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Dear Friends in Christ,

I write to you as we gather to celebrate the wonderful good news of God's action of defeating death and raising Christ to new life. This same new life is there for us to live each day through our relationship with Jesus.

I send you my love and blessing. Thank you all for your continued faithfulness to the Gospel and your witness to Jesus Christ in your lives.

It is a great joy for me to spend time with you in the communities in which you serve. I have had the joy, during this Holy Week, of being at St Anne and St. Edmund (Parksville), St. Mark (Qualicum Beach), St. Peter (Campbell River), St. Columba (Port Hardy), and will finish in the Nimpkish Region at Trinity Anglican Lutheran (Port Alberni) with the Great Vigil of Easter and at St. John (Courtenay) on Sunday of the Resurrection.

As I travel through the diocese I am greatly encouraged by the faith and energy of our clergy and laity. I write to thank you for your ministry and mission. I see a people who have a strong faith and wish to share that faith in acts of love and service. Thank you for all you do.

As Christians, we are called to live intentionally during the next fifty days as "People of the Resurrection". We continue to reach out beyond ourselves to advocate for justice and peace to those who are persecuted and to those on the margins of our world, and to bring the hope of this new life into every situation.

God was in Christ inviting us to live and witness another way of life and has committed us to this life of peace, love and reconciliation. Through this season of Easter let us live this truth in our lives praying God will continue to shape us on the journey to become a Renewed People, with Renewed Hearts and Spirits.

Alleluia, Alleluja, Christ Has Risen.

The Right Reverend Dr. Logan McMenamie Bishop, Diocese of British Columbia

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