

## April 21, 2020-Reflections for the Easter Season Ms. Albano



In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Dear God, I acknowledge the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation for being the ongoing stewards of this traditional territory.

### *A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

*Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need."*

How will COVID-19 change you? When and if we return to our daily routines, will we also return to old habits? A friend of mine posted what she hopes will change when we are released from isolation.

1. I hope that the next time a friend grabs me and pulls me in for a hug, I actually take the time to appreciate the gift of their embrace.
2. I hope that when school resumes and you are dropping your kids off, you take the time to thank the staff for the amazing gift that they give to your family.
3. I hope that the next time I'm sitting in a crowded restaurant I take the time to look around at the smiling faces, loud voices and be more appreciative for the gift of community.
4. I hope that when I am at the grocery store that I take a moment to acknowledge the necessities of life and the amazing people who work so hard to keep us supplied.
5. I hope that I never again take for granted the ability to hop in the car and visit a friend, go to the mall and most importantly go to church where I can appreciate and celebrate the gift God gives me everyday in friendship and His presence at mass.

People always ask me how do I know that Christ's story is not a myth. If you read the Acts of the Apostles, the answer is self evident. The Acts of the Apostles shows how Jesus' resurrection changed their life. Their life was not merely about survival but committing to God in prayer and taking care of each other. They did not fear death nor retribution for their actions because Christ's resurrection gave them the courage to live it according to God's law which drew others to believe in Christ. But the story doesn't end when they die. After they die, others believe and continued the work Christ and His Apostles started. If they believed in a myth, like Hercules, why do we still proclaim the same message in words and actions today? Myths do not change a nation. As Fr. Koldinski once said, "no one ever died for a fairytale."

Let us pray that when the government lifts the restrictions, we return to our daily routine, may we become more caring and attentive human beings. May we discover our humanity and acknowledge that the faith of the Apostle's and how they lived is a way of life for us. Hold dear to your heart the truth that Christ is risen. May it give you the courage to face what is ahead and influences every act of kindness you show to each other. May you always remember your faith is more than a story but a road map to love God and your neighbour. Remember the words of Jesus at the Ascension, "remember I am with you always till the end of days." Amen. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.