

FROM FR. DEO

July 5, 2026



Happy 250th birthday America!

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

God is good all the time... All the time God is good!

This weekend, as our nation celebrates its 250th birthday, we join our fellow citizens in giving thanks for the many blessings God has bestowed upon our country. We share in gratitude for the gift of freedom, democracy, religious liberty, and the opportunities that have enabled generations of people from every corner of the

world to build a better life.

This Sunday's readings remind us that true freedom is found not only in political independence but also in Christ. As His disciples, we are called to use that freedom to build a civilization of love through faith, service, and compassion.

The prophet Zechariah announces a King who comes not with military power but on a donkey, a symbol of humility and peace. Jesus fulfills this prophecy, conquering not by force but through mercy, love, and self-giving. He offers a message of hope we all need to hear: God meets us in our weakness and invites us, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

This message is especially relevant today. Our nation has accomplished much over the past 250 years, yet it continues to face many challenges. People today carry heavy burdens—concerns about family, health, finances, work, and the future, some visible and others hidden in the heart. Jesus does not ignore these struggles; He invites us to bring them to Him. When He says, "Take my yoke upon you," He is not adding to our burden but inviting us to walk with Him. A yoke is made for two; Christ walks beside us, carrying the heavier load and giving us strength each day. We are never alone.

As we continue to consecrate our country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we are reminded that greatness of a nation is not only measured by military strength or economic success, but more importantly, by compassion, justice, and respect for the dignity of every human person. We are called to be faithful citizens who pray for our leaders, work for justice, defend human life, and help build a civilization of love and respect.

As we celebrate the Eucharist today, let us thank God for the blessings of our great nation. Let us pray for our fallen heroes and for all who serve, especially in the military, law enforcement, healthcare, and public service. May we learn from Christ's gentle and humble heart and become instruments of His peace and have compassion for others.

In parish news, I am grateful to share that Cardinal Cupich has appointed me Pastor of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish for a five-year term, effective July 1, 2026. It is a privilege to continue serving this wonderful parish community. I humbly ask for your prayers as we continue growing together in faith and building a vibrant parish centered on Christ. I will share the date of my installation once it is confirmed. Be assured of my prayers for you and your families.

Next weekend, July 11 and 12, we will bless the new image of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity at all Masses. We are deeply grateful to the artist who created it and to the generous family who made this gift possible. May this beautiful image inspire us to grow in prayer and draw closer to Christ through the intercession of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity.

St Elizabeth of the Trinity, Pray for Us!

In Christ,

Fr. Deo