

He Is Risen — Now Let Us Rise!

Dear Parish Family,

Happy Easter! He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Easter is more than a celebration — it is a confrontation. It is more than comforting. It is a call to awakening. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is Heaven's declaration that sin has been defeated, death has been conquered, and Satan has been overthrown. The stone was rolled away not only from His tomb, but from every prison that holds God's people captive.

Yet the question remains: if Christ is risen, why do we still live as though He is in the grave? Easter is not an invitation to admire the empty tomb. It is a summons to walk out of our own.

Because He rose:

- Fear must give way to faith.
- Bondage must give way to freedom.
- Apathy must give way to fire.
- Compromise must give way to consecration.

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is not distant. It is not symbolic. It is not historical only. It is present. It is active. It is available.

This resurrection power breaks addictions, heals wounded hearts, restores broken families, and revives weary believers. But revival does not come to comfort; it comes to the hungry.

The risen Christ calls us higher. He calls us out of lukewarm faith and into burning devotion. He calls us out of hidden sin and into holy living. He calls us out of spectatorship and surrenders. We cannot celebrate resurrection and cling to grave clothes. We cannot proclaim, "He is alive," and live as though nothing has changed.

This Easter, let something die in us:

- Let pride die.
- Let bitterness die.
- Let secret sin die.
- Let spiritual laziness die.

And let something rise:

- Let bold faith rise.
- Let radical obedience rise.
- Let fervent prayer rise.
- Let unwavering hope rise.

The world is desperate for resurrection people — men and women who carry light into darkness, truth into confusion, purity into compromise, and hope into despair. Ingenious people of God, this is our hour.

Christ is risen — and He is worthy of a risen church. May the fire of the Holy Spirit awaken us. May the joy of the empty tomb strengthen us. May the authority of the risen King send us.

He is risen. Now let us rise — and live like it.

With urgency and hope in the Risen Lord,

Fr. Vilaire Philius / Pastor