

Two weeks ago, I asked the question: "Do you care?" I asked this in relation to the fact that it was Holy Week with Easter right around the corner. I gave you the Gospel and thus the reasons you ought to care. My prayer is that someone did read my words and that the Holy Spirit used them to stir your heart. But once again, I may simply be preaching to the choir, those who purposely seek out the "Clergy Corner" for encouragement. Whatever the case, though, I pray that your Holy Week and Easter were joyous and God-glorifying. But remember this, Easter is not done.

I shared this story in my devotion group last week. On the Monday following Easter I took the day off to rest and recuperate after a busy couple weeks. The kiddos were just finishing breakfast when my daughter declared, "*I want to color Easter eggs.*" I looked at her and said, "*Sweetie, you do realize that it is not Easter, right?*" To which she quickly and proudly responded, "***Daddy, it is always Easter.***" And she was right.

You see, to look at Easter as simply a Church holiday (holy day) that comes and goes each year is to bring Easter down to the level of, let's say, Flag Day. Did you know that there is a Flag Day on the calendar? It is June 14 in case you are wondering. I had to look it up. But if you are one of those who did remember, I am guessing that you do not spend much time thinking about it. I would also venture the guess that Flag Day does not dramatically change or influence your life. It is a day that comes and goes without a lot of pomp and circumstance. This is not to say that our flag is not important. On the contrary, but it is not what ultimately gives one meaning in life.

Easter, on the other hand, changed the course of human history. Jesus rose from the grave, defeating death, and thus gave sinners the hope of the resurrection. Through faith in Jesus, sinners are now reconciled back to God. Without Jesus, sinners are condemned for all eternity. I would say that is pretty important, something to remember each and every day, not just once a year. And frankly, I need this reminder each and every day, because I sin each and every day and thus, I need the Good News that I am forgiven.

So yes, Easter is an everyday Holy Day. It is an everyday reality. It is an everyday Good News pick me up and strengthening against the wiles of the devil. And so, do you care about this Easter thing? I sure pray you do. Happy Easter, everyone, today and always. Amen!