



Joy is He himself, HolyEaster2024 alive, present and always with us

*A Christian is a man, a woman of joy. What is this joy?
Is it cheerfulness? No, it is not, it is not the same thing...
Joy is something more, it is a different thing.
It does not come from passing reasons,
it is not related to the current economic situation - it is something deeper.
It is a gift... Joy is a gift from the Lord.
It fills us from the inside... This joy is the certainty that Jesus is with us...
Those who have met Jesus on their way feel in their hearts a peace and a joy
that no one could take away from them.
Our joy is Jesus Christ, his faithful love, an unfailing love...
A joy that lasts even in sorrow, trials, or persecutions...
it is a joy that touches the innermost part of ourselves...
The salvation brought by Jesus seizes all the human being and regenerates it...
Joy is the fruits of this intervention of salvation and love from God.*

Pope Francis

“I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete”. We never think enough about Jesus saying these words and talking about joy just hours before he is arrested, cruelly tortured and killed. Therefore, the joy that Christ promises and asserts has something to do and stands even the hardest trials, the most unbearable difficulties, even the bitter reality of our impending frailties and miseries. For this reason, the joy asserted by Jesus is quite a different ‘thing’ as to what it is suggested and fostered by a worldly and common way of thinking... The joy suggested and promised by Jesus is quite a different ‘thing’, because he does not assert a ‘reality’ that can deaden, avoid, silence the plight of our life, the plight of our human misery. The joy suggested and promised by Jesus is his very presence - it is the joy of his presence as a living presence, a presence who is always with us within our whole human condition and existence, within the daily and dramatic weave of our humanity, where he proves himself victorious over what relentlessly overwhelms and would always overwhelm us. The joy of the heart is only possible in the certain and renewed experience of his living presence who can make us embrace, go through, bear and overcome all that it is impossible for us to embrace, go through, bear and overcome... For this reason, the ‘reality’ that can ‘challenge’ the mentality of the world, any possible and conceivable theory, idea, fantasy and opinion on human happiness and salvation is the ‘reality’ of joy, joy as a tangible experience - the carnal, visible and tangible presence of men and women who live in hope and joy.