

## Easter Pastoral Letter

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

God's Grace and Peace to you.

Recent news from BC.'s provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Minister of Health Adrian Dix, has raised concerns about the spread of variant COVID-19 virus for many of us for the wellbeing of people across the world and potentially in our communities and neighbourhoods. For this reason, we humans face fear every day. While in these days we are wisely focused on keeping people safe from the present threat of infection, in our families and friendships and local communities by practising social distancing, self-isolation and quarantine. We also accompany those who are facing fears that are not related to the coronavirus; those who are struggling with a relationship break-down, and financial anxiety, and those who are terminally ill, and those who care for them.

Even we cannot gather at Church at this time to pray together as a community during this pandemic, we can pray at home privately and in response, I would like to ask you to continue to pray for all who are affected by this disease. God be with those who grieve, are ill, isolated and afraid, and the many people involved in medical and emergency care. I also ask that we resist allowing our fear to overwhelm us. We trust in "*God with us,*" and in the revelation of God in Christ Jesus who speaks often in the Gospels the words of promise, "*Do not be afraid.*" We are called to reassure others in this same promise.

For myself, during this time of pandemic, when personal contact is so limited, I am reaching out to you every day by saying Mass via Zoom. In another way, I still keep all of you in my prayers and especially in daily Masses that I offer. Forty days of Lent is over and this Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord. This is the second year we celebrate Christ's resurrection in the midst of a struggle and to have hope that the pandemic is going to and end when many of us will get the vaccine in the near future.

And on April 11, 2021, second Sunday of Easter, it is **Sunday of Divine Mercy**, I invite all of you to begin the Novena, it will begin on Good Friday (the Novena pamphlet is attached with this letter) and join me via Zoom to pray the Divine Mercy

Chaplet at 3:00 pm on Sunday of Divine Mercy (with the presence of the Blessed Sacrament) to pray for the whole world and especially to pray for this pandemic will end soon.

Our hope and prayer is that our appropriate concern for public health and well-being in our communities does not diminish our full and enthusiastic participation in worship and community life together. We trust in God's continuing care for all in response to this health challenge before us.

God bless us all with Easter and springtime of hope in Christ Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. 

Rev. Luan Vu

### **SPIRITUAL ACT OF COMMUNION**

*“My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.”*

### **SAINT MICHAEL PRAYER**

*Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly **pray**; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.*