

CLOSING PRAYER:

Invite another BEC member to say the concluding the prayer.

Lord Jesus, you have given us a new life, a new opportunity through your resurrection. We thank you for changing our lives and ask you to touch us continuously to refresh and revitalize our lives in you. Shower us with your mercy and bring to us the hope of resurrection. We love you and thank you for your forgiveness and your unbelievable mercy. Amen.



CLOSING HYMN:

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Be still and know
That I am God.
Be still and know
That I am God.
Be still and know
That I am God.

I am the Lord
That healeth thee.
I am the Lord
That healeth thee.
I am the Lord
That healeth thee.

In thee Oh Lord
I put my trust.
In thee Oh Lord
I put my trust.
In thee Oh Lord
I put my trust.

Be still and know
That I am God.
Be still and know
That I am God.
Be still and know
That I am God.

BEC Reflection

HOPE BELIEVE, LIVE and GIVE

Rise in Hope

EVENT: **Easter Season**

SOCIAL MEDIA TREND: **#resurrectionpeople**

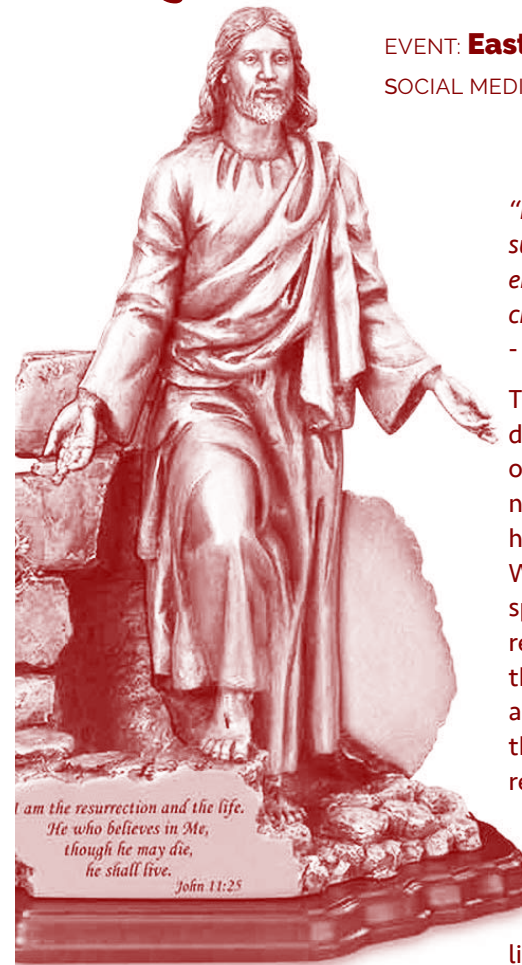
INTRODUCTION:

"Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope."

- Romans 5:3-4

The restrictions imposed under Covid-19 does not stop us from experiencing the joy of Easter. Easter presents us with the good news that Jesus is alive, and we know that his living spirit is with us, giving us hope. We know that the Lord has allowed a spiritual recovery for us through his resurrection. We are made to recognize the need for our own conversion to appreciate his resurrection. We know that this same Jesus will heal our brokenness, replacing our hopelessness with hope.

There is a need for repentance, an emotional repentance which is the ultimate surrender of the self and remember to be thankful for the new life he has offered us.



OPENING PRAYER

Invite a BEC member to lead in prayer.

O Lord, Risen, alive and full of grace. You paid such a price that we may live in freedom today. We worship your holy name and give thanks for your redeeming grace. Heavenly Father, may we drink in your tender love so that we can pour this love out to others. Come reign in our hearts, minds and spirits. Holy Spirit, we welcome you to blow through our every word, action and thought. Come transform us on the inside so that each day we become more like our risen Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN:

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pain he endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

DIALOGUE

We hear of the Lord's temptation in the wilderness every year during Lent. This encounter of Jesus with the wild beasts in the wilderness was driven by the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever realized that each one of us own the wilderness in our lives? We hold on to the "cobra" within us, not realizing that we have begun to display arrogance and pride, depriving ourselves of humility. We jump around like the "wild monkeys", swinging from one tree to another, simply gossiping about our friends, parishioners and colleagues robbing us of our inner silence. The "python" within us continuously tempts us to fall into the trap of gluttony, resulting in overeating and not thinking of the needy. Do we recognize the "peacock" that we carry within us, parading and showing off our talents and wealth?

This Easter, let us look into the wilderness that is within us, the one filled with "wild beasts", "reptiles" and other dangerous "animals". The wilderness represents the sinful habits and wrongdoings that we allow in our life's daily. When God created the world, he made man last so that he will be able to take charge of his creation. Today, you are to take charge of all the "animals" within that makes you fall into sin, and become the person God desires you to be.

It has been said that the great power of sin blinds men from recognizing its true character. So, it is time for you to crucify your old self with Christ and resurrect with him this Easter.

Source: Words of Monsignor Mitchel Anthony during his sermon for Mass on 1st Sunday of Lent on Feb. 21, 2021).

Share your thoughts with your BEC members.

- Can you identify the "animals" that control your lives?
- What are your plans to ensure that these "animals" leave your life so that you can get closer to God?
- How can you crucify the old self and resurrect with Christ?



DISCERNMENT

2 Cor 4:13 -15

Source: Jerusalem Bible

But as we have the same spirit of faith that is mentioned in scripture – I believed, and therefore I spoke – we too believe and therefore we too speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God.

REFLECTION:

- READ the text aloud and LISTEN with openness.
- READ it silently by yourself until a word or phrase touches or strikes you.
- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through the word or phrase?
- What do you say to the Lord in response to his Word?
- Share in small groups (3-4 persons) the verse that has touched you.

DEEDS:

Our task for this month will be to:

- Attend Mass online as a BEC and organise an Easter gathering (virtual) to wish and connect with one another.
- Reach out to the ones in the community who are without family or living all by themselves. Send a basket of goodies with a love note that says your BEC cares.
- At home, children can take the lead in organising the Easter meal for the family. Let them be in the lead for prayer before meals and you can all sing together rejoicing the Risen Christ.