

Reflection Easter Friday 2024

In our Gospel today the disciples had decided to return to their former occupation as fishermen. They wanted to return to familiar waters and the life of fishing so familiar to them before they met Jesus and received from him a call to a higher purpose. Jesus had called them to follow him and to share in his work of drawing people into God's kingdom. However, now that Jesus had been crucified, they were at a loss at what to do so went back to what they knew best. Sadly, they returned to their past in search of some comfort.

However, they are heading in the wrong direction, just like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were going back to where they had been before. The risen Lord now stood on the shore of the Sea of Galilee to redirect them, to renew the call he had made to them by the Sea of Galilee several years earlier. Jesus first established communion with them, a communion they had broken by abandoning Jesus in the hour of his passion and death. He did so with a simple invitation, *'Come and have breakfast'*.

We are often tempted to go back to where we have been, returning to our comfort zone when something sad has happened. Yet, the Lord is always calling us forward. Jesus constantly wants us to move forward and fully embrace the spiritual adventure to which we have been called.

A man was driving down a windy road when, suddenly, a bunny skipped across the road and was hit head on. Quickly jumping out of his car the man found that the lifeless bunny on the road, was the Easter Bunny. The man cried out, *"Oh no! I have committed a terrible crime! I killed the Easter Bunny!"* He then heard another car approaching driven by a woman. The woman stopped and asked what the problem was. The man explained, *"I have done something terrible. I've killed the Easter Bunny. Now there will be no one to deliver eggs on Easter Sunday, and it's all my fault."* The woman ran back to her car and returned with a spray bottle. She ran to the motionless bunny and sprayed it. The bunny immediately sprang up, ran into the woods, stopped, and waved back at the man and woman. Then it ran another 10 feet, stopped, and waved. It then ran another 10 feet, stopped, and waved again. It did this over and over and over again until the man and the woman could no longer see the bunny. Once out of sight, the man exclaimed, *"What's the stuff in that bottle?"* She replied, *"It's hairspray. It revitalizes the hare and adds a permanent wave."*