

Weekly Word, March 31, 2024

Rev. Deacon Bruce Noseworthy

The readings for this Easter week are: Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, and John 20:1-18

In society when we think of Easter, we think of chocolate, bunnies, and family get together with turkey dinners. Yet, in the Church, it is THE most Holy time in the Church calendar. It is in Jesus' Death and Resurrection that we have the hope of eternal life, an eternity spent in the presence of God Almighty. An eternity of no pain, suffering, or worry. An eternity of joy and peace free of loneliness, or any other issues of this world. Easter, Resurrection Day, is the day Jesus rose from the dead, He exited the tomb and promised that ALL who believe in Him WILL share in His Resurrection. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, the whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." This is a promise for everyone who believes, everyone who has called on the Name of the Lord. Roman 10:13 tells us, "Everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved." Notice it says, "WILL be saved", not "maybe", or "might be". It says, "will". We are called to recognise who Jesus is, what He has done, and accept Him as the Resurrected Son of God, Lord and Saviour of our lives. Yet, as we see in the Gospel reading for today, John 20:16, "Jesus said to her, 'Mary'. She turned and said to him in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (which means teacher)." Mary did not recognise Jesus until He said her name. He knows each one of us by NAME. He sees each one of us and longs for us to call on Him, so He can save us. His great love for each one of us lead Him to sacrifice Himself on the Cross for us. When He was on the Cross, you were on His mind, that is the complete expression of God's love for you and me. I invite you to accept the Gift God is offering you today.