



## The Diocese Of Southeast Florida

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May 14, 2009

My Brothers and Sisters of the Diocese

I am taking an unprecedented step to write to you directly to ask for your direct involvement in saving a church within the Diocese that has fallen on hard times over the years and is in urgent need of support if it is to be saved. This endeavor to save the church is modeled after the culture of our police departments. When a police officer is hurt or injured, the call on the radio of “officer down” evokes an instant response from the police community to rush to the officer’s aid and to take care of the officer and the officer’s family. Our “officer down” is the Church of the Resurrection in the North Dade Deanery. The Church of the Resurrection has good potential to recover and prosper, but cannot do so on its own as it neither has the financial resources nor the necessary mass of parishioners to do so at this critical point in time.

I encourage the entire diocese to get behind this effort to save this church with particular emphasis from those churches in the nearby Deaneries of North and South Dade, and Broward Deanery. It is hoped that those parishioners that can be within “rubber tire” distance to help will physically do so. The Resurrection congregation needs our presence and support. We need to pray together and work together as a part of our larger Episcopal community.

What can you do? We have some building issues that will need some volunteer help to fix, paint, and landscape the building. This will require money as well as talent to address; we will have a special fund raising effort starting in the next few weeks. There is an opportunity for each and every one of us to come to the aid of the Church of the Resurrection. We also are working with the Deaneries of North and South Dade, and Broward to encourage parishioners to attend services at Resurrection Church over the next two months.

We will officially kick off this initiative on Pentecost Sunday, May 31 at a 10 AM service that I am officiating. You are welcome to join me or send your representative to The Church of the Resurrection, 11173 Griffing Boulevard, Biscayne Park, FL 33161. The Church is approximately 20 minutes from downtown Miami.

With God’s Grace and Your Help, this Church can not only survive, but prosper in the future. The mantra at the Church of the Resurrection is Keep the Faith; please support us in this mission and Keep the Faith with us.

The Rt. Rev. Leo Frade  
Bishop of SE Florida

**OUTLINE**  
**“OFFICER DOWN”**  
**CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION**

Objective 1 – We need more people in church to support the 53 members currently attending although they have been spread over three. This visitation initiative is to demonstrate a feeling of community, support and compassion, as well as to involve more outside parishioners in what is happening and needed in this situation. We also need to follow up via mail and phone with past parishioners living in the area but not attending. This is not a single Sunday event, but something we will carry over for the next three months.

Action: May 31 – Bishop Frade officiates at a 10 AM service and blesses three crosses that have been recently built and installed on the church.

Action: For the kick off Sunday we want to fill the church. We need parishioners from each of the Deaneries of North Dade, South Dade and Broward County. At the Bishop’s service on May 31, it would be beneficial to have some Vestry members from the local churches attend so that they may carry the word back to their respective parishes. Church of the Resurrection will call all parishioners past and present.

Action: June, July and August – A single Sunday service will be held at 9:30 AM. We would encourage the three Deans to work with their parishes to have people from each area attend each Sunday. These parishioners can be rotated rather than fixed if necessary. Bishop Schofield has already volunteered to officiate the last three Sundays of June!

Objective 2 – Special fund drive to address building repair and maintenance

Action: We need to raise \$80,000 to fix the buildings, paint and landscape the property. We would like this to be considered a localized mission outreach from each of our churches. We ask that each with an ‘Outreach Budget’ consider this local need and, if possible, to be added to their list of considerations. Of course, if there

are some individuals that may be motivated, their gifts would be greatly appreciated.

### Objective 3 – Fix, paint and landscape the property

Action: We need a volunteer to manage the project over the summer. Not full time but several hours a week. The person needs to be familiar with building repair, painting, preparation and managing a project. This person will coordinate the work process to ensure it is done in an efficient and progressive manner, materials are on hand to work with, there is a plan to work against, and an estimate of how many volunteers are needed when and do what. The project manager will then coordinate with the three Deans for volunteer solicitation and timing. The amount and complexity of the work will not be accomplished in one weekend and we need to ensure that those that volunteer find the process well managed and properly organized. A local person in the North Dade or South Dade area is suggested. We hope to start doing work with volunteers within two weeks of the Bishop's kick-off service. We have already begun the preparation work of the building for painting, but there is much to do. If any parish has licensed electricians, plumbers, contractors or skilled painters, carpenters and handymen that will volunteer please solicit them and let us know of their availability.

### Objective 4 – Include the Caretaker House and Rectory in fix, paint

One Caretaker's house on the property is used by the part time property caretaker. The Rectory is located in Miami Shores. We know there are problems with both facilities that need to be addressed now. We will do an assessment and include this in our work plans.

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### **Driving directions to Church of the Resurrection, 11173 Griffing Blvd., Biscayne Park:**

Take I-95 to NW 103 St.

Go east on 103 St. to NE 6 Ave.

Turn left on NE 6 Ave. and go to second traffic light.

Turn right onto NE 113 St. The church is on the right, facing Griffing Boulevard; parking is across 113 St. from the church.