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## FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

I am writing this during the 2nd week of Lent, but I am focusing on Easter.

Easter is the very heart of the Christian calendar. Everything leads to Easter and everything flows from Easter.

Before 25th December was adopted by the Church to celebrate the birth of Christ or 24th March to celebrate the Annunciation, Easter Day, the Day of Resurrection, was being celebrated by the Church on the Sunday after the Paschal full moon. The date of Easter Sunday moves with the phases of the moon; why should this be? Jesus was Crucified at the time of the Passover, the Jewish

festival of liberation from the captivity in Egypt. When Israel celebrates Passover he does so not by simply remembering the events but, by the grace of God actually being there in Egypt with his forebears. This is called ***anamnesis***.

Anamnesis means 'making actual in the present an event of the past.' And what is true for the old Israel is true for the new Israel, the Church. So at Easter we, the Church, are there with Jesus and His Mother Mary and the Apostles as He makes our reconciliation with God Most High in His Passion, Death and Resurrection. Easter is truly the fulcrum point of the year for Christians. And how do we celebrate this point of our redemption?

At St. Martin's we celebrate the events of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ as the Church has done so for the whole of her earthly history. Look at the two centre pages of this magazine to see the timings of the Easter Triduum. The Easter Triduum is the three days in time and space when the eternal redemption of humankind was effected. The Easter Triduum is one continuous cosmic action wrought by God in Jesus for us all. The acts of worship in the Easter Triduum are not just services, they are truly our redemption. Jesus faithfully performed those acts asked of the Father because of our sin that we might be free of that sin and its eternal effects. So, the question

arises, what are you going to do at Easter to celebrate your redemption?

Jesus was faithful; will you be? Jesus did not shirk His responsibilities; will you? Whatever else you choose to do from the 29th March to 1st April this year you should choose first to be in St. Martin's to celebrate with the Church from its beginning on earth your redemption in the anamnestic action of the Easter Triduum.

*God Bless  
Fr. David*

