



Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
627 East 187th Street
Bronx, New York 10458
718.295.3770

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JOSÉ FÉLIX

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The empty tomb

After Good Friday there is always an Easter Sunday. Good Friday is a day of pain, suffering, and darkness and Easter Sunday is a day of joy and light. Jesus told the disciples that “it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer.” In some ways, our struggles, pain, and suffering are also needed so that we can rejoice with the Risen Lord.

Many times, while we suffer, we forget that better days will come, that after Good Friday there is always an Easter Sunday. The Lord has risen; the tomb is empty as a sign that evil and darkness will never prevail. Every time the Risen Lord encounters the disciples after the Resurrection, he finds them afraid and worried. It was normal; they abandoned Jesus in the most crucial moment of his life... and now they learned that Jesus is alive again; they are afraid of meeting Him. What is Jesus going to tell them? How weird could that first encounter be?

But Jesus starts every encounter by offering them peace. “Peace be with you!” He is real, and so are His love and forgiveness. The only way to overcome our sadness, our suffering and darkness is by meeting Jesus and experiencing that He is real, that He is Risen, that His love is real.

Happy Easter! Happy encounter with the Risen Lord!

God bless you and your families.

Father José Félix