

## A new baby at Easter

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Happy Easter to you, my wonderful parishioners! The Lord has done great things for us, indeed we are glad. The Lord has ushered us into a new moment by his suffering death and resurrection. Easter brings joy and victory to you and me. The angel at Jesus' tomb said 'he is not here, he is risen'. Were the disciples ready for the news of his resurrection? Were they ready to embrace the fact that he was risen?

When I was thinking through this Easter message, I received a call from home, it was the joyful news of the birth of my 10th niece. That's special, right? She gets to be called 'Adjoa', a name that means she is a girl born on Monday. The birth of a new baby is a news of great joy; it's a call to celebrate the great things the Lord has done. So is Easter; it's a moment of gladness and rejoicing. This is the kind of news we possess in this Easter season. Surely, Easter is not the birth of a baby, but rather, the resurrection of Christ from the dead. In some sense, however, we talk about Easter as a time for our rebirth. God as it were, bestows on humanity, a time for our rebirth. A time to leave the tombs of sin, pain, weakness, setbacks, betrayal and fear behind in order to put on the new man born out of the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. We have a fresh opportunity to be born again and to grow in the power of his grace.

Easter renews our covenant relationship with God. St. Augustine once said of Christians, that 'we are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song'. This means that we are a people of joy, the joy of the resurrection has filled our hearts. We are beneficiaries of the miracle of Easter which enables us to be victorious over sin and death. I invite you to a deeper life of appreciation for God's generous gift of Easter. May you find a new reason to be joyful and to bring this news to your family, friends and workplace.

Happy Easter!