

## Christ is Risen

Yesterday a man mockingly said to me "Christ is Risen" and held up his hands. I asked him if he believed that, and he said "No!" I asked him why, and he said that as a boy he was taught not to eat meat on Friday, and that changed. Nuns looked like nuns and that changed. Priests could be trusted and that changed. He then said, "I grew up and I saw the hypocrisy." What a tragedy it is that Jesus was never mentioned. The meat did not rise from the dead. Habits for Religious do not wash away our sins. Priests represent Jesus - so did the Apostles - and they weren't perfect. I am more and more convinced that people need to be healed by Jesus, and that they spend a great deal of their life dodging that healing which He offers freely. The Church must be engaged fully in the healing of persons: their memories, their fears, their pseudo - intellectualism, their prejudice towards other believers, and their unresolved anger towards others and also themselves. When their hearts and minds are no longer prisoners of the culture, then they can proclaim most sincerely with absolute certainty: "Christ is Risen."