

## Dear Friends in Christ,

As we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord, I extend to each of you my wishes for a joyous Easter. I am remembering all the people of our diocese as I stand before the altar at Easter and assure you of my prayers asking that the Risen Lord will bless you abundantly.

I encourage each of us to allow the joy of Christ's victory over sin and death to fill our hearts, and then spread that joy when we greet one another with: "Happy Easter!" Like the first Christians who saw the empty tomb in Jerusalem and encountered the Risen Lord, let us spread the incredible news that Jesus shares his triumph with us so that we can live as God's children forever. May the Lord lift every burden or sadness in our hearts and fill all of us with his most incredible gift of peace. This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!

In the Risen Christ, Bishop Michael McGovern