

Day 131- (Monday, July 27)

Didn't get a good sleep last night. A bat starting flying around my living room at midnight. Talk about getting the heebie jeebies.

This article is from the Catholic Update:

https://www.liguori.org/amfile/file/download/file_id/121/product_id/8104/

For our sake he was crucified

*For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.*

As a priest, a presider at liturgy, I'm wary of using the term "paschal mystery." I wonder if most folks know what it means. This section of the creed explains the paschal mystery — Jesus' great act of love. John's Gospel says, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (15:13). Jesus did just that "[f]or our sake."

Jesus' act of love wasn't simply that of a battlefield hero who dies to save his buddies. The word *paschal* gives us a clue. Jesus has a Passover from death to life. What he does through his life, death and resurrection is linked to the liberating action of God, who freed his people from slavery in Egypt and made a covenant of love with them. God leads us to new life, a deeper relationship.

In Jesus' Passover we're brought into a new covenant. The resurrection establishes Jesus as risen Lord, one who now invites us into a "kingdom [which] will have no end." We must live each day prepared for that day when Christ "will come again in glory."

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.*

When Jesus promised "new life" to his followers, he wanted them to live the way of love and forgiveness he'd modeled in his life and ministry. After his resurrection, Jesus shared the Holy Spirit so his followers could forgive and heal in his name.

The Holy Spirit is "the Lord, the giver of life," the love of Father and Son expressed so perfectly that a third divine person is to be "adored and glorified." The Spirit was present in the words of the prophets of old, reminded Jesus' apostles of all he said and did and is now given to us in the Church.

*In the light of eternity, we're here for a very short time, really. We're here for one thing, ultimately:
to learn how to love, because God is love. - James Finley*

Sincerely,
Fr. Jim Kaptein