

Dear Friends,

*Christ is Risen! Alleluia!  
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!*

This *Paschal Greeting* is a traditional way that many Christians around the world say ‘hello’ to one another on Easter Sunday. It’s a way of, not only saying ‘hello’, but also sharing the *Good News!* That the Lord has truly risen. *Alleluia!*

This year, we aren’t able to say this greeting to one another in person. This Easter, maybe more than ever before, we are experiencing what the disciples felt early on that First Easter Morning. Being forced to stay home, for the most part. Unable to come out, be with family and friends, and rejoice in the ways we are used to you. *What was it like for the disciples on that First Easter Morning?*

*On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked,  
where the disciples were, for fear... (John 20:19)*

We are experiencing what Mary Magdalene and the other Mary felt on that First Easter Morning. They had been grieving the Death of the Lord all night. In the morning, as they approached the Tomb, now they were distressed to experience the absence of His Body. *What was it like for Mary Magdalene and the other Mary on that First Easter Morning?*

*“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,  
and we don’t know where they put him.” (John 20:2)*

We know that Jesus’ Death led to His Resurrection on that First Easter Morning. *Alleluia!*

We also know that what Mary and the other disciples felt on that First Easter Morning led to many incredible encounters with Jesus that took away their confusion, relieved their fear, and healed their distress. *Alleluia!*

*Then the angel said to the women in reply, “Do not be afraid!” (Matthew 28:5)*

On this Easter Sunday, and throughout these seven weeks of the Easter Season, let the Risen Christ take away our fear and help us experience His Resurrection and His Presence in a new and more powerful way! *Alleluia!*

*Happy Easter to you and your loved ones!*

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us! *Alleluia!*

Fr. Chad Green