

## **Easter Sunday A**

### **This is the Day the Lord has Made!**

Acts 10:34a,37-43; Ps. 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col. 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad."

The day Jesus rose—the Resurrection—is the day of victory over death. God made us for this victory!

Scripture says this happened on the first day of the week—Sunday. Sunday is the day of Resurrection, the Lord's day.

Mary of Magdala discovered the stone rolled away (cf. Jn 20:1). She hurried to tell Peter and the others. Everyone was surprised, but John saw the empty tomb and believed the scriptures.

Who removed the stone from the tomb?

God did!

Suddenly, without warning, God removed the stone by His command, not because it was easy, but because He willed it. Jesus was freed from death because God chose to undo what death had destroyed. We rejoice in faith: Jesus, who died, is no longer in the tomb. The tomb is empty! This is a wonderful act of God.

The Resurrection reminds us that no obstacle is too big for God to overcome. God moved the stone because we can't save ourselves. He did it so we could be set free, see his light, come back to him, and receive his mercy and grace.

This profoundly transformed the lives of Jesus's followers, including Mary Magdalene, Peter, John, and the other disciples. They emerged from hiding and testified that Jesus Christ has risen.

However, many wonder if the big stones in their lives, such as addiction, family issues, or illness, are too large to be removed. Can the God of Genesis, who created light and the world, still restore broken lives today? Will the God of Exodus, who freed the Hebrews, continue to save those trapped in sin and despair?

We understand the helplessness of those battered by life—addiction, pornography, family struggles, financial hardship, physical or mental illness, or deep pressure. Sometimes, life feels like Good Friday—heavy, painful, uncertain.

But the answer remains: Yes, God works today. The Resurrection assures us that no darkness is final, no sin can't be forgiven, no suffering lacks meaning, and no death has the last word.

Easter teaches us: Good Friday isn't the end; God has the final say. Through Jesus, God invites us to celebrate the Resurrection every Sunday. Keep coming back; keep celebrating. Jesus never runs out of blessings. He gives us Himself—His Body and Blood in the Eucharist—to strengthen us in dark times.

With God's gift in Jesus, we are called to action: If Christ has risen, live as people of the Resurrection. Don't give up. Forgive even when it's hard. Love even when wounded. Bring light to darkness.

In a world where many lose hope, we are called to be living beacons of hope. Let us proclaim, "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad." With renewed hearts, let us dedicate the first day of each week to the Lord and begin it with the Holy Eucharist, trusting that with God, every day can be a day of resurrection and new beginnings.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Manny Hewe  
Pastor