

The Windhover

To Christ our Lord

I caught this morning morning's minion, kingdom of daylight's dauphin,
dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon, in his riding
Of the rolling level underneath him steady air, and striding
High there, how he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing
In his ecstasy! then off, off forth on swing,
As a skate's heel sweeps smooth on a bow-bend: the hurl and gliding
Rebuffed the big wind. My heart in hiding
Stirred for a bird, – the achieve of, the mastery of the thing!
Brute beauty and valour and act, oh, air, pride, plume, here
Buckle! AND the fire that breaks from thee then, a billion
Times told lovelier, more dangerous, O my chevalier!
No wonder of it: shéer plód makes plough down sillion
Shine, and blue-bleak embers, ah my dear,
Fall, gall themselves, and gash gold-vermilion.

– Gerard Manley Hopkins



Moving with transcendent beauty and mystery, with liberty and energy, with grace, the flight of Hopkins' windhover is widely understood as a poetic metaphor of Jesus the Christ, in the full glory of His Resurrection. Hopkins' poetic reflection offers a dense, intense, and mysterious experience, that, in some way, can evoke in us glimpses of the Resurrection.

Why so "mysterious"? Why only "evoke"? Why only "glimpses"? Let us remember that the Resurrection of Jesus the Christ is not something to be understood or explained as a specific, immanent experience, however powerful, like the healing miracles of Jesus and like his resuscitation of Lazarus.

The "actual moment" of the Resurrection of Jesus as the Christ was not seen, nor witnessed, by anyone. Mary of Magdala first, and then the disciples, experienced post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus, and then, as deeply mysterious, even troubling. The Resurrection is not an "event" that took place in 33AD once and for all, an "event" that we simply recall at Easter each year.

However, I believe we are empowered by God to risk imagining what the Resurrection is. The Resurrection of Jesus the Christ is the absolutely transcendent "Event," far beyond all other events, and that breaks through the human bounds of time and space and experience. The Resurrection is the fulfillment of the kenosis of the Eternal Logos of God in Jesus of Nazareth, represented in Philippians 2.

It is in the light of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ that the Gospel writers represent some particular moments of the experience of Jesus of Nazareth: the voice of God heard by Jesus and others at his baptism at the Jordan, and the experience of Jesus and the disciples at His Transfiguration.

Should we think that the Resurrection is an experience only of Jesus Christ and for Him, to be somehow "observed" by us from a distance, as it were, we are very wrong. The Resurrection is the Absolute Act of the Redeeming Love of our Trinitarian God for human beings of all times and places, of all religious traditions, and extending through all of God's creation.

It is the Fulfillment of God's promise proclaimed to us through the ancient Prophets, by Jesus of Nazareth, and through women and men of Prophetic Witness today.

In the sufferings and pain, in the uncertainties and doubts of our experiences in our contemporary world, our Experience of the Resurrection gives us Hope. In our darkness, It gives us Light; in our defeats, It offers us Victory; in our sadness, It gives us Joy. To experiences of violence, the Resurrection brings Peace; to moments of ugliness, It brings Beauty.

When we feel our earth-boundedness, Jesus the Risen Christ liberates us to leap and fly with the agility of Hopkins' Windhover. In death, the Resurrection gives us Life. This Easter, let us sing and proclaim: "Hosanna in the highest ... Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." (Mt 21: 9)

Lloyd Baugh SJ

MASS INTENTIONS MARCH 31 TO APRIL 8, 2018

Saturday, March 31: Easter Vigil

8:00 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 1: Easter Sunday: Resurrection of the Lord

8:30 For all Parishioners Intentions

11:00 For all Parishioners Intentions

Monday, April 2: Weekday Mass

8:00 Olivo Bertoli By Patricia Tuck
Rinaldo Caucci By Alessandrina Caucci

Tuesday, April 3: Weekday Mass

8:00 Mario & Lucia Fiore By Piccolino Family

Wednesday, April 4: Weekday Mass

8:00 For all Parishioners Intentions

Thursday, April 5: Eternal High Priest

8:00 Marie Theresa Johnson By Mariela & Olivia

Friday, April 6: Sacred Heart

8:00 Giuseppe Fiori By his Wife & Family
Silvano Zilli By Sylvia & Tony Supino

Saturday, April 7: Immaculate Heart

4:00 Italo Falcone & Italo
& Anna Mariani By Luisa & Angelo Falcone
Alessandro Palladini By his Wife & Children
Ignazio Ciampini By his Wife Ernesta

Sunday, April 8: Second Sunday of Easter

8:30 **IN LOVING MEMORY:** Leona Clarke, Alba &
Luigi Paliotti, Emma & Colombo Salvati, Roger Rivest
11:00 Giacomo Fiori By his wife Berardina & Family
Flavia Spurio By his Mother & Siblings
Antonio Ricci By his Wife Antonia & Family

Thank you for your ongoing support of our parish.
Collection for the weekend of March 24-25, 2018
totalled \$3,958.20.

There will be a **luncheon after the 11 a.m. Mass on April 8** for parishioners to meet the Syrian family we are sponsoring.

Adult Faith Enrichment –

Upcoming Events:

Oremus: Join us next **Sunday, April 8, from 9:40 to 10:50 a.m. in the rectory dining room** for the next session of our Catholic prayer study, **Oremus**. The topic covered will be “Desolation and Consolation”.

Islam: Introduction and Overview: Through engaging with other religions we can encounter another aspect of God: perhaps one we didn’t even know existed! Join **Robert Assaly on Wednesday, April 18 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the parish hall** for an overview of Islam and the practices of Muslims. Robert will clarify understandings of the world’s second largest, and perhaps most misrepresented and misperceived religion. For those who attend this preparatory presentation, and wish to participate, a visit to a Mosque will follow on Sunday afternoon, April 22. Please register by **April 16**.

Video Divina: This year, Fr. Lloyd’s film series looks at movies that courageously examine the multi-faceted experience of Love. Join him on **Friday, April 20 at 7 p.m. in the parish rectory** to view the movie **THE CARDBOARD VILLAGE**. Free admission and popcorn, and stimulating discussion to follow! All are welcome!

Please refer to our website and the posters at the church entrances for additional information. If registration is required, kindly use the appropriate sign-up sheets at the main church entrance or contact Anna at the office.

