

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

I'm told that when I was a little kid, about a year-and-a-half old, my mom took me to the park one day on the merry-go-round. Not the kind with horses, but the kind that kids would just run alongside and get spinning as fast as you could and then jump on for the ride. Well, to make a long story short, Mom dropped me. She just lost hold of me. She was sitting on edge, and it just got going too fast, and I went flying out of her hands. I'm told I landed on my head, which perhaps explains a thing or two about me.

The law of physics tells us that the further something gets away from the center of a spinning object, the greater the velocity and therefore the easier it is to go flying. It is the same law of physics that allows Artemis II to fly around the moon.

It also explains why the further Christ is away from the center of our lives, the more likely we are to lose hold of Him. That is why we do what we do here on this Easter morning, and every weekend. It brings Christ back to the center.

Throughout the year our lives get spinning so fast - The demands of schedule upon family life, juggling meals and practice and appointments and lessons. We rely on their electronic devices to remind us of where we need to be and when we need to be there. We try to keep our relationships alive with texts and Twitter.

Add to that, the things that are out of our personal control: countries, including our own, wage war on other countries; we deal every day with violence and a fragile economy. Sickness and the effects of aging wreak havoc on our bodies and mental health.

And in all of this, we ask: Where is Christ? We find ourselves grasping for Christ in the midst of this fast-spinning world, because we so often allow Christ to move away from the center of our lives, and tragically, sometimes even slip out of our very grasp. We lose that sense of his peaceful presence and power in our lives.

We lose the promise his love brings and how his light can break through any darkness. His Word no longer guides us and we are no longer nourished by his Presence.

That is why we are here this morning. It is why, in the wisdom of her love for her children, the Church brings this grand Feast of Easter upon us every year. She pauses our fast-spinning,

sometimes out-of-control lives with a stark reminder that Christ has Risen. And once again, at least for this day, we find Him back in our center. Once again, we are able to hold fast to the promise: Christ lives!

- He lives to give us Calm when our lives seem out-of-control.
- He lives to give us Peace in this ever-violent world.
- He lives to give us Vision when we don't know which way to go.
- He lives to give us Forgiveness when sin has taken hold.
- He lives to speak of justice when vengeance seems to rule.
- He lives to inspire generosity when greed grips us.
- He lives to bring civility to communities broken by prejudice and fear.
- He lives to offer hope in the face of death.

I doubt that life will slow down for me or for any of us, or that sin will give up its grip in our world. But I do believe that if we bring Christ back to the center of our life on this Easter morning, and work to keep him there throughout the year, the world can spin as fast as it will, and He will never, ever slip from our embrace. And we will never slip from His.