



EASTER MESSAGE 2021

“Christ is Risen, alleluia!

Recently I was privileged to be with one of our beloved priests of Sale on the day of his dying.

I was with his closest friends as we sat around his bed as we prayed for him

and his friends told beautiful stories of their relationship over so many years.

It was evident how much they loved and honoured him, and it was clear to me how much he loved them, and was reassured by their presence at the moment of his dying.

The paschal mystery surrounds us, dying and rising, and I've thought about that day ever since

as sad and as beautiful as it was, and I wondered of all the Holy Thursdays,

Good Fridays and Easter days he'd celebrated, and he'd lived.

It's no mistake that the paschal mystery picks up the themes that we live with, dying and rising, and we think of the beautiful autumn that we see around us at this time, we are mindful of the seasons of life, autumn and death.

We await the cold of winter. But we do so with the hope and acknowledgement of spring and the summer harvest.

We've journeyed through these days of Easter, three holy days in 2021

Holy Thursday remembering the washing of the feet and the call to service and Eucharist Good Friday, we have come to the foot of the cross to bring our suffering with Jesus and Easter Night we've gathered around the fire to remember that Christ has conquered sin and death. He is our light and our life. It's no mistake that we experience this reality in our lives, in our necessary letting goes and our losses, but we do so with the lens and hope of faith.

As we gather to celebrate Easter this year, may this gift and promise be ours... that Christ has conquered the darkness with his light, our suffering is redeemed through his love and we await with joyful hope, the resurrection.

May we live this Easter joy to all that we love and beyond.

May they see in us, the living of this Easter story, for Christ is Risen.

Alleluia, alleluia!”

+Greg Bennet

This was recorded as a video.

View at: <https://youtu.be/2Gz-klz7DXI>