

*Life has conquered death.*

*Mercy and love have conquered sin!*

We stand today before the empty tomb of Jesus, and meditate with wonder and gratitude on the great mystery of the Resurrection of the Lord. Life has conquered death. Mercy and love have conquered sin! There is need of faith and hope to open this new and wonderful horizon.

We know that faith and hope are a gift from God and we have to ask: ‘Lord, give me faith, give me hope! We have so much need!

Rediscover and welcome with particular intensity the comforting announcement of the resurrection: ‘Christ, my hope, is risen!’ because, if Christ is risen, we can look with new eyes and hearts at every event of our lives, even the most negative. The moments of darkness, of failure, and also of sin can be transformed.

When we have reached the base of our misery and our weakness, the risen Christ gives us the strength to lift ourselves up. If we have faith in Him, His grace saves us! The crucified and risen Lord is the full revelation of mercy, present and active in history.

The silent witness to the events of the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus was Mary. She was standing next to the cross: She did not collapse in the face of grief, but her faith made her stronger. In the broken heart of a mother, there was always the flame of hope. We ask her to also help us to accept in fullness the Easter proclamation of resurrection, to embody it concretely in our daily lives.