



Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

APRIL 2026

“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!” — Luke 24:5–6

Early on that first Easter morning, a group of grieving women walked toward a tomb. Their hearts were heavy. On Friday, the cross had shattered their hopes. And the silence of Saturday had only deepened their sorrow. They expected to find death. Instead, they found an empty tomb. The stone had been rolled away. The grave clothes were left behind. And angels proclaimed the words that changed history forever: Jesus is alive.

Easter reminds us that what looked like the end was actually the beginning. The cross was not defeat; it was victory. The grave was not permanent. It was temporary. Through His resurrection, Jesus defeated sin, death, and despair.

Many of us still walk toward “tombs” in our lives: places of disappointment, fear, loss, or broken dreams. We expect the same darkness we’ve seen before. But Easter invites us to look again.

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is the power that brings life to weary hearts. God rolls away stones that we thought could never be moved. He brings hope where we expected endings.

But the story does not stop at the empty tomb. After the resurrection, Jesus met His followers in their confusion and fear. He walked with them, spoke peace to their troubled hearts, and reminded them that His promises were still true. The risen Christ did not remain distant—He drew near to His people.

That same risen Savior still meets us today. In moments of doubt, in seasons of grief, and in ordinary days when faith feels small, Jesus is present. He invites us to trust Him, to follow Him, and to live as people shaped by resurrection hope.

Because Jesus lives:

- Our sins can be forgiven.
- Our hearts can be made new.
- Our future is filled with hope.
- Our lives can reflect the light of Christ’s victory in the world.

The resurrection means that death never has the final word—God does. This Easter season, take a moment to remember that the tomb is still empty. The Savior is still alive. And the promise of new life is still available to everyone who trusts Him.

Always and All Ways in Christ
Rick Saunders
Grand Prelate