

Easter: Love saves!

In few days, in the Eastern Europe it will be heard echoing a special greeting repeated often meeting one another: "*Christ is risen*".

In the Western Europe we'll greeting with a "*Happy Easter*" but, perhaps, not all of us are completely conscious of the true meaning of that greeting.

As there cannot be a greeting "*Merry Christmas*" without Jesus Christ, so there can't be a "*Happy Easter*" without Him!

Easter is the most important liturgical feast for Christianity. Emotionally, and unfortunately economically supplanted by Christmas and some pagan tradition more attractive to modern society. Easter represents and celebrates three fundamental moments in Christianity: the Passion, the Death and the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It represents the center of liturgical and theological heritage of Christianity.

Easter is the central point of our faith and St. Paul states categorically:

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain" (1 Cor. 15,17)

Easter reveals to us the love of God that is integrated into man's life and through the "easter" of His Son has given mankind the trust, hope, awareness of His own sonship and dignity.

He has liberated us from sin, has pierced the dark veil of history and led it to "*a future of hope*" (Ger. 29,11)

Easter is the feast of life!

The humanity is not victim of the case, of the doubt, of the dark, of the suffering, of the death but it is driven by a project of love, sometimes mysterious that goes on also through the difficulties and the pain but that, nevertheless, arrives to the light of Jesus's Resurrection. It opens wide the doors to the life, to the true joy, to the full and lasting happiness.

We're not alone, we're not abandoned and still St. Paul reminds us:

"What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn? It is Christ (Jesus) who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

As it is written: "For your sake we are being slain all the day; we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things,⁹ nor future things, nor powers,

nor height, nor depth, ¹⁰ nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. “

Easter is the climax of that love.

(from Fr. F. Lotto)



Here the Pinardi Chapel in Valdocco: it is the heart of the Main House of the Salesian Family. Entering this place so dear to our history, everything deals with Easter. It's clear: we are in young people's home.

Don Bosco, after a long and disappointing pilgrimage in Turin looking for a place for his boys, arrived at Valdocco exactly for Easter Day 1846 and here, for the first time, celebrated the Resurrection of Christ with his children in the "shed" which would match the entire realization of the dream of nine years.

In a glorious Easter Day our Founder was canonized and to us, who look at him as a Father, he remembers that young people must be announced hope, life, love. That Love who gave Himself for us and who won death through His Resurrection.

Young people we must proclaim Jesus!

To each and all the heartfelt wish of a true "Happy Easter" lived with the certainty that Christ is truly risen to be open heavens and new earth.

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