



Catholic Diocese of Geraldton

Bishop of Geraldton W.A.

Date: Monday 18 March 2024

Subject: Bishop Michael Morrissey – Easter Message for The West Australian

“Easter cannot happen without Good Friday”. It might seem rather obvious to make such a statement, as Christians hold very dear to their hearts this wonderful mystery of Jesus Christ who came among us, suffered a cruel death, and rose from the dead. For those in our communities suffering or experiencing conflict and confusion, life at times can be very much like a Good Friday. The Good Friday experience of Jesus, where betrayal, darkness, deep pain and confusion was truly the reality for Jesus, is similar to the experiences of so many people. Despite the good we do and the love we share, sometimes things just don’t go well.

Where then is the hope in the Good Friday in our lives? For me, my hope is found in the great gift of God the Father who sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to live in the midst of humanity, who walks with me in the highs and lows, offering a hope that is always present to me and found often in the small but significant ways through relationships and connections with others. In the midst of his suffering, Jesus knew he was not alone. He trusted himself totally to God his Father and, through him, experienced the joy of new life on Easter Sunday.

Easter reminds us we too can move from despair to experiencing a hope that never ends. Easter reveals a new vision to see our life in a different way. It is in those simple moments of new sight and seeing things differently, which can come to us through family and friends who love and care for us, no matter what happens in our life. It can come to us even through the stranger who comes into our life. These moments can be surprising and unexpected as was the resurrection, yet this is what we remember and cherish for the rest of our lives. This is Easter, this is new life!

As we celebrate Easter in 2024, my hope for everyone is, despite the Good Friday moments in life, there will be those moments and times where situations and answers can be seen in a new and surprising way. As you receive an Easter Egg, a symbol of new life and beginnings, may our community experience a happy and a blessed Easter, keeping safe and well cherishing the blessings received through with family, relationships and friends.

Most Rev. Michael H. Morrissey
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& Apostolic Administrator of Broome