An Easter Reflection by Gerard T. Broccolo, STD

As the Lenten season comes to a close, we anticipate a new beginning of Easter glory. The culmination of our efforts to overcome deadly infections of our spiritual well-being is celebrated in the solemn rituals of the week we call "holy."

As the Easter season dawns, we celebrate the core event of Christianity, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and the way in which new life is stirring in our community of faith. The ability to believe in the human spirit's potential for renewal is rooted in our faith. But the ability to believe in the human spirit's potential for renewal is revealed in our change of a single attitude or behavior.

Perhaps our greatest challenge as caregivers and health care professionals is our ability to believe that the best is yet to come—both in our individual life and in our shared ministry of healing. We ground our hope for a better tomorrow, for some modest step forward in health care reform and for some breakthrough in alleviating the pain and suffering of those for whom we care, in the Easter mystery of death and resurrection.

Jesus has shown us his way of letting go and coming alive so that others may have life more fully. Each of us contributes our part to this collective effort of outreach to others when we can honestly celebrate a positive influence that another receives because of my struggle to overcome an addictive attitude or behavior. Each of us has the potential to be a sign of Easter hope for someone around us.

If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you.

You were once darkness, but now you are light.