

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



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Easter 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

For more than a thousand years, the Church has sung five words that capture the message of Easter: *Christ our hope has risen.*

This simple phrase powerfully expresses the conviction that our hope is the very person of the Risen Christ. He not only rose from the dead two-thousand years ago but is present and active in our world today. As the Risen One, he shares with us his victory and triumph over sin and death, drawing us into the fullness of life that God has ever desired for humanity. Yes, indeed Christ our hope has risen.

We recall this core belief in this Jubilee Holy Year when Pope Francis has called us to be *Pilgrims of hope*. This is an invitation to be a people who journey together, confident that we are sustained by this closeness to the Risen Christ as we face the challenges of life. As pilgrims of hope, we walk with the Risen One and lean on his presence for personal support, but we also discover the power to bring hope to our world, our families, communities, workplaces, and nation. This is a great grace and responsibility.

May our Easter faith that Christ our hope has risen grow stronger, so that we will join in his work of bringing hope to our world with new enthusiasm, putting aside all of our fears and anxieties, in the knowledge that by conquering death, the Risen Lord has given us the sure hope and promise that we too have risen with him and will live forever. Yes, Christ our hope has risen and so have we. Happy Easter!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Card. Cury".

Archbishop of Chicago