

## LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE by WITNESSING

Veils are common practice among some cultures and religions around the world. The veils are visible to all, proclaiming the person's beliefs.

Whether we realize it or not, everyone wears a veil; a veil that covers our hearts. The season of Lent lasts for forty days and forty nights. It is a time when our hearts are covered with the veil. We fast and ask for forgiveness for the sins we have committed.

Only when we accept the ways of the Lord, will we be able to lift the veil from our hearts. Whenever we come before the Lord with our veils lifted, we allow our heart and soul to be exposed, raw and vulnerable - allowing us to receive his love, hear his message, and to feel his presence.

We can celebrate on Palm Sunday-the day that Jesus was accepted into Jerusalem. This is also the day that the Passover begins-when an innocent lamb is chosen for the Passover Meal. But, Holy Week is a difficult time to remove our veils. Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus washing the feet of the disciples and the Last Supper with them. On Good Friday, we recall the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. This is also the day that the Passover lambs are slain. Then, on Saturday, Pilate grants a guard to set a seal on the tomb of Jesus.

But on Easter Sunday, we can remove our veils as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and his victory over sin and death. Through this life changing experience, we learn removing our veils allows our light to shine for Jesus. We will be able to witness to others with this message: "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet he shall live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25 RSV)

When we keep our hearts covered, we deprive ourselves and others of God's love, mercy and grace; and we fail to share the light of knowledge to others. Let us unveil our hearts so that our faces will shine radiantly through the blessings we have received. By allowing our light to shine, we receive the opportunity to witness to others God's love for us through the gift of his son, Jesus Christ - the everlasting light.

"Let your light so shine before men..."

— Matthew 5:16 (RSV)

With blessings,

Janet Pierce

District Communications Coordinator

pdj1169@gmail.com