



## *Reflection from Fr. Mike Roach*

As we journey through the Easter season, we continue to reflect upon the Scriptures. This week we learn how the disciples and the women came to understand the message of the Resurrection, and how the early community struggled through difficulties and conflicts to become faithful to the message of the Risen Lord.

In our nation right now, with so much violence against Asian-Americans and African-Americans, and minorities in general, it is difficult to see the New Life and Hope the message of Easter brings. But that is where we have to be faithful to the message of Jesus---to 'not be afraid', but go and share the good news with others. The Good News message is that God's Love over comes all hatred, fear and discrimination.

In our own individual lives, we are called to reflect the message of justice, of compassion and continue to be a voice for those whose voices are not heard---the poor and the marginalized in our society. As the Easter candle burns brightly through these fifty days of Easter, it reminds us to be that Light shining in the midst of darkness and despair. May each of us and the community of St. James continue to be that beacon of hope.

*~ Peace,  
Fr. Mike*