

## A Paschal Meditation for 2018



“Or are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into his death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6: 3-4). These words from the readings of the Easter Vigil put me in mind of the following *Autobiography in Five Chapters* by Portia Nelson:

*Chapter 1: I walk down the street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I fall in. I am lost... I am helpless. It isn't my fault. It takes forever to find a way out.*

*Chapter 2: I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I pretend I don't see it. I fall in again. I can't believe I am in this same place. But it isn't my fault. It still takes a long time to get out.*

*Chapter 3: I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I see it is there. I still fall in... It's a habit... But, my eyes are open. I know where I am. It is my fault. I get out immediately.*

*Chapter 4: I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I walk around it.*

*Chapter 5: I walk down another street.*