



# Message for Easter 2025

**The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island**

**– April 16, 2025 –**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found the stone had been rolled away from the tomb.

In the midst of the despair and brokenness of the reality of the crucifixion, Mary Magdalene and the other disciples experienced a glimpse of the resurrection to new life in Jesus Christ.

Applying that reality to our own time—or for that matter, any time in our personal, community, or national life—in the midst of the despair and brokenness that we often experience, there is the reality of God's abundant love, mercy, and new life given to each of us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It does not get any more profound than this. Easter is the celebration of God's completion of our redemption as his people. For all time, in all places, in every circumstance, our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus is the gateway to understand the dignity that each of us possesses.

In this Easter season, let it be our work—let it be our focus—to apply the reality of the resurrection to all the dead and dying places that we experience in this life. Share the good news with those who have never heard it. Remind those who have forgotten or who have rejected it. Bring hope to all who are suffering and living in fear. Bring Easter joy to every situation you encounter.

The tomb doesn't win in this day. The cross is not the end of the story—not in the scriptural accounts and not in our own life and time. Jesus rose from the dead, trampling down death and giving each of us new and eternal life.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Have a blessed and holy Easter season.