The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ, May 1, 2022

MOVING BEYOND DOUBT



Those first disciples came to believe and understand the resurrection when they saw the Risen Lord. When they spoke with him, ate with him, interacted with him, they had proof of the resurrection.

So then, why do we believe in the resurrection? Why aren't we doubters like so many people in our world?

We might answer that we believe because we too have been given proof. Not the kind of proof given the first disciples who came to believe when they saw the Risen Lord, but the kind of proof that was given Saint Paul. It was his encounter with the Risen Lord on the road to Damascus that brought him to faith. We too have such encounters with the Risen Lord. We hear his voice as we read his word in the scriptures and hear it proclaimed by the Church. We touch the Risen Lord in our brothers and sisters who make up the Church, the living Body of Christ. We experience the presence of the Lord in the sacraments as we journey through life. The Risen Lord is with us, he is not bound to any time or place.

We believe not just because we are people of faith, we believe because the Lord gives us proof of his resurrection.

It is that proof that moves us from being a Doubting Thomas to a Believing Disciple!

May the Risen Lord bless us with his presence and peace during this Easter Season,

Father John Carlos

复活期第三主日 (5/1/2022)

在今天的主日福音中(若 21: 1-19),复活的耶稣在海边 第三次显现给他所挚爱的门徒伯多禄和其他门徒们。门徒 们辛劳一夜,一无所获。疲惫的门徒们起初并未认出站在 岸边的主基督,只有他们按照耶稣的指示,捕到一百五十 三条大鱼时,才猛然醒悟到站在他们面前的是主耶稣 -多么让人激动。我们很多时候也非常忙碌,忙工作,忙学 习,忙赚钱,忙得不亦乐乎,按世俗世界里的标准,也许 我们会收获不薄。可是如果缺乏耶稣在我们的生活里,我 们会活得干枯,忙半天也获得不了新生命和救灵。所以, 我们要时时警醒,注意和意识到"站在岸边的耶稣",邀 请他和我们住在一起。这样,我们的生命会变得非常丰富, 充满恩宠。

基督的复活是我们信仰的核心。这断生动的圣经描述,驳 斥了某假设"耶稣复活是由于宗徒们的信仰而产生"。事 实上正相反,门徒们和我们基督徒的信仰是源于基督的复 活。耶稣复活后的身体仍然是他受难及被钉十字架的躯体, 带着伤痕。但是复活后的耶稣满载天主的荣光,不再受限 与时间和空间,他可以在他想要的时间里以不同的方式和 面貌出现在任何地方,以致于与他朝夕相处的门徒们不能 马上认出他来。这些耶稣复活后的特点再次向我们证明耶 稣是真人亦真天主。