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Christ is risen!

The empty tomb bears witness to this fact, and the Apostles, having themselves seen the risen Lord, confirm it.

The grace of our risen Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ has shone forth and illumines the very ends of the earth, dispelling the darkness of sin with its unapproachable light. Angels and men rejoice, along with all creation, visible and invisible.

Through Christ's Resurrection from the tomb there proceeds the hope of the general resurrection of all humanity. Death is made void, and mankind passes over from death to life incorruptible.

From the very day of the Resurrection down to this day and even unto the end of time, Christ's Church, as His mystical Body, having received the light of His Resurrection, calls all to partake in the Mystery of Life, spiritually to arise together with the Giver of life newly emerged from the tomb, to take in the joy of His Resurrection, and to taste of this fountain of immortality.

Within Christ's Church, for the truly believing Christian, the Resurrection of Christ is not just a fact, an historical event of the distant past, but an eternal truth, a reality which transfigures all creation, of which we must partake, by which we must live, to which we, by our life, must bear witness, a witness to be sealed, if need be, with the blood of martyrdom.

The Resurrection of Christ is the foundation of our faith, of our life. Without it, according to the Apostle Paul, our faith would be in vain, and we would be the most unfortunate of all men.

If today, in the world, even in the Church, and particularly in our own souls, instead of peace and God's blessings, we see animosity, conflict and darkness, could it be that we have not taken in the Risen Lord, not received His light, but rather have preferred darkness? Brothers and sisters, let us take in the Risen Lord, let us live in Him and walk in His light, that we may not stumble, but be partakers of the Kingdom of Heaven, our divine inheritance, and that our troubled souls find peace and rest, both here and in the world to come.

Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!

John, Bishop of Caracas and South America