April 24, 2011 • Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord

Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak michaelr@stmoside.org 760-758-4100 x100

A Little Yeast Has Its Effect All Through the Dough

"Do you not know that a little yeast has its effect all through the dough? Get rid of the old yeast to make of yourselves fresh dough, unleavened loaves, as it were; Christ our Passover has been sacrificed. Let us celebrate the feast not with the old yeast, that of corruption and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."—1 Corinthians 5:6-8

We are at the end of our Lenten journey for another year.

The call to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving was issued on Ash Wednesday. The next 40 days were to be different, to be special, to be a time of renewal. These days of retreat were meant to help us let go of the people and things that stand in our way of deepening our relationship with "The Holy One." These days were meant to help us grab hold of the people and things that we need in order to deepen our relationship with "The Holy One." Jesus, our Master, taught us to call this "Holy One" Abba, Daddy! We have a God that we can reach out to with complete trust and confidence, one who will never reject us.

We find ourselves today beginning our celebration of Easter.

For the next 50 days we celebrate the new hope, the new beginnings, and the new life that the Resurrection of Jesus brings. Christ died for you! Christ died for me! Christ died for all

humanity and for all life that may be held within the Universe! In Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection, God proclaims how precious each and everyone of us are, that we are loved, that we have a job to do, and that what we do does make a difference!

At times, as we get caught up with the daily routine of life, we may feel insignificant, that our efforts do not make a difference. We may begin to feel useless, irrelevant, and unworthy.

The Seasons of Lent and Easter are meant to shake us and wake us up to God's vision of whom we are. We are God's redeemed and loved ones! We are precious in God's sight! What we do in our own little corner of the world, indeed, does make a difference. A little yeast has its effect all through the dough.

As we begin this Easter Season, let us take stock of our relationships, and our responsibilities. May this be a time of renewed energy and commitment to them.

We do make a difference in the "grand scheme of things."

A little yeast has its effect all through the dough!

Fr. Mike