

Dear Friends and Members of St. Martin,

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Don't you just love the magnificent signs and symbols of Easter? The creepy crawly caterpillar transforms into the beautiful and majestic butterfly. The delicate and gestating egg offers refuge and nurture until the chick is born. Once barren trees and plants spring forth in bloom and a plethora of colors. The farmers' fields are plowed with seed which will grow into the fall harvest. The animals of the wild introduce their fledgling young to the world in which they must survive. And, the tomb stands empty. These abundant signs of life find their meaning and purpose in the Life giving and ordered Nature of the God of Creation who, in Jesus' resurrection, has made the whole creation New.

Easter gives to us Promise. It says that we can hope in a god of creation who is the God of Creation! The God who engages all He has made in the only power of life that matters: Love. We are never alone! We are never out of control. Look around you at the beauty of all God has created and sustains. I do every day coming and going to work on A1A. I take in the majesty and splendor of the ocean and my heart is moved to God. My soul is warmed with the knowledge of His love and I daily thank and praise Him!

Friends, we are facing some wild and crazy times in our country and throughout the world. Does the social unrest cause you anxiety? Perhaps your personal relationships with others are not what you desire for your life. Maybe you have an illness or life situation that seems too insurmountable. Maybe, just maybe, you are asking yourself, "Where is my God in the chaos of my world?"

Take some time for quiet, and look around you. Look and breathe in the beauty of God's creation. Stand at the vastness of the ocean. Reflect upon the unnumbered stars at night. Take a day and visit the Sea of Grass, our unique gift in the Everglades, and touch Jesus. If you can quiet your mind and your heart long enough to see in these manifestations the God of Creation, then you will come to know the Power of Jesus' Resurrection and find Peace.



A Blessed and Love filled Easter,
Fr. Bernie+