



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office of the Cardinal
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

Easter 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the grace and peace of the Risen Lord Jesus be with you!

Today we are united with the Church throughout the world in rejoicing in the victory of our Lord and Savior over sin and death. For this reason “Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the ‘Feast of all feasts’, the ‘Solemnity of all solemnities’” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1169). Our cause for rejoicing permeates every aspect of our lives; it has changed the course of history for all time.

How blessed are we that God our Father has given us a share in the victory of His Son Jesus through the gift of faith and through the sacraments, especially Baptism and the Eucharist! What a difference it makes to know that we face the temptations and difficulties of life united with the One who has emerged victorious. As Saint Paul reminds us, “so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

I pray that God will deepen our faith in his Son’s Death and Resurrection, and through the renewal of the promises of our Baptism draw us ever more fully into this holy mystery.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Justin Card. Rigali

Cardinal Justin Rigali
Archbishop of Philadelphia

[Please communicate this letter to the faithful during the weekend of April 3-4, 2010]