EASTER
by Br. Robert Stewart

As I gradually settle into life here in San Lorenzo and take up the role of Novice Director, there are so many experiences that are new for me.

Growing up living in the Southern Hemisphere it was exciting for me to experience Easter and the Easter Season in the Northern Hemisphere. This may seem a strange but the term down under is not just a familiar term for Australia, it is different living down under. I don't mean that everything is upside-down but it does have some dramatic implications. The seasons for example are opposite; when it is summer in the Northern Hemisphere it is winter in the Southern Hemisphere. This has implications that subtly impact on the celebration of the liturgical year. Advent, for example in the Northern
Hemisphere is in late fall. Here it is getting colder and darker by the day. The readings for Advent focus on the preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ but also the second coming of Christ, the end of the world and the last judgment. The gradual darkness and coldness matches the Season and the mood of the readings. Yet in Australian in Advent it is late spring, the days are getting longer, brighter and warmer leading up to Christmas in the beginning of Summer. Here although Christmas is in Winter it is near the Winter Solstice which is the longest night and shortest day, it signals the point where the days get longer gradually. The light is coming back into the world, as we celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

In Australia the celebration of Easter coincides with the commencement of the journey into winter. Here in the Northern Hemisphere it coincides with the beginning of Spring. It was wonderful to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ and to see the very landscape in the valley around the Novitiate show this forth to us, especially here at San Lorenzo. To literally see the hills and mountains around us turn from brown to green gradually, daily before our eyes. To see bare trees spout and flowers blooming everywhere as we read the accounts of the Resurrection and the energy and excitement of the nascent Church in “The Acts of the Apostles” through the Easter Season.

How blessed the Northern Hemisphere is that the cycle of the liturgical year coincides with the yearly cycle of new life, growth, harvest, pruning, winter; rains, darkness and new life. Let the rhythm and harmony of these two cycles speak to us the new life and renewal that Christ brings to us in the rhythm of our own lives.
NOTEWORTHY NEWS

BRS. BAUDRY & COLLIN ATTENDING AND GIVING A MORNING REFLECTION FOR SENIORS IN SANTA BARBARA.

AFTER THE CRISM MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS IN LOS ANGELES.
Brs. Collin & Robert escort St. Francis the donkey.

Beautiful palm art by Br. Mike Herlihey.
Triduum & Holy Week
Easter Truce
SOCCER GAME
R.I.P. Scarredy Cat (Left)

Marley & Roxy Enjoying some sunshine.

Visit to the New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur, California.

View of the Ocean at Big Sur!

Some St Patrick's Day Fun!
"GLORY"

These words are resounding
In my head, in my, in my body
"All around me I see God's Glory
And that is why I am rejoicing."

I used to sing that song quite
mindlessly
But today I see the reality:
The Lord's Glory is all around us
In the small, the great, the plus and
the minus
In all that creeps, that crawls, that
flies,
All that is inert, or withers and
dies.
Yet His Greatest Glory was within
His plan:
To make in His image and likeness,
Man!
I feel like I have just woken up
Where have I been my Lord?
Rise up my people, rise up!
Sing and praise with one accord,
For the Lord had mercy on me
He allowed me to taste His
Glory.
Sing and dance with hymns of
praise
Inviting all the world to raise
To raise their voices to heaven
To God be all Glory given.
I was a slave to honor
I sought my meaning in others' praise
I spent all my zeal and vigor
For a happiness that lasted a
few days.
You offered me true happiness
That none can buy and merit.
It is a gift that is selfless;
Only others can gain profit.
Yet, there is all your delight.
There is your happiness
How wonderful, just, and
right
That we may be speechless
At the sight of a gift so
blest:
Glory to God in the highest!
May my heart be transformed
May my eyes be open
At your glory constantly
revealed.
I will always be driven
To your table to be
transformed
By the Bread of Heaven.
Glory, Glory, Glory
unveiled!
Pax et Bonum

ABOUT US
CAPERONE is a bi-monthly newsletter produced and edited by the novices of the North American Pacific Capuchin Conference.

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