

SPG# 127, Easter 2007

Fr. Charles Pope

For the first time in 34 years Mary and I did not die Easter eggs with one or more of our children. Because the children have left the nest to have adult lives of their own. And there are pieces of that joy, that energy, and that magic that I shall miss and do miss. But not all aspects of that increased quietness and space are to be lamented. In fact we are discovering the advantages in that life.

Today's gospel account of Mary Magdalene finding the tomb is also a story of wonder and magic. But I have found that even as I change as a person the magic in this story remains and even evolves. In our parenting I think we are finding a new magic as our children continue to grow and develop, using their time in our home as a basis.

I would hope that our appreciation of the Easter story is somehow kin. I would hope that we would allow for a new magic based on our celebrations in the past, but completely new in the present. And that really is how this story and all the stories in the New Testament work. The more you steep yourself in the stories, in the teachings, in the accounts the more you realize that the words are alive and have the power to uplift us toward a celebration. So, immerse yourself in the story of how the spell and finality of death was broken. Allow for the magic of Easter 2007 that has the power to uplift you and make you more magical, more loving, more Christlike. And when we do we become as Mary Magdalene that day. Readers and listeners become witnesses. And we are able to say as she said, "He is risen." Amen.