

Dear confrere,

At that first Easter dawn –so claimed a pious folk belief in medieval Europe– the Christ awoke to New Life laughing. It was this belief that gave rise to a popular custom –claimed to be still alive here and there in Eastern Europe– of people gathering at the church courtyard on Easter Monday to swap jokes ... clean or otherwise. All that mattered for them was the cheerful resounding of the Risen One's first expression of his victory over Evil and Death: laughter!

In keeping with such sane popular piety, allow me to share with you an e-reflection on our Easter faith. Just the audiovisual mix is mine; its funny components came my way through cyberspace, where they are being swapped around as video clips meant to cheer friends or loved ones. The joyful hymn is composed by a member of a Filipino singing group named *Bukas Palad* ('Open Hand Palms'), for whom music is ministry. The lyrics go:



*We are the children of Easter morning.
We sing to proclaim the Lord's might.
Now there's meaning to a life of dying,
For the Lord our God has conquered the night.
With joy we dedicate our lives to the service
Of the God of life whose goodness we've known
Until our lives be themselves our song of Easter morn.*

*May our simple lives be a song of praise to the goodness of the Lord!
May the Lord delight in this song we sing, this song we sing with joy!
If we had to sing just one song to the Lord Creator of life,
May our lives be that song resounding in praise
To the goodness and glory of God!*

[Click here now](#)
[... and let us join in resounding
the victorious laughter of the Risen Lord!](#)

Wishing you Easter
Peace and Joy,

Pio Estyn

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