

PASTOR'S COLUMN—NOVEMBER 11, 2013

Dear Parishioners:

Some people talk about how they believe in reincarnation and how after they die they want to come back to earth as a squirrel, fish, tiger etc. It is kind of humorous to hear people speak of an after-life where they continue on as an animal on earth. Is that good news?

To help sway us away from reincarnation is Jesus the resurrected savior who inspires us in the Holy Spirit to be “reborn” each day. Rebirth as more fully alive people in Christ is far more enduring now in our one and only earthly life. Wanting to die and come back to earth as a kangaroo is hardly heart-warming. Continuing to become new creations in Christ (Holy Communion) is our baptismal call; it is resurrection for us, not reincarnation.

The full details of the mystery of the resurrection will surface after we die but our faith in the risen Christ proclaims each day that our human lives have eternal meaning and are not to be limited to an animal's body after we die. Perhaps we are smiling now and rightly so because daily rebirth in Christ into eternity is our faith foundation and not some trivial transfer to the animal kingdom that perishes.

Loving you in Christ,

Fr. Terry