

## **EASTER REFLECTION 2021**

*“When John looked into the empty tomb, he saw, and he believed.”*  
(John Ch.20 verse 8)

A number of years ago a teenage high school student had just finished his usual Sunday morning paper run, this time it was on an Easter Sunday morning. When he had finished, he passed his local Catholic Church, he had no intention to go to Mass as he was in the midst of a typical teenage rejection of the Church.

But what caught his attention was that the rising sun hit the big silver cross in front of the Church and its brightness overwhelmed him to such an extent that it suddenly dawned on him as to what Easter could be all about. This boy told his parents later that morning; *“It suddenly dawned on me that God’s light is stronger than any darkness in this world and it created a warmth that I wanted to now experience.”* How he did this in the immediate and in the long term would be interesting to know!

We are all living in unpredictable times especially with the worldwide *COVID-19* crisis, yet it is so important that we remember that we should not define ourselves by our problems but rather by our beliefs, word, and actions. Easter provides all people with a wonderful and enduring message that truth and life is stronger than falsity and death.

The significance of Easter has been put so succinctly by the Congregationalist minister J. S. Whale (1877-1987); *“That the Gospels don’t really explain Easter rather the Easter event explains the Gospels!”* Fr Martin R Maunsell