

Homily
Friday in the Octave of Easter
April 14, 2023

Jesus is risen, Alleluia! Alleluia! Happy Easter! I just can't get tired of saying it! Happy Easter! Today is the Friday of the Octave of Easter; the eight-day long day; a day too full of joy and grace to be contained in one 24-hour period. Today is the 168-hour-long day of the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord! Happy Easter!

Peter said, "He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone."

Jesus continues to pour out His love for us, in so many ways, for all His people.

The most important task Jesus accomplished during His time on earth before His Ascension was to help His disciples realize that He is alive! And that even though He was ascending, He will be with us always. He did this by showing them how He continuously provides for them, for us. He told them what to do to make the big catch – one hundred and fifty-three large fish. Likewise, He tells us what we need to do to live life to the fullest, overflowing with grace, if we will only listen.

Jesus reveals to us today that He is alive, in all of us, in that tabernacle, and when he becomes present on that altar, and every altar in the world, with the words of consecration. He is alive and wants us to live with Him. And we live with Him by letting Him into our lives and living as He commands us, to love God and each other. That is how He lives and that is how we are to live, in love.

We live our lives to the fullest when we love each other. Christ died on the cross, defeated death and rose to new life, for us. In Baptism, we died with Him and have risen to new life in Him. In the Resurrection, we enter into His Passion, carry our cross, die to sin, rise to newness of life and through Him have life eternal. This is the Easter message: peace, forgiveness and joy. Happy Easter!