



## **" HE HAS RISEN. CHRIST HAS RISEN. "**

*Easter Sunday Greetings  
— From Bishop James Wong —*

I greet every one of you Happy Easter Day. **"Christ has risen!"**

This is the first Easter Day that we can only celebrate in our own homes because of Covid-19. Although we are physically restricted, we are not isolated spiritually from one another.

The most important phrase on Easter is the message brought by the angel, "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. **He has risen!** He is not here..." (Mark 16:6).

Easter brings us the hope that God put a stop to death and gives us the hope of eternal life because **"Christ has Risen."** Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. ..." (John 11:25-26).

The pandemic Covid-19 has disrupted our lives and cause unprecedented havoc to all the communities throughout the world. The number of deaths continues to rise. Millions have lost their livelihoods and the marginalized sectors of our societies are struggling for survival. In such an unusual time, it is easy to live in fear and despair.

Let the message of the angel of the first Easter Morning encourage every one of us, **"He has risen."** (Mk 16:6, Matt 28:6). Let the phrase **"He has risen"** be often on our lips. The power of the resurrection of Christ is with us and we should not be discouraged in the face of difficulties or crisis. Nothing will separate us from the love of Christ. "Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" 37No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." (Rom 8:35,37).

The resurrection of Christ tells us that sufferings and death do not have the final word. When we see that someone is suffering, sick, dying or being lowered into the grave, or when we ourselves must die one day, we must see beyond the circumstances and repeat prayerfully and confess that **"He has risen."** **"Christ has risen."** In him there is hope now and beyond the grave.

Because **He has risen**, we too will rise. Jesus said, "because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19). May the Risen Lord continue to bless you. Amen.

*Happy Easter Sunday*



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