

YOU'RE A CHILD OF GOD

"Our Lord Jesus Christ loves us so much! Knowing this brings happiness into my life."

—Roman, inmate from California

At Baptism, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you became a child of God and received a share in Christ's resurrected life. As St. Paul says, "Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Bit by bit, as you say yes to Jesus in your heart, read about him in the Scriptures, and receive him in the sacraments, you become more like him and are changed into his likeness.



YOU'RE NEVER ALONE

"When you call out to Jesus for help, he will always come."

—Eric, inmate from Texas

Jesus promises you, "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. . . . The holy Spirit . . . will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you" (John 14:18, 26). No matter who you are, where you are, or what you have done—the Risen Jesus is with you. His unending love for you is the greatest gift. It gives you victory over your earthly circumstances, as well as peace and hope, when you recognize and surrender to it. The biggest truth and comfort you have is that when you lose everything—you always have Jesus. He proclaimed to us, "I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

INVITE JESUS IN

In a quiet moment...

- Know he is with you
- Ask him into your life
- Give him your worries
- Love and thank him
- Trust in his plan for you

Jesus, thank you for being with me. I surrender my life to you. Please come into my life and be my Risen Lord and Savior.

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THE RESURRECTION

What Does it Mean for You?



“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him . . . might have eternal life” (John 3:16).

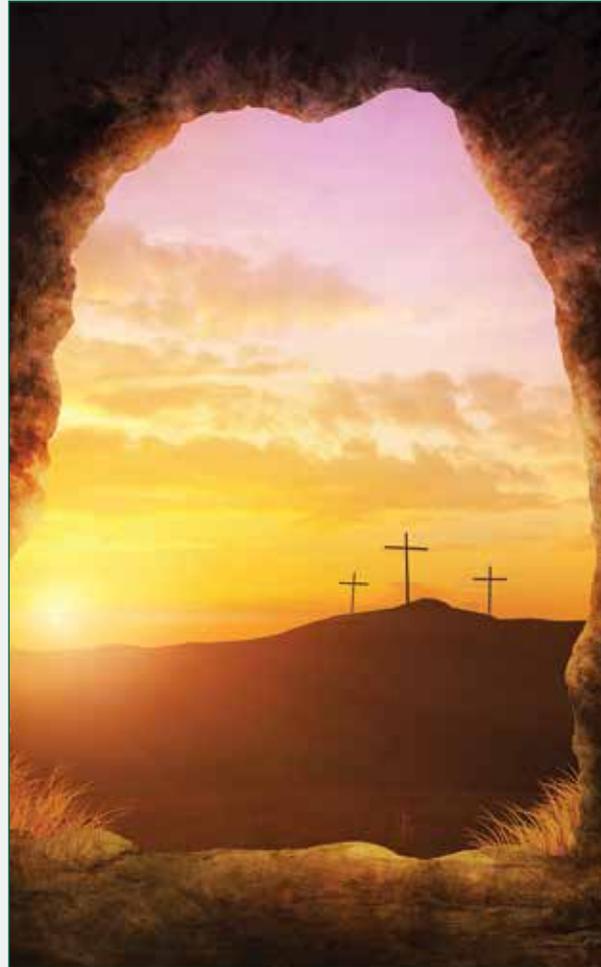
Jesus’ resurrection is the ultimate act of God’s love that has transformed everything. What does this mean for you personally?

GOD’S LOVE ALWAYS WINS

“Jesus is here to redeem and restore us to himself. He loves us beyond words.”

—Rita, inmate from Texas

God told the prophets of old that his victory over darkness would come. Just as God rescued the Israelites from the slavery of the Egyptians by parting the Red Sea, he would rescue all people from oppression through the coming of the Messiah. Many expected the promised Messiah would be a warrior king who would achieve peace with the sword. When Jesus was killed, they lost hope—they believed a crucified Messiah is no Messiah at all, or so it seemed.



Jesus’ resurrection was a new kind of victory and strength—one that runs far deeper than physical strength and worldly power. It shows us the unshakable victory of love. For “God is love” (1 John 4:8).

When Jesus rose from the dead, the undeniable message went forth: love wins. It is stronger than death, sin, and evil!

JESUS IS YOUR HOPE

“Jesus is the ONLY way!”

—Samuel, inmate from Nevada

As a Christian, we don’t proclaim that “Jesus was risen.” We declare that “Jesus IS risen.”

He truly is your one and only God who visited the earth, died under the weight of the world’s sins, and overcame the power of sin, death, and evil by rising victoriously. He is, as he told you, “the way and the truth and the life” (John 14:6) who “came so that [you] might have life and have it more abundantly” (10:10). You can put all your trust and hope in Jesus, who leads you into the abundant life of God’s kingdom.



GOOD NEWS FOR YOU

“Don’t ever give up trusting in Jesus and believing in him. He is the same God yesterday, today, and forever.”

—Lisa, inmate from Texas

When Jesus talked about his looming death, he made a promise: “I go and prepare a place for you, . . . so that where I am you also may be” (John 14:3). Jesus rose to a glorified body in which he “dies no more; death no longer has power over him” (Romans 6:9).

You too are promised resurrection in a glorified body—in, with, and through Christ Jesus! Your hope, then, is not merely found in life in the here and now, with all the good as well as the trials you experience. What Jesus has done affects your life forever.

Jesus comes to you with his desire to fill you with his new life. To receive it, all you need to do is open your heart to him. Your new and eternal life in Jesus can begin now.