



*Siena Oil on Canvas, 21st cent.
"Duomo d'Orvieto"*

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

***Resplendent with virtues,
Let us behold the angels standing in brilliant clothes inside the tomb,
Giving light to the saddened myrrh-bearing women!
Let us learn of the resurrection of the Lord of Heaven,
And hasten with Peter to the tomb of life;
Let us stand before his wondrous resurrection,
And contemplate the wonderful works of Christ!***

Carpatho-Rusyn Easter Plainchant

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

Indeed, let us contemplate the wonderful works of Christ: crucified and buried, now raised from the dead, seated at the Father's right hand, eternally pouring forth the Spirit, continually calling and equipping us to be doers of his wonderful works!

I find myself wondering what was the Lord aware of, thinking really, in those first eternal moments of resurrection. Coming forth from the tomb, from the darkness of the earth and from earth's darkness, in the light of day and into a day that has no end, what did he see and know?

The Risen and Eternal One, seeing all things at once, continued to walk among us in time for forty more days. (There's that biblical forty again.) He continued to interact with those who act in time, past preceding the present that opens into the future. Why?

Well, the wonderful works of Christ – Passion, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Gift of the Spirit – were just beginning. Not simply events in our collective human past, they give purpose and shape and meaning to each of our present lives, all pressing forward to eternal glory.

What he saw and knew, coming forth from that tomb, were all the wonderful works you and I can do, by his gracious Spirit. Not performed yet, but potential. Only realized when you and I respond. What Christ contemplated when he contemplated his own wonderful works, were your wonderful works and mine. All that we can do, and will do, in Him.

His resurrection is the start; God's creation continues; the favors of the Lord are renewed every day! Every day, we are summoned to come forth from our tombs. When the "stay-at-home" orders are lifted, THAT will be a coming forth from a tomb unlike any other you and I thought we would ever experience. As we come forth, with resurrection faith, may we live life in the manner worthy of so great a gift.

May God Bless,
Fr. Grogan