Coming Home at the Easter Vigil

Daniel Anderson

Nothing characterizes the Catholic Faith more, in my opinion, than what took place at the Easter Vigil. Everything about the four marks of the Church (one, holy, catholic, and apostolic) was presented in a tangible way during this event. We are one Church, united by one faith, set apart for one God, universal in culture and in family, and led by the successors of the Apostles, gathered together in Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. The family element was so abundantly clear at the Vigil. For, though we had lost friends and intimacy with family, we



saw that God gave us new family and friends. It brings tears to my eyes to reflect upon the love we experienced all along our journey and especially at the culmination of the journey.

There we were, kneeling before the altar upon which the Holy Spirit had descended to change the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of our Lord. At the appointed moment, we rose from our seats and proceeded toward the priest. With a contrite heart and an open mouth, we feasted upon our Lord, receiving Him into our bodies and souls. The heavens opened up and time stood still as we all communed together — with those present, with those who had gone before us, and with those who will join us in the future. By the grace of God, we had entered into full communion with the Church Christ founded.

Reflection Questions

1. What aspect of the Easter Vigil are you most looking forward to?

2. Who are you inviting to your confirmation and why?

3. How would you explain to friends and family what's taking place at your confirmation?

"Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won't be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do."

Pope Francis



Helping others to discover the truth and beauty of the Catholic Church and to make the journey home.

Find more resources at: chnetwork.org/RCIA

Suggested Further Reading



