



DIOCESE OF VICTORIA

Office of the Bishop

April 27, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I sent an e-mail to our priests, Sisters and Chancery Staff last night outlining the steps towards celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass with a Congregation beginning on May 1. This continues to be a challenging time for people around the world. It remains imperative for us to support our local officials in maintaining protocols for the safety and health of our community.

In the midst of the uncertainty and fear, the message of God's healing grace lifts up our hearts. A few years ago I offered a prayer for us to pray as the Body of Christ during a Year of Mercy. I offer this prayer again for each of you and for me to pray daily that we can be the light that brings healing and forgiveness, and can show the path to a safe harbor through the storm.

I open my heart to You this day, Oh Merciful Father -
Send forth Your Holy Spirit into the depths of my being
So that from head to toe I may be an instrument of Your healing and mercy.

One Body and One Spirit with my sisters and brothers throughout the Diocese of Victoria
I pray to listen before speaking,
To understand before judging,
To love before acting.

Trusting in the faithful intercession of Mary my Mother
I pray in the Name of Your Son Jesus Christ
Who I profess as LORD, living and reigning with You and the Holy Spirit,
One God for ever and ever. Amen.

May the blessing of God be with you and your families in this Easter season. May we know that the light always conquers the darkness. And may we entrust our hearts to the loving care of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Let's keep each other in prayer,

Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill
Bishop of Victoria in Texas