

# TRINITY NEWS

APRIL 4, 2010



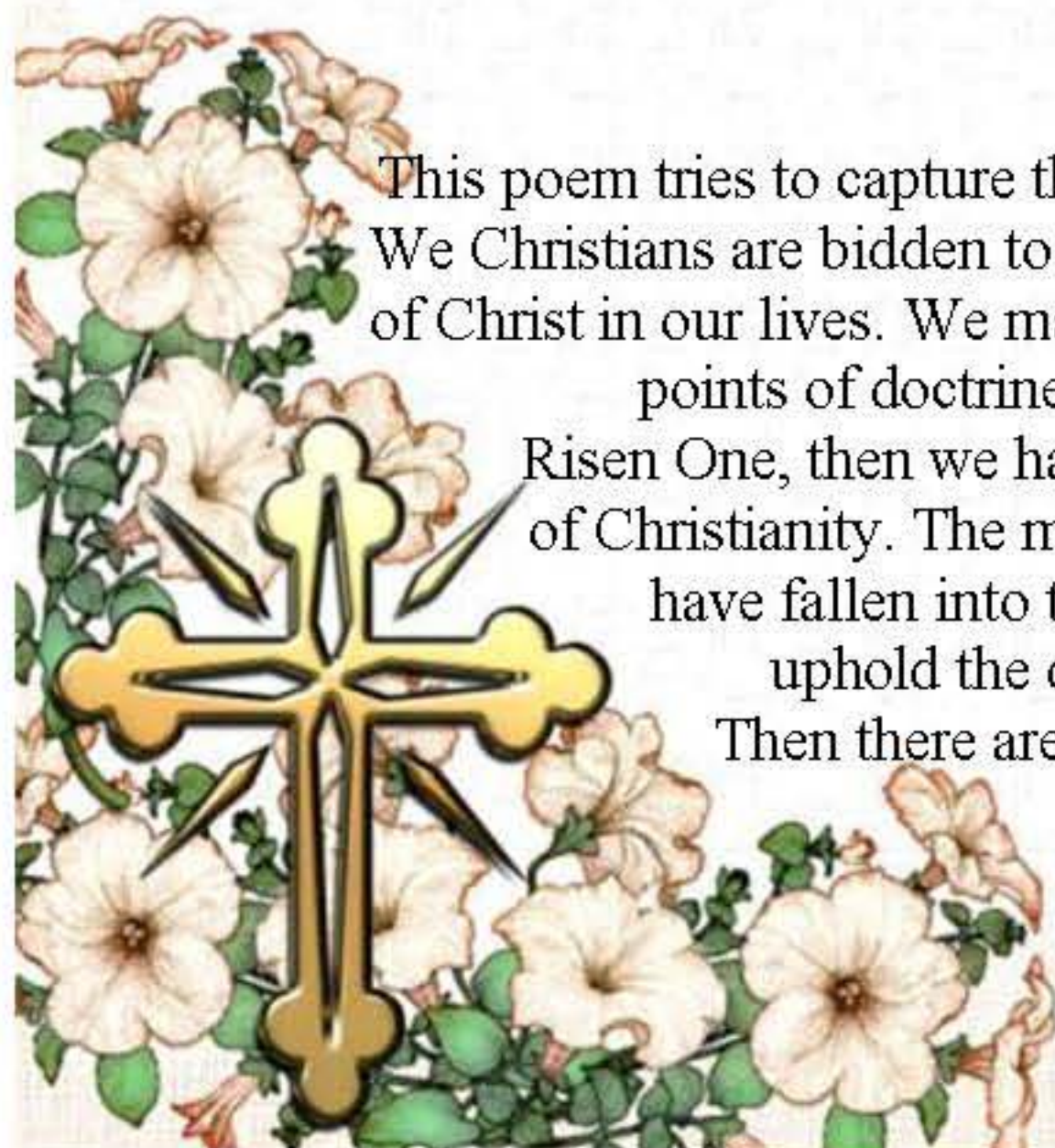
## The Broken Enclosure

*Deep death stillness clammy cold in rock  
Darkness screwed in by encircling stone  
Perfumed body lying inert, swathed-cloth  
Mind silent, spirit shut down, body alone*

