March 27, 2016

Happy Easter to one and all! We are filled with joy as we celebrate Christ’s resurrection.

You may notice if you are reading this at mass that the church is a bit more crowded than usual. St. Francis Xavier (College) Church is beloved by so many people. Even those who may only get back for this morning, it has a special place in their heart. Perhaps you are an alumnus of SLU, or maybe you were married here, or perhaps you live out of town and are back for Easter. No matter. I hope you consider this a spiritual home, and you are welcome in this holy place.

St. Ignatius Loyola believed the primary work of the Risen Lord is to console and encourage. Think of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus that first Easter who are fleeing Jerusalem after Jesus’ death. He comes to them, walks and talks on the way, and is revealed in the breaking of the bread. They are so consoled they race back to tell everyone what has happened.

My prayer is that College Church may always be a source of encouragement and consolation. I hope this community models Jesus Christ’s ministry to His friends after the resurrection. May you feel encouraged every time you walk through our doors, whenever you come. I pray, too, that Easter joy is carried by you out our doors into the world.

Fr. Dan White, S.J.