



ST. GABRIEL'S NOTES

31st March 2024



Has Easter Lost its Importance?

A question to be discussed on a radio programme. Unfortunately I was not able to listen to the contributions; But it made me think!

For many today the answer is Yes! Even for some Christians, they stop at Good Friday and Jesus dying on the cross. But the story does not finish there. The tomb of death on Calvary is transformed into the womb of life. Our Easter Vigil begins in darkness but is quickly changed by the **Light of Christ**. Our God is a God of the living, not of the dead. We believe that Jesus rose from the dead and is our hope for Eternal life.

St. Paul writing to the Corinthians says:

"When the perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of Scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death where is your victory? Death where is your sting? So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:54-57)

I love the story of the mother who was telling her young son the story of Holy Week - the Last Supper, the betrayal of Jesus, His capture and crucifixion, and Christ's death.

As she told the story she became upset. The little boy put his arm around her and said, "Don't forget Mam, Jesus rose on Easter Sunday!"

Yes! Jesus suffered and died but He rose on Ester Sunday with the promise of Eternal life for us. So let us proclaim: **"Jesus Christ is risen. Alleluia!"** *Fr. Pat*

Wishing Everybody a very Happy Easter & Thanks for all the Help!

We had a wonderful week of special ceremonies for Holy week and are very grateful to everyone who had a part in the preparation and the celebrations.

The quiet oasis of the **Garden of Gethsemane** for Holy week has now been transformed into our glorious **Easter Garden**. Come and see before you leave. With grateful thanks to our Monday Maintenance Men for all their dedicated and inspired work on these beautiful projects.

The **Transition Year Students from St. Paul's college** packed over 2,000 cards and the **St. John's 66th Clontarf Scouts** took them away and delivered them all around the Parish. If you are from outside our parish area or have a postbox that for postmen only, there are still plenty in the Gathering Area.

