

# Justice Corner

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**April 5, 2015**

## **Resurrection!**

Jesus' death is not the end of the story. Resurrection is the ultimate word of God about life and death. In a world with lots of death, we are called to share the joy of the Resurrection today.

The letter to the Corinthians reminds us: "...celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." In the midst of awesome human problems and serious injustices, we believe that resurrection is possible.

Our world knows the tragedy of divisions and hatreds between peoples and nations, the scandal of poverty, and scourge of economic injustice. More than ever we need a spirit that will help and heal the death, violence, and injustice of the world. We need to create a world where people are not oppressed by sinful structures.

St. Peter in Acts reminds us that Jesus "... went about doing good and healing all those oppressed . . ." We are called to do the same.

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**April 12, 2015**

## **One Heart & Mind**

In the second reading, "The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common..." What happened? Don't you wish you could live in a world like this? You can! Jesus gave us the gift of peace and a roadmap for peace-building – the Ten Commandments.

When you feel overwhelmed by the complexity and magnitude of the injustices in our world, take comfort. No single person is called to solve all the problems.

"God makes three requests of his children:

Do the best you can, where you are, with what you have, now."

~ African American Proverb

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one." ~ Mother Teresa

You can do the best you can, where you are, with what you have, by supporting Catholic Charities. Visit [www.ccadm.org](http://www.ccadm.org) and learn more about Our Ministries.

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**April 19, 2015**

Repentance & Forgiveness

Today's readings all speak about "repentance and the forgiveness of sins." We bask in the joy of Easter knowing that we have been forgiven. It is good to remember that God's gift of forgiveness requires us to be merciful and forgiving towards others.

Jesus taught us to pray,  
"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

This week, think about people who have offended you and choose to forgive them. If the pain of their offense is too great, pray for the grace to forgive. Then pray daily for God to bless that person abundantly. Your prayers have the power to heal you, and prevent you becoming hateful.

The world needs our prayers too. Let us pray for those who persecute the innocent, pray for the grace to sow love instead of hatred, and pray that God will touch the hearts of all who go about the world doing violence and evil.

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**April 26, 2015**

Good Shepherd

The scriptures continue the theme of reconciliation, unity, and service. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, shows us how to care for others so we can all be reconciled, united, and at peace.

Pope Paul VI said, "If you want peace, work for justice." Like Jesus, he understood that peace requires a culture of life, and acts of service. Peace results when all human beings have what they need to live dignified lives: food, water, shelter, healthcare, compassion, solidarity, freedom, etc. There can never be peace when there is inequity in the distribution of resources.

We are called to shepherd others with gentle compassion – especially those who wander far away from God and seem unlovable. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, needs our hands and feet to strengthen the weak and downtrodden!

"Like a shepherd he feeds his flock  
and gathers the lambs in his arms,  
holding them carefully close to his heart,  
leading them home."

Robert J Dufford & New Dawn Music

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