

*Fr. Tony's communication via email for Easter Weekend – April 16 – 17, 2022*

**GOOD NEWS! THE TOMB IS EMPTY, THE LORD IS INDEED RISEN  
ALLELUIA! THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE,  
LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD.**

*Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas More and St. Bernadette,*

*First, I would like to share the Easter message from our beloved bishop, Daniel Miehm.*

*Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Diocese of Peterborough,*

*One of the most common refrains in Lent is, "We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you; for by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world."*

*This Lenten theme culminates in Holy Week, where the cross of the Lord is so pivotal. It is prominent in the Passion readings of Palm Sunday and Good Friday. At the mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the shadow of the cross looms, even as Jesus gathers at table with his apostles. And the solemn act of the veneration of the cross on Good Friday is always one of the most moving gestures of Holy Week – indeed, of the entire Church year.*

*Then on Easter Sunday, we rejoice that through his cross and resurrection, Jesus has brought about the salvation of the world. By conquering death, he has bestowed the fullness of life. An instrument of torture and death is transformed into a means of grace, pardon, peace and reconciliation. And in giving his life for us, Jesus asks us to live our lives for others. He invites us to take up our cross and imitate him in his self-sacrificing love. We rejoice to share his resurrection, knowing that he calls us to share in his work of salvation on Good Friday.*

*May the Paschal mystery that we celebrate fill our hearts with joy, strengthen our faith, and renew our commitment to sacrificial love. And may God bless you and yours abundantly in this holiest season of the Church's year.*

*Yours in Christ,  
+Most Rev. Daniel Miehm  
Bishop of Peterborough.*

On my part, I too would wish you a blessed and a glorious Easter Sunday. We all know that we can only experience the glory of Easter with the Risen Lord, after we journeyed with Jesus in his Passion of suffering and dying for us. Good Friday happens first before Easter Sunday. We have to experience suffering and dying before we can experience the glory of the resurrection.

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Let us therefore be aware that this is also the journey of life here in this valley of tears. Suffering is part of living and our suffering here on earth has a purifying purpose, like the pureness of gold is being tested with fire. It is also said that the Lord Jesus shares his suffering to those who are close to him and the saints can testify to this. We have to undergo carrying the cross of suffering knowing that it is a participation of the suffering of the Lord. This is Jesus' invitation to all his followers, those who wish to come after me, must deny themselves and carry their cross daily, because without the cross and death there is no glory of resurrection. No pain, no gain. No cross, no throne of glory.

Resurrection is giving us hope that the suffering we experience here on earth is nothing compared to the glory of heaven, where peace and eternal happiness is found.

After two years of being unable to fly back to the Philippines, at least this year the travel restrictions are being lifted and travels are resuming a little bit. So I will be away for six weekends but other priests will come to cover my weekend masses. For those who are hosting the visiting priests for dinner, I thank you and please, attend the Saturday 4:00 PM mass so that they will know where they are going.

I also thank your generosity for my trip to the Philippines and rest assured that everything will be put to good use.

Please, include me in your prayers as I will always do to all of you, because we are a parish family.

For any emergencies please call the Diocesan Pastoral Office, Tel: 705-745-5123.

Please, stay safe and healthy. God bless.....Fr. Tony

Quote of the week: "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." (St. John Paul II)

#### Mass Intentions:

Saturday April 16 @ 8:PM: For the people of the Parish; Sunday @ 9:00 AM, for the children who received First Reconciliation and preparing for First Communion, and 11:00 AM at St. Bernadette, for Peace in the World and the journey of Truth and reconciliation between the indigenous people and the Church of Canada.

Sunday, May 8th @ 9:00AM: For the intentions of Elaine Dadswell and 11:00AM for the eternal rest of Frank Jetten.

Sunday, May 15th @ 9:00AM: For the intentions of Christopher and Elaine Dadswell.

Please pray for the sick, especially: Erica Perk, Vernard Menzie, Fr. Peter Conlin, Fr. Bill Moloney, Rita Lockhart, Augustine Sheppard, John Miron, Cory Wanjon, Maureen O'Grady, Mary Leezard.

Camp Northern Lights will resume this summer for children ages 9 to 13. Website: [campnorthernlights.com](http://campnorthernlights.com)