



Diocese of Kroonstad

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BISHOPS' EASTER MESSAGE AND GREETINGS 2021

Dear Priest, Deacons, Religious, Brothers and Sisters

I greet you with joy as we celebrate our Easter Feast of the Lord's Resurrection. A celebration of renewed faith and hope as we proclaim Alleluia the Lord is Risen Indeed! The darkness of Good Friday is dispelled by the light of the Risen Lord. The Easter Proclamation sung at the Easter Vigil is the hymn of praise to God in the history of our salvation. We were once lost in sin and death but now through the Resurrection of Christ we are alive and live in his radiant light.

What a message of hope we need in these challenging times of Covid-19 when we all feel so vulnerable, worried and concerned. Our families, communities, relatives and friends have suffered from this coronavirus or who have sadly succumbed to it and passed away. My condolences to all who have lost loved ones. May the Risen Lord grant them eternal rest.

As we in the Diocese of Kroonstad have felt the impact of Covid-19 in all our parish communities with the Church's been closed or partially open have not been able spiritually and pastorally to carry out in full what is important to the life of the Church. The financial impact has also been severe in meeting the financial responsibilities. All we can do is hope that the promised vaccines will be available soon and we can return to some form of normality.

The Parishes, I hope by now, have completed the elections of new Parish Pastoral Council's and Finance Committees. The election of a new Diocesan Pastoral Council is still to take place. This has been delayed because of the restrictions of Covid-19. Hopefully it will be soon.

I welcome in a special way those who may have received the sacraments of Christian Initiation and those received into full communion with the catholic church in the Easter Celebrations. Congratulations!

Let us as Easter People pray in hope for healing of our world and country of the Coronavirus. I thank you for all your support to the Bishop and Diocese. I wish all a Joyful and Happy Easter!

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop Peter Holiday

