

Fr. Gerry Hurley
Easter Sunday

The wisdom of little children sometimes just confounds us. How simply they can explain some of the great mysteries of our faith!

A priest had been telling the second grade class all about the arrest of Jesus and His crucifixion. He taught them about how Jesus journeyed to Calvary, His last words on the Cross, and that He subsequently died.

He asked the children, "What was the last thing Jesus said before He died on the Cross?" A hand in the back of the class goes up. "Yes, Jonathan?" Father said. Jonathan answered, "Jesus said, 'I'll be back.'"

Now, that was likely not the words that Jesus used. But, Jonathan was certainly all over the Message! Jesus said to His disciples, "In a little while you will not see me, and then a little while later you will see me." (John 16:16)

Yes, He was back alright! The Gospel description of discovering the Empty Tomb, with the discarded linen cloths, was not in itself a direct proof of the Resurrection. However, it was one helpful step in the midst of their darkness. It was perhaps their first step toward believing that He had overcome death. It was maybe the first step on their way to an encounter with the Risen Lord.

During our 40 days of Lent we have been studying and reflecting on Rick Warren's book, "What On Earth Am I Here For?"

Certainly, a part of that reality is to know what Jonathan knew -- "I'll Be Back" -- He is back, and He desires to have a personal relationship with each one of us!

We have concluded our 40 Days of preparation, and we now enter into 50 Days of Celebrating His Resurrection. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit fall afresh on us!