

EASTER SUNDAY

"The Resurrection Sprint!"

"Setting off in love's footsteps..."

On the first day of the week, at the break of dawn, the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. Love is what drives them. Let us go with the flow!

The light of the Resurrection has already pierced the night around them:

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it..."



Towards which people "considered as dead", am I being sent on the morning of this first day when all things new are possible?

With the spices of friendship and of faith, we can bring them to this moment of prayer and name them...

Proclaiming light in darkness

A priest on a mission at a Ukrainian refugee centre admits that celebrating Easter in a war context is a "great challenge". "But it gives the feast its full meaning: we proclaim light in the midst of darkness," he says. "The people we welcome have many reasons to remain in tears. We must support them and share their distress, while at the same time having a heart that shines with hope."

Song: ["Surrexit Christus" \(Taizé\)](#)

He saw, he believed. (John 20:8)

It is because John believed that Scripture became clear for him: until then, many things in Scripture had remained obscure to him; but because, all of a sudden, he believes, without hesitation: "Jesus had to rise again" (John 20:9)

"You don't have to understand in order to believe, but you have to believe in order to understand." (Saint Anselm)

To go to the tomb running, to leave with a renewed momentum... The disciples do not retrace their steps, but rather there is a real "reversal". The path to death was transformed on the way back into a race towards His presence.



Photo : Rachel Guillien – Arcabas – Open tomb

A symbolic gesture in communion with Ukraine and through the Ukrainian people, with all those who are longing for Peace.

Nadia, a 65-year-old Ukrainian refugee, recalls that as a Greek Catholic, what matters most is to "blessing the basket". The basket is that little wicker basket that the faithful fill with food to have it blessed on Easter Saturday and then eat its contents the next morning.

Maybe we can make our own basket... decorate it with words, meetings, events that have been "food" during our time of Lent and that we wish to offer to share. It can be used to adorn our oratory.



How do I hold on to this radical promise in all the circumstances of my life?

Let us be silent to let the Resurrection shine forth in our "Blessed and Broken" world.

*"Killed by the betrayal of those he loved.
Can a resurrection be born of this silence?
A new future?"*

This is the question facing humanity today. What is dying is the world as we have shaped it, and then damaged it since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. A hell where the sixth mass extinction of life is taking place. To liberate ourselves and invent a new world in a single generation, we must remain silent. We must consent to this simple truth: we have no other future than that shared with all humans and living things. Resurrection has a name: to create a world in common with the whole of life."

Time of silence: *Listen how the Lord calls us to bring this Resurrection?*

*-Gael Giraud SJ
(Director of the Environmental Justice Program at Georgetown University)*

Video: [Artisans of Hope](#)

The Resurrection Sprint!

The name and motto of the last probation can be a source of great inspiration: "God's love sets us free" and therefore, "Go forth and live the word of God".

This word is unmistakable on this day:



"Then, quickly, go and say to his disciples, 'He is risen from the dead, and behold, he precedes you in Galilee; There, you'll see him.' That is what I had to say. 'Soon they left the tomb, filled with both fear and great joy, and they ran to bring the news to his disciples.'" (Matthew 28:7-8)

The Lord is calling us urgently. Over and above our fears, there is the joy of His living, the active presence to be shared.

*"Let us sing as we go!
May our struggles and our
concern for this planet never take
away the joy of our hope."
Laudato Si n° 244*

It is now up to us to find the strength to see all the signs of the Resurrection in our lives and in the life of the world. The Spirit has been given to us for this. From now on, every "first day of the week", we run, with our sisters and brothers, to the mysterious encounter with the Risen One.

**"Let us live more than ever for Him who is our very life-
He will be our Resurrection!"**

Sophie Barat (Letter of 26.03.1853)

Rachel Guillien rscj
Coordinator, JPIC Learning Hub
France

