



ARCHBISHOP  
LATVIAN EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH WORLDWIDE

ADDRESS 5438 Wild Rose Circle  
Greendale, WI 53129 USA  
TELEPHONE 414-421-3934  
EMAIL pastorlauma@gmail.com  
www.lclbpasaule.lv

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Cardinal Kevin Farrell,  
Camerlengo of the Apostolic Chamber  
of the Roman Catholic Church

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is with profound sadness and respect that the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Worldwide expresses its sympathy on the death of Pope Francis. From the day he was chosen to lead the Roman Catholic Church, countless people around the world have been blessed and inspired by his humble servant's heart. His profound intelligence and deep faith were expressed through words easily understood by all.

His message of peace granted hope not only to those experiencing poverty, the ravages of war or hatred and exclusion, but to all who seek a blessed assurance that their lives have meaning. Pope Francis reflected Christ's love, courage, and grace. Surely our Savior rejoiced yesterday as his eternal victory was celebrated on Easter and Pope Francis rejoiced to hear Christ's words as he passed from this life into eternal life:

“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant;  
you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much;  
enter into the joy of your master.’” (Mt 25:23)

Our prayers are with you as you mourn. May Pope Francis rest in eternal peace and love, filled with the knowledge of our gratitude.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

+ *Lauma Zusevics*



Lauma Zusevics  
Archbishop  
Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Worldwide