

HOLY SATURDAY: The Empty Tomb

Why do you look for the living among the dead?

He is not here; he has risen!

Luke 24:5-6

Rejoice! This is the night,
when Christ broke the prison-bars of death
and rose victorious from the underworld.

Our birth would have been no gain, had we not been redeemed.
O wonder of your humble care for us! O love, O charity beyond all telling,
to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!

O truly necessary sin of Adam,
destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!

O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!
O truly blessed night, worthy alone to know the time and hour
when Christ rose from the underworld!

The Easter Proclamation (Exsultet)

**Living God,
break through the disappointments and disillusionments
that send us home, sad and silent,
like the Emmaus disciples with crucified hearts.**

**You, who toss boulders from the mouths of tombs
like pebbles into a river,
touch us this day with ripples of resurrection joy.**

**The news is too good not to be true,
that nothing in life or in death
can impede your vitality from reaching and raising us
from death to abundant life.**

**In this together,
help us to recognise the Risen One in our midst,
that our hearts might stir once more
with possibilities of resurrection,
and fresh songs of hope.**

by Bruce Sanguin (If Darwin Prayed: Prayers for Evolutionary Mystics)