

FEAMC Easter greeting 2026

30 March 2026

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

"Peace be with you all! ... I would like this greeting of peace to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world. Peace be with you!"

We surely remember these first words of Pope Leo XIV from May 8 last year, when he addressed the whole world – and us – following his election. In this current era of numerous local wars, polarization, and general uncertainty, these words are particularly relevant and bring hope and comfort to each of our hearts.

Easter and the entire Easter season remind us of Christ's definitive victory over sin, all evil, and death. Christ did not explain the reasons for pain, suffering, and death, but He entered into them Himself. He suffered, died, rose from the dead, and lives! He alone is the source of light, certainty, strength, and hope for those who suffer, as well as for all those who help and care for them.

The Extraordinary Year of St. Francis of Assisi (January 10, 2026 – January 10, 2027), proclaimed by the Holy Father, can also serve as a powerful source of motivation for us. The main motto of this Year is the call: *"Let us start anew!"*, which encourages an exemplary Christian life and the promotion of peace.

Let us have the courage to always stand on the side of the One who is *"the way, the truth, and the life"* (Jn 14:6), *"the First and the Last, the Living One"* (Rev 1:17–18). May He inspire us to show Him our gratitude and give us the boldness to walk in His ways. May He help us in our daily, self-sacrificing service to those for whom He sacrificed Himself and whom – together with us – He invites to the fullness of life.

From the bottom of our hearts, we wish all of you, your loved ones, and your colleagues a blessed Easter and a joyful Easter season, filled with lasting joy in Christ's victory and the courage to be witnesses of goodness, love, hope, and peace.

With sincere collegial greetings, united in prayer with you and for you,

Yours sincerely, in Christ

Fr. Ján Ďačok SJ *FEAMC Ecclesiastical Assistant*

Rok Čiviljak *FEAMC President*

Frans J. van Ittersum *FEAMC Secretary General*