

Easter Message to St. Elizabeth Parish



Easter 2021

Dear St. Elizabeth Parishioners,

The Glory of Easter: Happy Easter! What a spiritual journey it has been! Since Ash Wednesday, we have been walking discerningly with Jesus Christ. Listening deeply, we have been responding to God. His grace has been at work. Heeding the call to believe in the gospel, we have been engaged in spiritual and devotional practices. Now is the moment of truth and light. Christ is Risen, Alleluia! He has vanquished death and darkness, Alleluia! He has destroyed sin and evil, Alleluia!

Personal Meaning of Easter: The Easter Lord uplifts each of us from sinfulness to grace, from despair to hope, from lethargy to energy, from sadness to joy, from fear to courage, from coldness to warmth, from hatred to love. We are convinced that he *easters* in us. Now we can hope. We can shine. We can overcome. We can love. We can share. We can celebrate. We can live for God and others. The Easter Christ empowers us for fullness of life.

Universal Meaning of Easter: Our personal fulfillment, however, is placed at the service of others. Easter means that we forge families, communities, and nations capable of the power and promise of the Resurrection. Citizens of nations though we may be, we rise to be the citizens of the world---the world God so loves that he gave his only son. The Risen Christ cherishes and charms us, dazzles and delights us, nudging us to create a world of peace and justice, love and laughter; a world without hunger, sadness, and despair, where everyone can find their place and dignity.

Thank You: The Risen Christ is enshrined at St. Elizabeth Parish. In other words, we are Christo-centric. He shines forth in our parish life. I thank you for your faith and optimism, for your joy and friendship, and for your active participation in liturgical celebrations. The pandemic has altered our way of life, but with optimism we wait for the times when we can resume with gusto our spiritual and social celebrations in the parish. Thanks to your generous financial offerings, St. Elizabeth has been able to continue to do God's work.

Happy Easter: Here's wishing you a Happy and Blessed Easter! May the Risen Christ fill you and your families with his glorious grace and perpetual peace!

Your Friend and Pastor,

Father Charles Puthota, Ph.D.