

Resurrection of the Dead

What is the Resurrection of the Dead? The Resurrection of the Dead is the Christian belief that at the end of time, Jesus Christ will come again for the Final Judgment – the dead will be raised and their souls will be reunited with their bodies – the righteous will be raised to the “resurrection of life” and the wicked will be raised to the “resurrection of condemnation” (cf. John 5:29). Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead by restoring his dead body to life, but in his restored body, Lazarus ultimately died again. In the Final Judgment, however, the righteous will receive permanent “glorified” or “perfected” bodies like Christ’s; i.e., bodies that are permanent and incorruptible, radically transformed and superior to the bodies they had on earth. On the other hand, the bodies of the wicked will not be glorified; i.e., their bodies will be as the ones they had on earth – but their bodies will also be permanent and incorruptible, making them capable of enduring everlasting shame and punishment.

Why is it important for the soul to reunite with the resurrected body? At the particular judgment, wouldn’t the soul have already gone either to heaven, hell or purgatory?

- (1) At the Particular Judgment, the body is left behind while the soul faces immediate judgment to enter heaven, hell, or purgatory. But at the Final Judgment, all souls will be reunited with their bodies to enter their final, eternal state. One way to look at it is that the Particular Judgment is not yet the final chapter, but the Final Judgment is.
- (2) Human beings are created not just with souls, but in a unity of body and soul. The separation of body and soul caused by death is unnatural; the Resurrection of the Dead restores the human being to their complete state.
- (3) Scripture speaks of the “redemption of the body” (cf. Romans 8:23); this indicates that it is not only our souls that are saved or condemned, but also our bodies.
- (4) The resurrected body is permanent and incorruptible; this allows a person to experience either eternal life or eternal damnation in a complete way.



Catholic Tradition has described the “glorified” or “perfected” bodies as having the characteristics of identity, entirety, and immortality: Identity means the soul will be reunited with the body of the same person – a person’s soul will not be reunited with another person’s body, entirety means the restoration of all bodily parts – an amputee will have his missing bodily part restored, and immortality means freedom from death and decay.

The “glorified” or “perfected” bodies will have four “transcendent qualities”: (1) impassibility or incorruptibility – The body is no longer subject to decay, disease, pain, or death. It is immortal and free from the weaknesses of mortal life. (2) clarity or radiance – The body is filled with the splendor of God’s glory, radiating a spiritual light and beauty that reflects the righteous soul, similar to Jesus’

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每周公告 Weekly Bulletin
2026年三月二十一日 March 22, 2026

appearance at the Transfiguration. (3) agility or speed – The body is free from the constraints of gravity and physical exhaustion, it is able to move with total ease, speed, and obedience to the soul's desires. (4) Subtlety or Spirituality – While remaining tangible and physical, the body is fully subject to the soul, acting more like a spirit than a limited, material object. This quality allowed Jesus to appear in locked rooms.

These transcendent qualities actually capture the substance of St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians: "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown corruptible; it is raised incorruptible. It is sown dishonorable; it is raised glorious. It is sown weak; it is raised powerful. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual one." (1Cor 15:22-24).

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention children and parents: We will have Sunday School class today!

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal for 2026 has begun. Our goal is \$3,500. As of last week, we have collected \$3,070 in donations to the Archbishops Annual Appeal. We need \$430 more to reach our goal. For your convenience, you can make your donations through our church. If you wish to donate through our church, please make sure your check is payable to HNOJ and write AAA in the memo. Please use the AAA envelopes provided. Thank you for your support.

Did you know that you can make donations to the church directly from your retirement account? Each time you make a distribution from your retirement account, it is counted as taxable income. However, if you make a donation (up to \$108,000), to qualified charities through QCD (Qualified Charitable Distributions), these donations, although not tax-deductible, are excluded from taxable income. Many older retired donors use this strategy to lower their taxable income, but it also satisfies Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) without increasing their adjusted gross income (AGI). Consult your financial advisor or contact your retirement account specialist.

Prayer List: Bian Meiyi, Chen Shupeng, Ni Yufang, Lydia Chen, David Wang, Chen Jianxin, Liang Chenjing and Xu Taicheng.

Mass Schedule	Confessions	Bible Study
Sundays 10:30 AM (Chinese)	By Appointment	Wednesdays 10:00 AM (Chinese)
Sundays 2:00 PM (English)		
	Anointing of the Sick	Eucharistic Adoration
Mondays 12:00 PM (English)	First Sundays after 10:30 AM Mass	Sundays 9:00 to 10:00 AM
Tuesdays 12:00 PM (English)	First Fridays after 7:00 PM Mass	
Wednesdays 12:00 PM (Chinese)		
Fridays 12:00 PM (English)		
First Friday 7:00 PM (English)		