



A. Symbol of Faith



Concerning faith in the risen Christ as the very source of Christian life, the apostle Peter preached the following: “Jesus of Nazareth ... God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ... This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses” (Acts 2:22-24, 32). The significance of the Resurrection for our salvation is affirmed by the apostle Paul: “If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile” (1 Cor 15:17). Thus, for almost two thousand years, the Church has unceasingly witnessed and preached the Resurrection of Christ in order that people may believe and be saved: “How are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ... So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ” (Rom 10:14, 17). (# 2)

Informational

4. What does St. Paul mean when he says “if Christ has not been raised your faith is futile”?

Group Discussion

3. What is your understanding of these words?

4. What implications would this have in a discussion with those who don't believe in the resurrection and say that Jesus was just a really good guy – a perfect model for how we are to live?

5. What changed in the world as a result of the resurrection?

Personal

2. How strongly do I believe in the resurrection?

3. What difference does the fact of the resurrection make to my life?

4. Describe a time in your life when you experienced the power of the resurrection.