christ, the common Savior and true Life of all, the demonstration by facts is clearer than arguments to those whose mental vision is sound. For if, as our argument showed, death has been brought to naught, and because of Christ all tread him under foot, much more did He Himself first tread him down with His own body and bring him to naught. But supposing death slain by Him, what could have happened save the rising again of His body, and its being displayed as a monument of victory against death? Or how could death have been shown to be brought to naught unless the Lord's body had risen? But if this demonstration of the Resurrection seems to any one insufficient, let him be assured of what is said even from what takes place before his eyes.

For whereas on a man's decease he can put forth no power, but his influence lasts to the grave and thenceforth ceases; and actions, and power over men, belong to the living only; let him who will, see and be judge, confessing the truth from what appears to sight. For now that the Savior works so great things among men, and day by day is invisibly persuading so great a multitude from every side, both from them that dwell in Greece and in foreign lands, to come over to His faith, and all to obey His teaching, will anyone still hold his mind in doubt whether a Resurrection has been accomplished by the Savior, and whether Christ is alive, or rather is Himself the Life? Or is it like a dead man to be pricking the consciences of men, so that they deny their hereditary laws and bow before the teaching of Christ? Or how, if he is no longer active (for this is proper to one dead), does he stay from their activity those who are active and alive, so that the adulterer no longer commits adultery, and the murderer murders no more, nor is the inflictor of wrong any longer grasping, and the profane is henceforth religious? Or how, if He be not risen but is dead, does He drive away, and pursue, and cast down those false gods said by the unbelievers to be alive, and the demons they worship?

For where Christ is named, and His faith, there all idolatry is deposed and all imposture of evil spirits is exposed, and any spirit is unable to endure even the name, nay even on barely hearing it flies and disappears. But this work is not that of one dead, but of one that lives — and especially of God. In particular, it would be ridiculous to say that while the spirits cast out by Him and the idols brought to naught are alive, He who chases them away, and by His power prevents their even appearing, yea, and is being confessed by them all to be Son of God, is dead.”

- *St. Athanasius – On the Incarnation of the Word*

“Resurrection for us is a daily event. We have stood watch with persons dying in peace; we have witnessed wonderful reconciliations; we have known the forgiveness of those who misuse their neighbor; we have seen heartbreak and defeat lead to a transformed life; we have heard the conscience of an entire church stir; we have marveled at the insurrection of justice. We know that we walk by Easter's first light, and it makes us long for its fullness.”

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- *Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross: Constitution 8 – The Cross Our Hope*

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- How would you describe the Resurrection and its impact on the world?
- How do you perceive your own participation in the eternal life that Christ has promised and offers through life in the Body of Christ?
- How is Resurrection a daily event for you?
- What sort of transformation does the Resurrection offer to you and to the world?
- How are you challenged to bear witness to the power of Christ's Resurrection as the saving grace for all in our world?