

## Letter from Archbishop Donald Bolen

Dear friends in Christ Jesus. Alleluia, Christ is Risen! "May we exult forever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit." The collect, from the third week of Easter, reminds us of the presence of your life within all of us. We know that every person is created in the Divine Image. The previously released Saskatchewan Bishop's letter, *Dying with Hope: Living and Walking Together*, reiterates the strength of this youthful spirit. This "faith invites us to live and die with trust in the God who graces us with breath."

May is Reverence for Life month. We are celebrating the precious gift of life throughout this month with the themes of **See** the Dignity of Every Life, **Accept** the Call to Care and Protect, **Accompany** One Another in Love, and **Act** to Make a Difference.

I encourage every parish to make May a time to focus on the needs of the unborn, parents, the elderly, the poor, the sick, the lonely, the imprisoned, the hungry, and the abandoned. Please be creative in your approaches to live out the Gospel of Life in your communities. The Reverence for Life Commission has put together some comprehensive and easy-to-use resources. The Parish guide has been emailed out in the Tuesday File and can be found by following this link: <https://archregina.sk.ca/2025-reverence-for-life-resources/>

All Resources for your Parishes can be found on the website using the above link and embedded in the Parish Guide that was sent out in the Tuesday File. Please include the Reverence for Life prayer during each Mass in May. It can be said after the Prayers of the Faithful to incorporate this prayer into your liturgy easily. There is a section of the Parish Guide titled, Liturgical Connections. This includes homiletic ideas created by Deacon Larry Worthen in Halifax, and Prayers of the Faithful.

Outside of Mass, we are inviting parishes to gather together to listen, learn, and act in ways that celebrate the gift of life. You will find many ideas in the Parish Guide. Whatever you do in your parishes, and however you choose to participate in cultivating a culture of life, not death, do it with compassion, a listening ear, and hope.

Christians are uniquely qualified to imbue the experience of suffering and dying with hope. This is so because we have come to believe and trust in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christ's victory over death makes us a people of hope. In this world, we strive to be faith-filled disciples of Christ, who is the guarantor of our hope.

(*Dying with Hope: Living and Walking Together*, Saskatchewan Bishops' Letter, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the Solemnity of the Annunciation.)

May God, the Creator and Lover of life, bless abundantly all those whose lives are endangered, those whose lives are made difficult through indifference, violence, and injustices. Pray that all people may receive the grace to accept the Gospel of Life as a gift ever new, and the courage to bear witness to it. To the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen! Alleluia!

If you have any questions or concerns,  
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