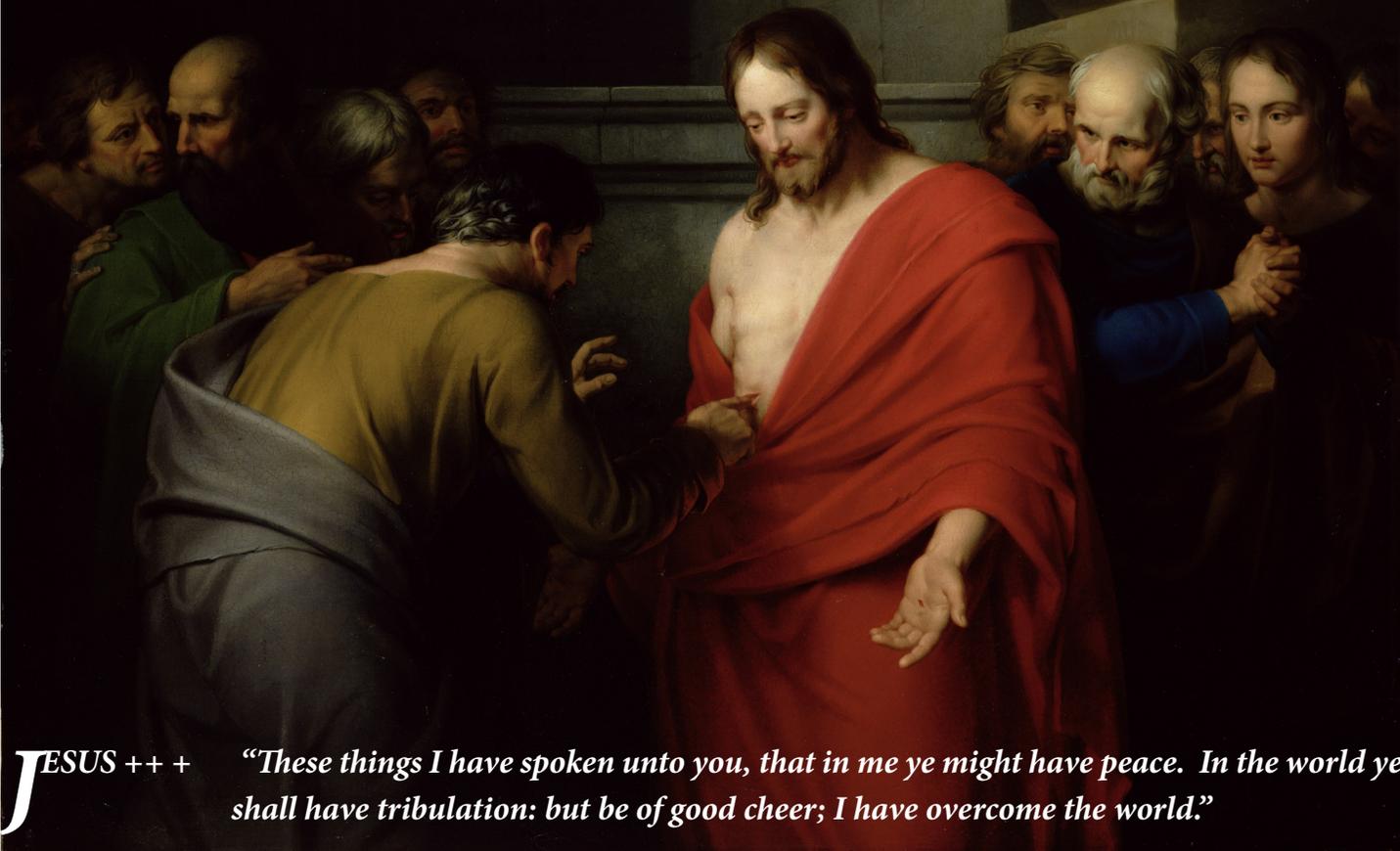


# EASTER DAY HOMILY 2013

Bishop Kenneth Kinner, Church of the Holy Family Holy Catholic Church Anglican Rite, Casper, WY



**J**ESUS +++ *“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”*

We are the disciples of One who overcame sin on the CROSS  
and overcame death in the Resurrection. We are to witness to these things !

We are both the **Body of Christ** and in the Revelation of John, the **Bride of Christ**.

In His Holy Name and in His Grace we are to also overcome the world!

