

## Easter 2021 Message

As I journeyed on this 40-day season of Lent, I've come to see the beauty and richness of my faith. Due to the various demands and requirements not to spread the COVID 19 pandemic, many activities social and non-social gathering continuously been hindered. Federal, state and local governments had imposed lockdowns and stay home ordinances.

Eventually, I come to recognize that this resulted to a special gift. I learned this as a gift of time. The time given to me to focus my attention and energy on engaging fully in this Lenten season.

During my younger years in the Philippines, and even after I immigrated to the US, I first thought that Lent is just about giving up junk food or vowing to create healthy habits in my life. But Lent 2020 and this year Lent 2021 I discovered a much deeper (and more powerful) purpose behind in these past weeks leading up to Easter. I come to appreciate it in new ways.

Lent is the season in which I will be surprised by joy. My self-sacrifices serve no purpose unless I put aside my earthly desires. I am able to focus on my heart's deepest longing being united with CHRIST. In His suffering and death, His resurrection and triumph, I find my true JOY.

That, to me, is what Lent is all about. Being surprised by joy. Sacrificing myself as I give focus on greater closeness and union with HIM.

I thank you, Lord, for the gift of this season. Thank you for knowing what is in my heart. and for drawing me into a deeper [relationship](#) with you throughout the 40 days.

Knowing I came from dust, and my body will return to dust again, I know I will live in eternal glory with HIM through HIS most precious blood.

My Jesus, the journey you took to the cross was full of betrayal, grief, torture, and darkness, yet your unconditional love for me is everlasting. Help me to comprehend just how powerful that love is, that you would suffer such a cruel death to make a way for me to be with you in eternal glory. I thank you dear Jesus, for this profound gift.

Our dear brothers and sisters in the KFI Community, may we walk through this season removing distractions that take our attention away from His glory. May we quiet the noise that pulls us from complete praise and adoration of Him and we pray that we put away our attention on lesser things. May we simplify where we have been stressed, may we surrender what has been burdensome, may we repent of what has been sinful to our Lord Jesus.

May we see His goodness and His glory in new ways during HOLY WEEK. May this Holy Week leading up to His death on Good Friday, let us comprehend the depths of His love for us more fully. May we feel the pain He has endured for our sake, and may we rejoice that He conquered every bit of evil when He rose on Resurrection Sunday. May His glory reveal to us that He is in our life, how He loves us, and He has created us to be workers in His vineyard.

Let us have a unified work in the many KFI activities to get closer to His heart and be humble enough to go beyond our differences so that we might know HIM better and understand HIM more completely. We pray that we would not only give things up for Lent, but that we would give HIM glory through our daily walk. May our KFI ministry's actions reflect our hearts, and may we worship Him through all that we say and actively deliver His love not only during Holy Week but every day of our lives.

May our praise never cease in this season. May our worship be unending. May our love for Him find new purpose. May this season bring us new hope and new healing. May we journey toward the cross prayerfully and purposefully, through our pains, our doubts, our questions, and our search for the LIGHT in the midst of darkness.

On Easter Sunday, may we be surprised by joy in all of it. May Easter be a day of complete celebration as we rejoice in our risen Savior and praise our gracious Father.

Together we will find the truest joy in Jesus.

Hallelujah and Amen.

We wish Easter Blessings to all our brothers and sisters in the KFI Ministry family.

Bro Rey and Sis Marlene Osma