



*We proclaim a crucified Christ*

1Cor1.23

## **EASTER MESSAGE 2019**

Happy Easter, friends in Christ. Happy Easter in the name of Jesus, the Risen One.

When Jesus appeared among his friends after the Resurrection, the first thing he did was to show them the wounds of his crucifixion. “Here,” he said to them, “see my once-nailed hands and feet; look at my pierced side.” The person who stood before his friends was no ghostly hologram of someone they once knew; it was Jesus himself, alive. After three days in the tomb, and now brimming with divine energy, Jesus did not hide the wounds of his death from his friends. Instead, he carried them with him into the resurrected life.

Those transfigured wounds of Jesus matter to us, his friends today. His death was no fake; his resurrection no trick. With his own body – once wounded in death – he now brings new possibilities to us all. Our way ahead with Him does not mean a rejection of our past, but a transfiguration of it. Jesus is our hope of a new path.

On this Easter Day, all of us are being invited to taste something of this joy of the Resurrection, to look on Jesus’ resurrected wounds and see hope for the world. This is because our own wounds and sorrows, our griefs and struggles, our anguishes and angers, have all been absorbed into the healed wounds of Jesus.

Today begins my first sharing in the Easter Season with you as your Archbishop. I’ve been looking forward to it, because we have been walking through loss and grief in the Church here in Melbourne, and we are so in need of the Lord who wants us to share his Easter joy.

Christ is alive; and he wants us to be alive. The Risen Lord, who will never abandon his People, is offering us the strength to set out on a new path with him. As shattered and as wounded as our local Church can seem, the Risen Lord, in his gloriously wounded body, is inviting us to share in his life and to walk with him.

**Most Rev Peter A Comensoli**  
Archbishop of Melbourne



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Archbishop of Melbourne

So today, with our wounds transfigured under the radiance of an Easter dawn, let us run with Mary Magdalene and with Peter the Apostle, to greet our future with Christ. We run with hope in our hearts. We run to tell others this Easter news. And we run because Christ is showing us the way.

Keep running, because Christ is alive! He runs ahead, and beside us, all the way to the end.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. A. Comensoli".

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli  
Archbishop of Melbourne