

Dear Friends,

First of all, I want to thank Trish Thibault, Dale Jurs and Paul Ortman for offering their witness talks this past weekend. I am so proud of the fact that they were able to stand before our entire community to speak to the importance of the Triduum.

During these three days we pray, we fast, we strive to place ourselves into the story of the Paschal Mystery; the story of our salvation. When we take a look at the world today, it can be so easy for us to be discouraged by all the violence, the scandals, the wars and the ways we show such blatant disregard for the sanctity and the dignity of human life. The Triduum reminds us, though, that we are given the promise of eternal life by the One whose life was destroyed so that we might know the love of God. What Jesus Christ did in his final days on earth still has an impact on our lives today. What kind of emphasis do we place on the Triduum?

On Saturday, March 22, 2008 we will celebrate the Easter Vigil. On this "Night of all nights" we welcome newly baptized and converted members to the Church. In the light of the Sacraments of Initiation we see the glory of the risen Christ come to life in the Elect and candidates for full communion in the Church. We hear the story of salvation history from the creation of the world through the beginning of our Church. We anticipate the reality of our present and future salvation in the glory of God's kingdom.

What we are doing is mysterious, it is profound; it is not to be avoided simply because we think we are too busy. How we celebrate Easter is far more important than any other event in our lives because it is all about the gift of God's eternal love for us. Please come and celebrate the Triduum with us this year. You will be amazed at what you will see.

In joyful hope,
Fr. Tim Seigel