

## The Easter Triduum: Recalling *and* Reliving Anew

The mystery of Christ's life, death, and resurrection is so big that we take three days to celebrate it. Thus, over the past three days, the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and now Easter, we have recalled Jesus' death and resurrection of long ago. But, in our celebrations we don't simply recall or re-enact the historical events of Jesus' last days and death on the Cross, or his resurrection from that death. The gospel texts themselves do contain significant historical references, such as the mention of Pontius Pilate, King Herod, and Barabbas the insurgent and murderer. In some Christian traditions there is a strong focus on these kinds of historical facts and circumstances of Jesus' death and resurrection. But in our Catholic tradition and liturgical celebrations our focus is also on the *mystery* of Christ's dying and rising in our lives today, not just the *history* of what happened in first century Israel. We don't just remember what once happened to Jesus, but we recognize what continues to happen among us as a people called to conversion, gathered in faith, and gifted with the Holy Spirit. We celebrate God's presence and action deep within our hearts, recreating us in the Risen Christ as a new human community, broken like bread for the life of the world, rich in compassion, steadfast in hope, and fearless in the search for justice and peace for all. Our prayer these days seeks not just to *remember* what happened to Jesus back there and then, but to *recognize* how his dying and rising continues to happen ever anew for us here and now, and how we can live that Easter *mystery* in the personal *history* of our daily lives.

Please let us know what else about our faith tradition you'd like to find out more about. Contact Fr. Dan Krettek at [dkrettek@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:dkrettek@saintmaryhc.org).

