

**Year of Faith**  
**Liturgical Minute No. 6**  
**Faith Fills Us With the Joy of Love**

Faith fills us with... “the joy of love” – the love of Christ for us, and our love for Christ. The joy of mutual love that we share with Christ “is the answer to the drama of suffering and pain, the power of forgiveness in the face of an offence received, and the victory of life over the emptiness of death.” Faith finds its fulfillment in the mystery of Christ becoming man – “in his sharing our human weakness so as to transform such weakness by the power of his Resurrection.”

Faith in Christ’s Resurrection, in his ascension to the right hand of the Father where he pleads for us, and in his promise that he is preparing a place for us to be him in heaven, should “*make* us fruitful, because it opens our hearts in hope, and enables us to offer life-giving witness to others.”

Jesus has told us that *whatever we do for the least of our sisters or brothers, we do unto him*. Through faith in Christ, we can recognize the face of the risen Lord in the faces of those around us who ask for our love. It is Christ’s love within us that that impels us to assist him in his mission of love whenever, along our journey of life, he becomes our neighbor in need.

Major Sources: Apostolic Letter *Porta Fidei* of Pope Benedict XVI, and Father Thomas Merton, O.C.S.O., *Magnificat Year of Faith Companion*.