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# The Swiss Observer

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EDITED BY MRS. MARIANN MEIER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE SWISS COLONY IN GREAT BRITAIN

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## HAPPY



## EASTER

Ponte Capriasco  
Ticino  
(By courtesy Swiss  
National Tourist Office)

### EASTER THOUGHTS

At Christmas, the churches are full. But Easter, alas, somehow does not seem to fit into the pattern of church life in a general way. Easter is to be celebrated, at least this side of the Alps, in "nature". And not even necessarily in our own countryside, but in other parts of the world whither colourful travel posters lure us. With some certainty, we can believe in the place of Christ's birth, but when it comes to Easter, even in those days, nothing was visible, unless, as Hans Kanitz expressed it, one takes "somebody-not-there" as a pointer to existence. But that is philosophy and has nothing to do with faith.

Faith comes into its own at Easter. It is Easter which reveals that the Christian is marked by believing and not just accepting. Believing in the resurrection of Christ, which gives us the assurance of eternal life.

Many are looking forward to a few days of welcome rest and relaxation. There is nothing wrong with that. There is nothing wrong with a close look at nature, God's nature, too. But where the message of Christ's resurrection stands in the centre of our Easter experience, it will illuminate the days and weeks and months of worry and turmoil inevitably to follow any holiday.