



'The Dawning Light of the Resurrection'
EASTER 2024 | Message from Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Friends, I sometimes reflect on the disciples of Jesus in what they had experienced between the time of Jesus' death and resurrection.

It would have been darkness for them; a questioning of everything they had come to know and had hoped for. Confused and in grief, utterly shaken and probably quite fearful for their lives. We know they were at the threshold between death and life. But God did not want them to drift into oblivion; lost and forsaken.

God instead shook them into a new creation that would change them and everything for all time. With the resurrection of Jesus, the disciples were rocked out of complacency.

Because, at Easter, life had found a way.

The disciples were overjoyed, to be true, but it went far more than that. Nothing would ever be the same after the dawning light of the resurrection in their lives. Theirs was the experience of death defeated, filling them with boldness and conviction to go out.

And so it should be with us.

Easter is not a day in the calendar to wait for and then let slip by. Easter is an invitation to us into the story of Jesus' resurrection – into the story of the disciples – the move from our darkness, into a new light.

The resurrection of Jesus gives us the means to transform our lives into something much better. When we embrace Jesus' resurrection we truly can begin living—what a beautiful thought—we break free of all those things that bind us, that keep us in death. For Jesus' victory over death becomes our victory for life.

Easter is meant to rock us and shake us, so as to empower us.

May it be so for you this Easter.