Dear friends in Christ,

I have been thinking about an old adage that says, “certainty is the enemy of faith.” This is an interesting premise because most of us grew up thinking that doubt was the enemy of faith, and we have felt guilty because there are truths in the Gospel we have a hard time wrapping our minds around. One of these truths is the resurrection of the Son of God. There are some who are completely certain they know how this great miracle took place and this certainty brings them great comfort. There are others who accept the biblical narratives in faith, without the necessity of rational certainty. And there are others who dismiss the whole idea as preposterous and see the biblical narrative as poetic license and exaggeration. I stand firmly with the second group. I accept the resurrection of the Son of God in faith, not because I know with certainty how the great miracle happened, but because I believe Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah God promised to our ancestors: The God incarnate, Suffering Servant, Son of David, and Savior of the World.

I believe the world is going through a silent pandemic of loneliness. This has been widely documented by multiple research studies around the globe. The irony is that this is taking place while we are surrounded by social media outlets that offer us a ready-made diet of news, entertainment, faith, sports, relationships, and politics twenty-four hours a day. The more connected we are to social media, the more we seem to separate from each other, and the more lonely and isolated we feel. We have become consumers of content, rather than humans actively engaged in real and meaningful connections with God and others. To me a deep and abiding faith in the resurrection of Jesus, the Christ, is an antidote to a more profound loneliness many suffer.

Many don’t believe in God at all. Others believe there was a creator God who acted like a clock maker. He makes and winds up the clock and then abandons his creation and lets it fend for itself. This absentee landlord can not possibly be concerned for us. God is above and beyond all passion, more concerned with the expansion of the universe than with the particular needs and concerns of humans. This God does not enter into the narrative of our lives, does not send Himself into our human stage in the form of a child, does not die on a cross to save sinners, and does not remain present in the form of an invisible spirt. Jesus was nothing more than a moral teacher who taught us to be kind to each other. It was the Church that turned him into a God. Sadly, in this way of thinking, we are completely alone in the universe, left to fend for ourselves, condemned to survive in hostile territory, without a celestial Creator who cares for us.

The resurrection of Christ is God’s love letter to the universe. It is the most profound statement that God has always been deeply concerned about the needs of His creation. We are not alone in the universe. We have an empathic God who vindicated Jesus through resurrection and who one day will vindicate all who suffer. This is an accessible and reachable God who is never far away. Through the resurrection of the Son of God the bridge of separation between the sacred and the profane has been forever fixed, and now all who believe have eternity coursing through our spiritual veins. May you celebrate the vindication of Christ on Easter, and may you come to realize what this resurrection means for you and the Church.

May the risen Christ fill your life with hope and comfort,



Fr. Roman+