St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral NEWSLETTER

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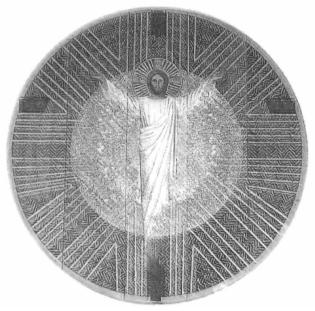
Staff of the Pro-Cathedral - Fr Kieran McDermott, Adm., Sr. Patricia Somers, RSC (Parish Sister) Fr Brendan Staunton, SJ, (Parish Chaplain)

A consequence of the Easter Event

An initial reflection on God at Easter: Isn't it interesting that the first to learn of Jesus' resurrection are not men, the ones whom the Jewish culture regards as the leaders of the community. Instead it was three women who first stumbled on this wonder, women who were regarded as second-class citizens, who did not share the same privileges and rights as men. As always the ways of God confound us. Jesus' whole life and teaching centred on humble service. He always insisted that his power was not of this world.

Now after His resurrection, he drives home the same point: "My vision and dream of humanity are not determined by the natural order and understanding of things. In my vision the first shall be last and the last first." The way of Christ is the way of humility, that women were the first to discover the risen Christ is certain proof of that.

And so the God of Jesus Christian people believe in, God who refuses to held hierarchy human and might this God our church, our world as with Him and each other? might be this: "Let my them. Let my spirit breathe in your hearts, in your in your world and in all A second reflection on God Surprises. And as they women were saying to one back the stone for us from



Christ, and the God we as is a God of Freedom; a captive patriarchy, by And what convention. Freedom's message be to we enter this Holy Week I dare to suggest that it people go. Unshackle and my imagination dance families, in your church, my beautiful creation."

at Easter: The God who approached the tomb the another: "Who will roll the entrance to the tomb?"

when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back. Our three lowly and unsuspecting women were not prepared for that; it was a disturbing and curious surprise.

At times the burdens, tragedies, sufferings and losses in our lives leave us bewildered or even disillusioned. In the face of mindless war, appalling poverty, natural disasters, and homelessness, we are sometimes driven to utter despair and indifference. But what does our God of surprises say to us at Easter? I think our God of Surprises is saying this: "The spirit of the one who is risen – my spirit – is always in you; my spirit is never absent from your life. Let this truth keep you wakeful and I will reveal to you the secret of a freshness that is always new."

Fr Kieran McDermott, Adm

Easter Monday 22nd April—Mass at 10.30 a.m. Church opens at 9.30 a.m. and closes after Mass

Tuesday 23rd to Friday 26th April-Please Note: Mass each day at 10.30 a.m.

No confessions. Church opens at 9.00 a.m. and closes at 3.00 p.m.

Saturday 27th April — Mass Times: 10.30 a.m. + 6.00 p.m. (Vigil) No confessions. Church opens at 9.00 a.m. and closes after Evening Mass