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## Pastor's Column

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

### On Living the Resurrected Life

As we continue to celebrate Resurrection Sunday during these "Great Fifty Days" of Easter, we are mindful that the Resurrection is not just a past event, but just as importantly, it is a present reality in which we are called to live, move, and have our being.

I share with you the words of Rev. Henri Nouwen, taken from his book, *Sabbatical Journey*:

*...As we claim our faith in the resurrection of the body, we come to see that the resurrection is not simply an event after death but a reality of everyday life.*

*Our care for the body calls us to unity beyond organization, to intimacy beyond eroticism, and to integrity beyond psychological wholeness.*

*Unity, intimacy, and integrity are the three spiritual qualities of the resurrected life.*

*We are called to break through the boundaries of nationality, race, sexual orientation, age, and mental*

*capacities and create a unity of love that allows the weakest among us to live well.*

*We are called to go far beyond the places of lust, sexual need, and desire for physical union to a spiritual intimacy that involves body, mind, and heart.*

*And we are called to let go of old ways of feeling good about ourselves and reach out to a new integration of the many facets of our humanity.*

*These calls are calls to the resurrection.*

*Caring for the body is preparing the body for the final resurrection while anticipating it in our daily lives through spiritual unity, intimacy, and integrity.*

May our participation in the celebration of these "Great Fifty Days" bring us all to greater unity, intimacy, and integrity!

*F. R. Mike*