

FREE Evangelization Inserts for Bulletins Newsletters & Websites

Divine Mercy Sunday April 8, 2018

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Questions, Comments Suggestions?
Contact Kristina kdeneve@rcchawaii.org or
808-203-6767

Living Catholic in the 808: Why Easter Matters to Me

Dcn. Christopher S. Ribucan
Holy Rosary Parish, Paia, Maui
Newly ordained, Feb. 2018

Easter is Joy. Joy in Christ Jesus who has conquered death for us. Joy in the resurrection of Jesus is joy in “new life” in him. But what does this new life look like?

Daniel 3:52-90 is a song of praise blessing the Lord and also calls all of creation to join in blessing him. The sun, rain, mountains, and birds all freely and joyfully praise and bless the Lord. What’s amazing about this song of praise is its context. Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael are glorifying and blessing God from inside of a furnace!

Unlike the rest of creation, humanity is given free-will. Like Daniel, we must choose to praise and bless the Lord above all forever!

New life in Christ means being a living testament to this joy that is within you. New life is choosing what keeps us in right relationship with God. Even when it means being placed inside a fiery furnace.

Easter tells us that joy transcends suffering. Our joy is more than feelings or personal preferences. Our joy is in our Savior, his name is Jesus Christ. Our joy is in the Holy Spirit whom Jesus has sent us to guide us to the truth of “new life.” Blessed be God forever, Alleluia!