

Homily: Easter 2022

“What do you want?”

1. That’s an excellent question a good priest asked me once when I was going to Confession; and it always stuck with me as coming from the Holy Spirit. **What do we want?** We are celebrating today the fact that Jesus Christ the 2nd Person of the Trinity made man suffered and died the most horrible death imaginable in order to give each of us the chance to be free from our sins – if we want that. **Do we?** *Do we love Jesus; do we love our Catholic faith or do we sometimes or often times see it as a “burden” preventing us from living a fully happy worldly life? Or as something not essential to our daily life?*
2. As I spoke about on Good Friday, **being baptized a Catholic Christian is only the start;** we must desire to have a 2nd conversion in which we take the Faith to heart and try to incorporate it over time into every aspect of our life. **The Lord wants this for us more than we want it ourselves!** He is never outdone in generosity in providing the graces needed to help each one of us grow in holiness with our own unique vocation, family background and circumstances as well as our individual temperament and own strengths and weaknesses. Trust Him with your life! Let’s also ask the help of our Lady and St. Joseph - of which we have the beautiful icon picture to venerate this weekend.
3. **Faith is a very mysterious gift.** Where ever we are in our heart, mind, and will right now in regard to belief in Jesus and the Catholic faith, the Lord wants to help us grow. Not everyone believes, we don’t know why that includes people who received a Catholic education from K thru graduate school – but if we are willing, the Lord will help us grow in Faith or revitalize the Faith we have allowed to grow stale or taken for granted. And I will help you too as your Pastor – get in touch after Easter, and we can have a nice talk as I had with quite a few people this Lent who had been away from the Faith on some level and wanted to get back on track. Are we all willing to grow with the Lord, so we can help Him in the process of saving souls, esp. hardened sinners as Our Lady reminds us at Lourdes and Fatima, and which St. Bernadette (P,P,P > *penance*) and St. Jacinta (*daily Mass & other sacrifices*) and St. Francisco (*many prayed Rosaries*) took to heart. **What do we want?** Hopefully to become a saint & lead as many other souls to God as possible.