

EASTER SUNDAY 04/4/021.

*A few years back when I was in St. John Parish Rochester, a second-grade teacher, by name Mrs. Smith shared with me the story that one Monday morning one of her little second graders came to her all excited and asked her if she had watched "The life of Bees" on the Discovery Channel the night before. Mrs. Smith replied "No." The following Monday the same thing happened although this time the TV program was on "Birds of the World." Again, Mrs. Smith replied that she was too busy. When a similar thing happened on the third Monday, the little girl walked away saying quite loudly, Mrs. Smith. Get a **life!***

Easter is all about **New life**. Easter invites us to tap into the gift and power of **Resurrection life!** **The Gospels** understandably describe the disciples as **amazed** at the empty tomb, **amazed** that Jesus had Risen from the dead, **amazed** that He was **alive** and in their midst.

Our faith brings us together today because we believe in His Resurrection 2000 years ago. But our **amazement** centers much more on the fact that we can encounter the Risen Lord here and now, that is, today we can experience New Life, His life and in turn can be Resurrection Life, light and love for others.

It all begins by daily "Leaving behind a trial of empty tombs." That is:

Every time with the grace of God we die to our old ways of thinking, judging, or facing our difficulties, we rise with Christ in victory over the grave.

Every time with the grace of God we let go of fear, pride, envy, greed, anger, or unforgiveness, we rise with Christ in victory over the tomb we are in.

Every time, with the grace of God, that we overcome a sinful behavior, we rise with Christ in victory over the grave.

Jesus' purpose in coming was that you and I "Might have Life and have it more abundantly. He was talking about sharing with us God's Life, Divine Life, Resurrection Life. That Resurrection Life was first given to us at our Baptism. That is why we renew our Baptismal vows every Easter in order that we might experience God's Life in ever greater abundance. Resurrection Life is present in our world a lot like yeast in dough.