

WHAT'S WITH YOUNG MEN

"HE IS RISEN, HE IS NOT HERE"

"The Christ ye seek—He is not here From earth's dark grave He rose today O, faithful ones, fear not! Draw near, And see the place wherein He lay!"

THE LESSON OF EASTER

On the third day after Our Lord's death on the Cross His soul was reunited to His sacred body and He arose glorious, glorified and immortal from the tomb so carefully prepared by the pious hands of Joseph of Arimathea and the holy women for His sepulchre.

The Easter Gospel tells the story of our risen Lord and Master. The angel said to the holy women who ministered to Jesus and who had come to the tomb early on the first Easter morning. "Why seek you the living among the dead? He is risen; He is not here."

Our Lord's foretelling of His impending death was always coupled with a prophesy of the Resurrection. When He drove out from the Temple those who bought and sold therein, he was asked: "By what authority do you do this?"

Without the fact of the Resurrection to explain it, the origin of the Church would be like an effect without a cause. In truth the Apostles lost courage at the death of Jesus and their Messianic hopes were fading away.

The Church therefore rejoices in Easter as the anniversary of Christ's great triumph over sin and death. It is a feast of power and of love. The Resurrection is the completion of the Incarnation, proving the Divinity of Christ. The crib and Calvary meet. As by one man sin entered into the world and by sin, death, so the coming of Christ was to restore man to his original dignity, justice and truth.

He is the Resurrection and the Life. Those who believe in Him and do His will shall live and be with Him forever. He is our elder Brother, the first fruits of them that sleep. We hope to follow after Him and to be with our Risen Lord where there is no suffering, want, sorrow and where we are joined to those we loved under Christ our King.

It is of faith that God always answers right prayers, and in a way and in a degree beyond our most enthusiastic expectations; but He does not yet let us see how. We must take it on faith. We are quite sure, that in the long run, we shall not be disappointed.—Father Faber.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

WHY THE ROBIN'S BREAST IS RED

The Saviour, bowed beneath His cross, Clomb up the dreary hill, While from the agonizing wreath Ran many a crimson rill.

A little bird, that warbled near That memorable day, Flitted around and strove to wrench One single thorn away;

Ah, Jesu! Jesu! Son of Man! My dolour and my sighs Revealed the lesson taught by this Winged Ishmael of the skies;

THE END OF SORROW

Within the gibbet ring on the deserted hill of Calvary the three crosses lay upon the ground, and a cold rain was driving steadily from the northwest.

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Above the chariot of Ezechieh, with vast pinions spread, floated a great golden eagle. After them came John the Baptist and the Foster Father, two of the Magi with smoking thuribles, hundreds of the innocents by the Judean slain and shepherded by Rachel the mother; and last of all Rizpah, carrying a red staff with which she had beaten off the vultures from the laden crosses. As each one in this pageant of the ghosts came beside Mary, he stopped and bent the knee, and said to her, "Hail, full of grace!" They all went up the hill and disappeared through the Gate of Judgment. The darkness fell again, and again Mary felt the cold rain beating upon her face.

Farther down the street she came upon a Greek dancing girl from the palace of Herod. As John lifted his lantern they saw wilted roses in her disheveled hair, her face mottled and streaked with rainwet paint, her lips frothing. She was crazed, and she ran on stumbling, looking backward every now and then, and shrieking incessantly: "Great Pan is dead! Great Pan is dead!"

Mary went on into the city to the house of John, and there she slept in her weariness like one of those that are dead. The sabbath day passed, and the night of the first day of the week. In the garden under Golgotha the Roman soldiers of the guard before the sealed sepulchre slept uneasily in their sodden blankets, and two sentries paced up and down the garden walk. From behind the city walls came the constant baying and snarling of vagabond dogs.

Before the first watch, suddenly, as if from an opened door, a saffron light flared up the bowl of the sky from horizon to zenith; kindled into crimson here and there; the east grew opalescent; the walls and towers of Jerusalem loomed dimly in the shadows; the stars among the breaking storm wrack went out one by one like blown tapers; and the morning in russet mantle clad pushed the edge of the sun's red target to the rim of the world. At that instant the earth shook violently. The soldiers leaped up from the wet ground in terror. The great flagstone at the mouth of the holy sepulchre was flung outward with a hollow crash, and an overwhelming white light burst from the opened tomb. Then, elevated in the air, He floated out and stood before the guard an instant. The nail-holes in His hands and feet glittered red, and His opened tunic showed the gash before His heart. The soldiers fell to the earth and lay as if killed by lightning. He vanished. Within the tomb were two dim angels, grave-visaged, seated where the body had lain. The grave cloths were folded and set between them, as a chalice veil rests on the altar.

In an upper chamber of the house in Jerusalem whither Mary had gone on Friday evening she stood at a lattice looking over the city roofs with unseeing eyes. She was living over again His passion and hers. A dove crooned on the tiles above her, and a sparrow cheeped under the eaves. The street sounds below were beginning a new day. The trumpets of dawn blared from the Temple, and silence fell again. Then from behind her she heard His voice:

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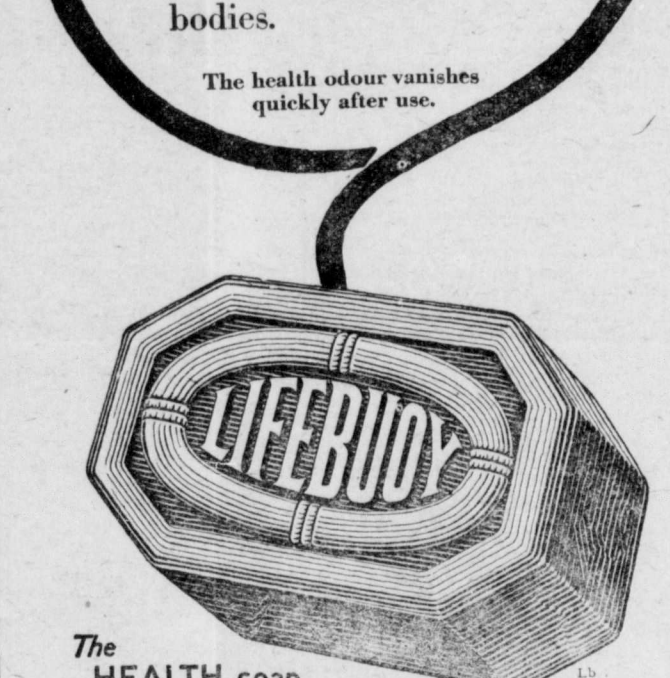
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