

PASTOR'S COLUMN—APRIL 21, 2014

Dear Parishioners:

During the Lenten Season we tend to give up things in a spirit of penance. It may be food-oriented or how we watch our words more carefully, letting go of gossip or foul language. The significance of giving up things/behaviors during Lent is that it helps solidify our commitment to embracing more risen life in Christ during the Easter Season. The “give-ups” of Lent are to lead to new things/behaviors during Easter Season that make room for the “add-on” of risen Joy in Christ. The Lenten penance points us to Easter bliss, perfect happiness, that in the risen Christ we lack nothing. All is well in the risen Christ right now! “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad”!

For some of us, we may be more comfortable with Lenten penance than we are with Easter bliss. So let's get “moving” towards our Holy Communion with the risen Christ and more consistently bask in the Joy of risen life already in us! The thought of living each moment with perfect happiness (bliss) in the risen Christ may be overwhelming to us but on the level of faith it is true!

Lent by itself with its penance is incomplete without the fulfillment of Easter in the Risen Christ. As much as we, perhaps, get into Lent, it is imperative that our penance is balanced with the Joy of eternal bliss already in our midst in the risen savior, Christ Jesus.

Loving you with Easter Bliss,

Fr. Terry