

*Our Lady of Lourdes*

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2010

Readings:

Acts 10:34, 27-43

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-9

Fr. Bob

Today, we celebrate Easter and what it means to us. We've listened this week, to the Hebrew Scriptures, about our ancestors in faith. They told us about God as creator, God as deliverer, God as redeemer and always faithful to his people. And the God who looked at his creation, and declared it to be good.

We've listened this week to the account of Jesus with his disciples at the Last Supper. With a sense of urgency, he left them with two last things that would change their lives forever. He left them the meal that has come to sustain and nourish believers throughout the centuries. And in a humble act of washing the feet of his disciples, He gave an example of service that is still one of the hallmarks of our religious tradition.

We listened to his passion and the events that led up to his suffering and death. Another example of the great love that God has for his people. And in the end, an example for us that has also lasted for centuries.

And that was the model for us of what it means to be faithful to God, faithful to our callings, faithful to the things that we hold dear. And in today's gospel, another example that has lasted and endured for centuries. The crowds of Palm Sunday were gone.

They had dispersed for the most part and gone back to their homes and returned to their lives. For the most part, nothing had changed for them. But for the women who went to the tomb to anoint his body, the first glimmer of hope occurred. The tomb was empty and once again God had performed a sign of his love and his power. They returned and told the disciples what they had seen. And one by one, the disciples began to have their hope restored. And everything that Jesus had done began to make sense as they would slowly come out of hiding, and begin to tell others.

And that, for centuries, is how the Christian message has been spread by the faithful.

The belief, the example, the very lives of Christians would be the way that the Word was spread to a world that was filled with darkness and a world that was looking for hope, something to believe in. And that is the world we live in today. With the help of the spirit, we are the current generation that has been handed the tradition of the sign of the empty tomb. The sign of a God who lives. The sign of resurrection and new hope.

May our lives be the best of examples to the world we touch. May our belief be shown, by the hope that we hold and show. May our very lives, be like those first messengers on that first Easter morning.