



DON GIOVANNI LORENZO CALASTRI  
coadiutore  
Comunità pastorale San Gregorio magno  
Olgiate Olona

Provost church ancient Collegiate of Santi Stefano e Lorenzo Olgiate Olona  
June 26, 2024

**HOMILY**  
**MASS IN SUFFRAGE OF THE SEVENTY IMMORTAL LIVES**  
**OF THE PLANE CRASH OF OLGiate OLONA OF JUNE 26, 1959**  
on the 65th anniversary

***The hope of the Risen Christ***

May Jesus Christ be praised!

How consoling it is for all of us to enter that right dimension of life that faith assures us, and which unfortunately today seems to be unknown to most: *It is necessary, in fact, for this corruptible body to be clothed with incorruptibility and for this mortal body to be clothed with immortality.*

Faced with everyday tragedies, and in particular in memory of what happened 65 years ago in the plane crash of Olgiate Olona, we do not have the power to change the course of events, but we always have the possibility of bringing hope, of illuminating people on the mysterious fruitfulness of pain, on the closeness of God, on the importance of every life, whatever its journey, on what awaits us in the arms of the Trinity.

Christ says in the Gospel: *Whoever sees the Son of God and believes in him has eternal life: I will raise him up on the last day.* There is an inseparable link between the faith in the resurrection of the Lord and the entry into endless bliss.

The resurrection of the Lord was not a simple return to earthly life: if it had been this, death would have said the last word in the end, but as Saint Paul reiterated: *Death was swallowed for victory.*

The resurrection is, therefore, the victory over death and also the greatest mutation that happened to the humanity of Christ; the entry of his body into an absolutely new dimension: into the very life of God.

Jesus no longer dies; death no longer has any power over Him: the fullness of divinity now dwells bodily in Him. But this fact, which actually happened, does not only concern Jesus. It happened to Him and in Him, but not because it remained exclusively his. He rose so that each of us could rise again with Him: to enter - like Him - into possession of the very life of God. The resurrection of Jesus is like the sun that brings every reality to life.

Today we pray for the seventy victims who we call *immortal*, because they are clothed with the immortality of Christ's Easter, despite the tragedy of an accident that has marked the history of a country and of the entire civil society.

Let us pray for their souls, so that they may arrive welcome in the presence of God in the homeland of the celestial Jerusalem and may, in the living memory of this drama, reawaken the hope of the Risen One in our consciences.

May Jesus Christ be praised!

May Jesus Christ be praised!

*don Giovanni Lorenzo Calastri*