

Fr. Anthony's Easter Greeting Easter Sunday Masses

As your pastor I would like to take a moment to wish all of you who worshipped with us this morning the joys of a very Blessed Easter!

I would firstly like to thank all the individuals who have contributed so much time, effort and talent into making our Holy Week liturgies and the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday celebrations uplifting and memorable.

Thanks to our Decorating Team who have done such a tremendous job starting out last weekend with Palm Sunday in changing out the differing liturgical decorations for each of the special days this Holy Week and the Triduum and for making our church look so beautiful to celebrate Easter.

I would also like to thank the members of all our various Liturgical Ministries – Sacristans, MC, Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, those who maintain our Mass linens, our ushers and greeters and those who count our weekly collections.

Appreciation to our Director of Religious Education Therese Bellifemine for assisting us and guiding our Elect and Confirmation candidates through the celebration of their full initiation in the sacraments this Easter.

A special thanks to our Music Ministry led by Natasha Gonzalez, along with our Choir, cantors and instrumentalists who led us so wonderfully in our Holy Week services and in celebration with our music this morning.

We also acknowledge our Maintenance Staff, who not only clean and maintain the church throughout the year but put in extra effort and time to make our church clean and beautiful for our Easter celebrations.

Thanks and recognition to our live streaming team with helping those at home to participate in all of our Holy Week celebrations.

We once again congratulate and welcome the newly initiated into the Catholic Church and all who have completed their sacraments of initiation. May they continue to grow in the knowledge and love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Most of all, I am grateful to God for all of you my friends and parishioners! It is a great joy for me to extend this greeting to you as your pastor and to be with you in this jubilant Easter season. A good, happy and peaceful Easter to all of you!

There is much to be thankful for as we have gathered this morning with our presence and prayers as we celebrate this special feast. We especially extend a warm welcome to anyone who is visiting with us. We are happy you chose to celebrate

Easter with us. We extend an invitation to you to become a regular part of our Parish Life.

As we have gathered today, we celebrate the beautiful gift of life that God has blessed each of us with. Just as the Easter experience of Jesus' earliest followers empowered them to proclaim that Jesus was truly alive and still at work in their lives and in the mission of the Church, we are invited to do the same. In Christ's Easter Resurrection, we have been re-created for love, for joy, for zeal, and for gratitude! We have been granted the freedom to be truly alive. And we are being invited to unpack the experience, discerning the grace of the resurrection in the many miracles of our day-to-day lives.

Along with Fr. Jose, Fr. John, Deacon Bill and the Parish Staff, may you and our faith family of Queen of Peace, along with all of our loved ones, have a most blessed and Happy Easter!

Fr. Anthony

Pastor

March 31, 2024