

WORD FROM THE PASTOR

EASTER SUNDAY: ALLELUIA ALLELUIA ALLELUIA - CHRIST IS RISEN!



**BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE RISEN CHRIST,
TO BEGIN, I WISH YOU A HAPPY EASTER**

Today, our world is openly marked by death, wars, violence, divisions, economic crises, and climate crises sometimes in new forms; all of this repeats itself from century to century. Blood flows everywhere and millions lost their lives by unnecessary wars and conflicts. Our own country, too, is marked by divisions and violent forces that scar public political and social life, reaching even into the most hidden realms of domestic violence.

Many requests for the Sacrament of Baptism on Easter Night are swimming against the tide of the carnage that the world displays before us. These catechumens growing in number express the joy of Easter: **the encounter with God who has led them from death to life.**

Many of them have, amidst their own suffering, experienced the Resurrection. Strengthened by this decisive experience, they ask to enter the Church in order to receive **the Holy Spirit, the very Spirit through Whom God raised Jesus from the dead.**

More than ever, we are called to proclaim and experience the truth that God has truly saved the world by raising Jesus from the dead **"so that, upon hearing the message of salvation, the whole world may believe; that, in believing, it may hope; and that, in hoping, it may love."** We must declare with conviction that God bears no responsibility for this suffering save for having created human beings with the gift of freedom.

Yet, the answer He offers the world regarding the presence of evil is this: **He became incarnate in Jesus Christ; He lived through the very experiences we face; He died upon the Cross. That is His answer.**

Jesus alone is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life" for the world past, present, and to come. Apart from Him, there is no other possibility for the world or for human beings to be saved from death. No human being can do so. Our hope is well-founded: Jesus is the Firstborn from the dead.

By giving us what is best His Holy Spirit He calls us to follow the path of life that He Himself walked, and to experience the resurrection with Him by passing through death. Thus, as Saint Paul says: **"If, during our lifetime, we undergo a death that resembles His, we shall experience a resurrection that resembles His."**

Whether we are newcomers to the Church or long-standing Christians, may this Easter 2026 transform our lives into a passage through death with Jesus Christ provided that we align ourselves with the very same Spirit as He. Happy Easter to you all beloved parishioners.

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Very Rev. Fr. Lucien Eugene Pierre Ph.D., Pastor, VF

Dean of Northwest Broward Deanery of the Archdiocese Miami – April 5, 2026