# Notre Dame Elementary School

*Nurturing Dreams, Excellence and Success*

April, 2016

Dear Parents,

Recently, I came across this story which to me is a wonderful way to begin a letter on Easter and the Resurrection. The story goes that a terminally ill patient turned to his doctor as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side?" Very quietly the Doctor said, "I don't know." "You don't know?" "You are a Christian man and you don't know what lies beyond the grave?" The doctor was holding the handle of the door; and from the other side came a scratching sound. As he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness. Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He had no idea as to what was inside; only that his master was here. So when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death; but, I do know one thing...I know my Master is there and that is enough for me."

Central to the Christian's life is the mystery of the Resurrection. To understand the fullness of its mystery we must be open to the tears of loss that comes with the pain of human loving. While the joy of Resurrection is real, we still have to pass through the doorway of sorrow. Take a look at the thirteenth and fourteenth stations, and see Mary mourning the loss of her Son. She is experiencing great pain; yet, faith in the Resurrection if it be human and holy, has to contain the balance of joy and sorrow.

Each year at the first full moon of Spring, we celebrate Easter and the Resurrection. But do we know that Resurrection isn't just one day of the year. It happens every moment of our lives. Little Easters happen all around us; if we have the faith and the eyes to recognize them. Think for a moment of all the times in your life when you felt joy, surprise, amazement, hope, newness that rose from the tough stuff of daily living.

One author wrote, "My little Easters are those times when something that may have died in me is raised to life again. It is these little resurrections that provide quiet assurances that God keeps raising dead parts of my spirit to life and someday He will raise my entire body to new life. Jesus is here – He is in our midst. We have known too many little Easters to ever doubt that presence. God is always calling me, like Mary Magdalene in the garden, to re-enter into Easter – the great love story. We receive invitations daily to look for the resurrected Christ. Starting today, let us beg for an awareness of the little Easters all around us. Each evening, let us end with asking ourselves, "What have been our risings to new life today?" This Easter season let us proclaim to the world, "I have been raised from the dead. I am coming forth from my tomb...and I am on my way to bring resurrection to all who need God's healing life."

Lovingly in the Risen Christ,

Sister Carol Marek

13000 Auburn Road • Chardon, OH 44024
Office: 440.279.1127 • Admissions 440.279.1129 • Fax: 440.286.1235
www.notredameelementary.org
Preschool Office 440.286.7101 Ext. 5920