*Creator Spirit hovers on water cuts stone  
Surging creating in tomb enclosure filled  
Light searches darkness finds body prone  
Wound strips unwind fall away extracted*

*Body enlivens, consciousness, awakening  
Life quivers stretches lifts stands wonders  
Movement, enclosed Spirit explodes within  
Universal human resurrected: seal sundered*  
– Bishop Arthur Jones

This poem tries to capture the moment in a ‘snapshot’ of words. We Christians are bidden to be deeply conscious of the presence of Christ in our lives. We may know our Scriptures and the finer points of doctrine. But unless we are conscious of the Risen One, then we have failed to grasp the essential heart of Christianity. The more perceptive of our commentators have fallen into two camps. First there are those who uphold the details of the Scriptural presentation. Then there are those with a more liberal view who say that the details are not as important as the experience of the Risen Christ. The liberal view is wary of any descriptions of a dead body being raised. That does not



fit into the canons of rational criticism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. But since post-modernism has exploded the canons of rational criticism, particularly any search for truth, except when it suits, then their position is on shaky grounds, as is the literal interpretation.

But we cannot sit on the fence. I accept the Scriptural presentation, though not without noting its composite nature. I think that Mary Magdalene, Peter, the Beloved Disciple, Thomas and the others, including Paul on the Damascus Road with his experience of the Risen One, got it right. Without the evidence, we would have nothing to aid our own descriptions and interpretations of the experience itself. Experience is notoriously fallible, and it is far too subjective when it comes to the life of our soul. The resurrection is about our connection with God. The Gospels rested on the coffin of John Paul II, and he had based his life on them. But we cannot take the Gospels with us into heaven in order to make sure that we have gotten it right. However, we can use them now to flesh out and inform our experiences of Christ. Besides, some of you will have struggled to sense the presence of Christ. You have to depend on what makes sense to you. I can only say that after many Easters I am still convinced by the descriptions in the Gospel and in Paul, and I am convinced that Jesus lives and is with us as the universal pilgrim. The Risen Christ gives shape to heaven for us. If he was not already there, I would find it less vivid for me. If I was not assured that he comes to us on our pilgrimage, and that he is still there at the end and beyond the end, Christianity would lose its savor and conviction for me.

I believe that we are not alone at death, even if beloved relatives and friends cannot be with us. The universal human has been raised, and because he is raised, as Paul says, so we can join him on the pilgrimage home. Like the Father running towards the lost son in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, in this case the Son crosses the horizon of heaven and hastens to take our hand in the darkness, pointing to light.

**Bishop Arthur Jones**

**Next week's readings:**

Acts 5:12a,17-22,25-29; Psalm 118; Revelation 1:9-19; John 20:19-31

**Your prayers are asked in  
our healing ministry for**

Aris Paraman, Beryl Tanner,  
JPeter, Richard Kendall,  
Ron Jacob, Bonnie SyCip, Jovel  
Llagas, Carlyn-Fern Manning,  
Merly Quiapos, Ron & Vera  
Thoburn, Diana Croyston,  
Loy Solasco, Ted Whale, Susan  
Dalmas, Johnny Manning Jr.,  
Emerinciana Gatela, Benjie  
Conzales, Ema Duhaylongsod,  
Helen Irvine, Fidelia Matthews,  
Carrie Angus, Suzanne  
Jacobson, Amy Gonzales, Janet  
Johnstone, Reuben Longid,  
Nikolai Gordevich, Gloria  
Domingo, Augusto Natividad.

Last  
Sunday

Pledge

P17,350.00

Loose Plate

P18,820.00

Year-to-  
date

P986,033.32

P224,071.10

2010  
Budget

P3,900,000

P940,000.00

**ECW Corner**

The CHT, Pasasalamat / UTO, everyday thanksgiving for lent season will commence this Easter Sunday, envelopes will be distributed for both congregations.

*"Your humble contribution for the growth of our Church".*

*This email was sent to update parishioners and interested individuals in the events and activities of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Makati. If you do not want to receive any emails from CHT, kindly inform us via email. Thank you.*