



Office of the Bishop

30 March 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings and peace in the Lord!

“If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” (2 Corinthians 5.17)

St. Paul’s words to the Corinthians have captured the essence of Easter and God’s message to us every Easter which is simply “new life!” Through the birth, passion and death of Jesus, He has brought us new life. It is as the Letter to Hebrews says, *“the new and living way that he opened for us.”* (Hebrews 10.20) Nothing will be the same again because of His Resurrection from the dead. All has been made new.

This should fill us with great hope – the hope in Jesus’ promise of new life both now and in eternity. We are challenged to live this new life as new people now, in the present and in preparation for the eternal life of heaven. This isn’t always easy when earthly life is filled with what seems to be the “same old” everyday: the same troubles and worries and problems our parents, grandparents and their forebearers faced. But, we have been made new. We have been made new in Christ and cannot but help to live in a new way, with a fresh way of being, a fresh way of thinking and acting. This is one of the great joys of Easter!

May you once again experience a renewed sense of new life this Easter, and the hope that this new life brings every Easter season.

God bless you and your families this Easter!

Sincerely in Christ our Lord,

✠ Gregory J Bittman
Bishop of Nelson