

# FATHER STEVE'S HOLY SATURDAY REFLECTION

From Fire in the Darkness  
to the Joy of the Empty Tomb!



On Holy Saturday night, we gather in darkness, and then a single flame breaks it open, the Easter fire rising against the night, and something shifts deep within us. We have walked the long road of Lent, we have stood at the cross, we have kept watch in silence, and now we see light again. In that sacred moment, as new members are welcomed into the Church and step into the life of Christ, there is a quiet fulfillment that settles in, the sense that what we have lived has led us here. The Gospel tells us that at dawn the women came to the tomb, and the angel said, “Do not be afraid... He has been raised just as he said,” and they ran, fearful yet overjoyed, to share the news. That is where we stand. Not at the tomb, but beyond it. Saint Paul gives words to what fills the heart in this moment, “I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7). The darkness gives way, the stone is rolled back, and what once felt heavy is now lifted. We do not leave this night empty. We leave changed, carrying the light, knowing the journey was worth it, and that Christ is alive.