

## **This Easter Triduum...**

**I pray you have a blessed Eastertide. May all your preparation, planning and hard work this week make for moments of beauty, prayer, and transformation in your communities and in your own lives. May the God who loved each of you into being be glorified as Christ rises to new life in you, and through the work you do.**

**In these Three Days – this Easter Triduum - remember our story to one another in the sacred readings and stories passed down to us from generations past. Wash feet. Carry the very presence of Christ in the dark night to a chapel of repose and sing the ancient songs that your parents and grandparents sang on a holy Thursday night in days before you walked this earth. Adore a cross to remind you of the price that was paid for your ransom. Share bread that was blessed and consecrated the night before. Gather in the darkness around a fire to waken the dawn. Mark and bless a candle made possible only by the labors of millions of virgin bees and let the light of Christ chase away the darkness. Tell the whole of our story – all of salvation history. Welcome people into the Church, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then be sprinkled yourself as a reminder of your own baptism and that we're all connected as a priestly people. Lay hands on people, pour sacred oil – lots of it – on them to seal them, and then invite them to the table for the first time, giving them the place of honor. Sing lots of Alleluias on the last of these Three Days as you leave into the dawn that can never be overcome by darkness again because of the one who laid down his life for you. And rise. Rise with Christ the next day, the Lord's Day, to sing Alleluia again and again. Know that you have been born again. Go out to the world and do God's work, the public work of the Church - liturgy - in this world so in need of your hands, your feet, your eyes and your compassion.**

**Remember, don't evaluate, discuss, or deconstruct your liturgies immediately after you celebrate them. Leave that for another day and time. Enter these three days fully. Take care of your own interior life, tending your own fire, and enter the prayer yourselves. Let your experience simply be that and encourage others around you to do the same.**

**May the work you do make this world a bit smaller and may your work allow someone, anyone, and perhaps everyone in your community, to be reconciled to God and to one another.**

**Blessings to you during this Easter Triduum.**

Peace,

John

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