

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

Easter Sunday



SENT WITH JOY TO HEAL

Everything that exists and moves in the Church ... draws its strength from Christ's Resurrection.

- Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa



Scripture of the Day:

Acts. 10: 34, 37-43

Ps. 117: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Col. 3: 1-4

Jn. 20: 1-9

Recently at a reunion of some former students of St. Elizabeth, fond memories were recounted. One lady shared about her involvement in the play, and how it impacted her life. She described her experience in these words: *'The empty tomb gives me space to grow.'* Easter has taken root deep enough to create this imprint, one that is evergreen because the empty tomb carries messages of power, hope, and freedom.

The lady went on to share, *'An empty classroom means all of us have moved on after our nurturing years. An empty nest in our family means our parents have given room for us to grow up confidently to venture out and face our future...and the list goes on.'* That is an attitude to adopt because for so many of us, there remains a deep void that screams out to be filled. We try to fill that emptiness with something, but in the end, do we not find that it leaves us longing for more? Only God, through our Risen Lord can fill the God-shaped vacuum in our hearts, as He gives us opportunities after opportunities to grow in Him, and to be like Him. **The empty space provides for the infilling of the Holy Spirit.**

As the Alleluia rings out, let us remember *'Every act of love, every deed done in Christ and by the Spirit, every work of true creativity - doing justice, making peace, healing families, resisting temptations, seeking and winning true friendship, we join a long history of things that implement Jesus' own resurrection and anticipate the final new creation, and act as signposts of hope, pointing back to the first resurrection and ahead to the second.'* (NT Wright)

We pray especially for those who are baptized this Easter Vigil. Their baptism parallels Christ's death and resurrection, as they die to sin and rise to new life in Him.

Blessed Easter, everyone. †

The Empty Tomb Gives Me Space to Grow

Decades ago in Sacred Heart Church, Sibul, a Mill Hill priest by the name of Father Marcus led a choir and conducted an Easter musical play entitled, 'He's Alive.' Many who took part were students of St Elizabeth and Sacred Heart schools. The play was a huge success. The elated priest, together with his charge went on to perform in Kuching too.

Weekly
WORD

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