

**Pastor's Easter blessings...**

**The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

**Peace be with you!**

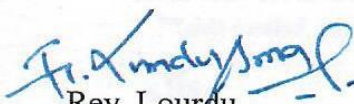
The season of Lent is coming to an end; the days are getting longer, the sun is getting warmer, and signs of new life are starting to appear all around us. For Christians, the season of Lent is meant to get us ready to receive new life, and in particular the new life that we experience in the resurrection of Jesus that we celebrate on Easter Day.

There are two powerful symbols in the Easter Liturgy that speak the Resurrection message to us. First, there is the **EASTER CANDLE**. It is blessed on Holy Saturday and then carried into a darkened church. Everyone in the church has a candle and as the lighted Easter Candle is carried into the church, all the small candles are lit from it. Christ, the Light of the World, brings light into our lives. We are called to carry that light into our state, cities, communities, parishes and families. This light of Christ brings us hope.

The second powerful symbol of Easter is the **WATER** that is blessed for Baptism. The water becomes a rich symbol of Christ bringing new life to us. Through the waters of Baptism, we have received the very life of God. Thus, our Christian vocation is for us to be life-givers. We are life-givers as we share our faith. We are life-givers when we bring comfort and consolation to those in need. We are life-givers when we bring peace, support, healing and forgiveness to people and to situations that might be marked by chaos, uncertainty or destructiveness.

I would like to express a joyous Easter. May Christ's resurrection be a source of light and hope for each of us. May our Risen Lord, who brings the very life of God to us, nourish and strengthen all of us on our journey of faith.

**1 Peter 1:3** "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us **NEW BIRTH** into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

  
Rev. Lourdu  
Pastor - 2025