

DIOCESE OF OSSORY

LENT RESOURCES

The Meaning of Easter



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THE MEANING OF EASTER

Based on a Reflection by Ronald Rolheiser

What the Resurrection of Jesus promises is that things can always be new again. It is never too late to start again. No betrayal is final. No sin is unforgiven. Every form of death can be overcome. Grief, anger and bitterness can give way to surprise, newness and freshness.

In the resurrection there are no doors that are eternally closed to us. God always opens another for us. The Resurrection assures us that God never gives up on us even if we give up on ourselves. God writes straight with the crooked lines of our lives. God promises new life to all and we can begin to believe that all will be well in the end including our own lives.

The challenge to believe in the Resurrection is not just to believe that Jesus rose from the dead. It is also to know that no matter what our mistakes are, we can begin each day afresh, allowing ourselves to be stunned by the newness of it all. No matter what we've done, our future is full of wonderful new possibility.

Belief in the Resurrection helps us to see the newness in the very ordinary routine of daily life. We are alerted to the inner beauty of family, friends and the familiar world around us. Resurrection opens our eyes to what is permanently good and beautiful and to the uniqueness of each event in our lives.

The Resurrection proclaims that goodness and truth will always triumph. But this triumph must be waited for patiently, because God only uses love to achieve his aims and the process of love moves slowly. But God's goodness will always triumph. And God continues to lead his people to Resurrection and New Life in the Spirit of Jesus.

(Reflection may be used as a single unit or in parts)