- The 1st VOW in Holy Baptism:

*“I renounce the devil and all his works the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh.*

- The 2<sup>d</sup> VOW in Holy Baptism:

*“I believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith as contained in the Apostles’ Creed’.*

- The 3rd VOW in Holy Baptism:

*“I will obediently keep God’s holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of my life.”* .. On that DAY, when we meet Our Lord, we will answer for what we have done with what we have VOWED to **believe** and **do!!!**

The Lord of the Apostolic Creeds **never has, and never will** abandon us to the wiles of the Devil.

Please join me in giving the answer of our Church !

*1928 BCP p. 54*

To those around us who say there is no intelligent design or meaning in Creation- we answer:

***O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth;                      Have mercy upon us.***

To those around us who believe nothing is right, all is lost- we answer:

***O God the Son, Redeemer of the world;                                      Have mercy upon us***

To those around us who deem themselves above obedience to any moral power: we answer:

***O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful;                              Have mercy upon us.***

To those around us who value 'political correctness' above revealed Truth- re-writing the Holy Scriptures and the Book of Common Prayer' we answer:

***O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God;                                      Have mercy upon us.***

***Our answer is in the power of God !***

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I am now inviting you to a wedding:

Not the one in Cana of Galilee, where Jesus performed His first miracle - it would have been joyful to be a guest that day ! His magnificent bounty astonished everyone ! The best wine, a sign of the new covenant that was coming to pass in Him.

Not the wedding of the Lamb, with His Bride, the Church, in the Revelation of John- though we **will participate** in that wedding in Heaven.

I am inviting you to your wedding:

THE SOLEMNIZATION of MATRIMONY - a sacrament with an outward visible sign and an inward spiritual Grace. **Jesus**, bringing His Grace, His love in action, present by YOUR INVITATION that day.

You, your family, your guests addressed as '*Dearly beloved in the sight of God*'. '*To join this Man and this Woman in holy Matrimony, an honorable estate, instituted of God, signifying the mystical union that is between Christ and his Church.*'== Revelation to John 21:2 "*I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven as beautiful as a bride all adorned for her husband.* 22:17 "*The Spirit and the Bride say 'Come'. Let everyone who listens answer 'Come*'. At your marriage you were invited to the wedding of Jesus in Heaven! ! On 'that day' appointed you will go to that wedding ! Your marriage is in the fear of God.

*“Wilt thou have this woman? Wilt thou have this man? In this holdover from the ancient engagement, you vowed, in the **future tense**, that you will love and stand by one another, honor one another in all circumstances of good and bad as long as you live. You joined hands and vowed in the **present tense**, vows that actually effected you marriage; you are the ‘ministers’*

*“I take thee - to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish till death -and you affirmed this as God’s holy ordinance. You gave a blessed ring or rings, a sign of the eternity of God.*

This prayer was offered for you:

*“O Almighty God, Creator of mankind, who only art the well- spring of life; Bestow upon these thy servants, if it be thy will, the gift and heritage of children; and grant that they may see their children brought up in thy faith and fear, to the honor and glory of thy Name . ...*

The miraculous dignity of a family to have children: 1/2 Mom and 1/2 Dad., both SERVANTS of God. As a Dad, a Grandpa and a Great Grandpa I say to men - our role in creativity is essential and lasting for our natural lives. But men, I want you to look at your wife - a woman- a compliment to you. She is, like you, in the Image of God, but she has the biological capacity to have a new Image of God grow within her body. Even God’s own Son, by the willing acceptance of the Virgin Mary, came to birth in 9 months this way. Without mothers, mankind will cease to exist.

Children instinctively know that they are from both parents and achieve their very being from Mom & Dad. To be fully formed, mentally and spiritually, children need to be free to generously receive from, and express affection to, parents of both genders. Boys need to learn to love both father and mother. Girls need to learn to love both mother and father. All of what has been said about Matrimony & Family is the Divine plan of our Creator. It cannot be amended by mankind.

The formation of the Church, the formation of American life depends upon your marriage, and your children.

Today, the first day, - - - for over 100,000 Sundays---- the Resurrection of Jesus has been proclaimed by the Glorious company of the Apostles,

by the goodly fellowship of the Prophets,

by the noble army of Martyrs

and by millions of Christian families throughout the world. Here we are with Our Lord, Jesus the Messiah. ALLELUIA