

✠INI✠

I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this? (Jn 11:25-26)

Well, do you?

Today's one of those days where we see how important it is to believe this.

One of those days, where death no longer hides abstractly in the future,

But let's its face be seen right here and now.

There's no way to escape death except by rising again—
resurrection.

And that's who Jesus *is*.

He *is* the resurrection and the life—

Louise's resurrection and Louise's life.

She was His and He is hers.

And now she rests with her Lord.

She rests in a quiet, peaceful, joyous sleep—

Until the Lord returns and raises this body that we're about to put in the ground.

The fact that we even have to put the body in the ground shows us that sin is real, with real consequences.

Our text today talks about the death and resurrection of a sinner named Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha.

Lazarus' death prepared the early disciples for Jesus' death.
And Jesus' death prepared all who follow Him for their deaths.

What goes for Jesus goes for Louise,
and then eventually, for you.

Do you believe this?

Do you believe that death has the final word?

Or, do you believe that even though you die, you will live?

That Jesus is Himself your life and your resurrection?

Well, you'd do well to answer with Mary, Lazarus' sister,

Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world. (Jn 11:27)

For that is how faith talks.

That's how Louise talked and will always talk.

For Louise lives, even though she died.

Her life has no end because the life she lives is the life of Christ (Gal 2:20),

Who, even though He died, rose and lives for you.

Jesus is the resurrection and the life,

Both for Louise,

And for all whom He calls to be His own.

And if you've been made His through Baptism,

Then the life that Louise lives in Christ,

Is a taste of your life as well.

I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live. (Jn 11:25)

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