

**Readings: Acts 10: 34 37-43, Collosians 3: 1-4, John 20: 1-9**



**Fr Michael says:**

### Reflection for Easter Sunday – Year A

#### The Hope Easter gives

At Easter we still feel the pain of the world; the pain in our families and among our friends – and the pain which is in our own hearts. However, a new element has been introduced into our lives – it doesn't remove the pain, but it gives it meaning; it lights it up with hope. All is different because Jesus is alive and speaks His words of peace to us as He spoke them to the Apostles. Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus is the basis of our hope of eternal life; a hope which enables us to bear patiently the trials of life. Therefore there is a quiet joy among us and a deep sense of peace because we know that life is stronger than death, love is stronger than fear, and hope is stronger than despair.

“As long as the sun comes over the hills, scatters the darkness and fills the world with light; as long as the fields get green again, and the primroses and violets return; as long as the trees fill up again with leaves, as long as the trees fill up again with leaves – there is hope for us and for the world. So come – let us follow the footsteps of spring, for the snow has melted, and life is awakening from its sleep and wanders through the hills and valleys. Come let us ascend the heights and gaze upon the waving greenness of the plains below. O come, let us rejoice on this Easter Day, for death has folded up his tent and gone away.”

The words of Emily Dickinson draw together these thoughts: “Had this day not been, or could it cease to be – How smitten, how superfluous were every other day!”