

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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DIOCESE OF GRAND FALLS

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

When I reflect on the Gospel accounts of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus I am always struck by how dramatically things move from despair to hope.

I think of Mary of Magdala, whose pain and sorrow we can feel as she accompanies Jesus to the cross and to the tomb. Upon meeting Jesus, two days later, we can now feel her joy and burning desire to share the good news that Jesus is risen from the dead.

I think of Peter, whose final moments with Jesus before the crucifixion were moments of betrayal and shame. When hearing the good news that Jesus is risen, he joyfully rushes to the tomb hoping perhaps for a chance to reconcile.

And I think of Mary, the mother of Jesus', who, at the moment of Jesus' conception accepted the will of God for her and her son - even while not realizing the pain and heart break she would experience. But now that her Son is Risen from the Dead, her happiness leads her to an even deeper commitment to living out the will of God.

We are all very much aware of the predominant themes of our Gospel: life overcoming death, forgiveness overcoming sin, and goodness conquering evil. But how much more powerful these themes become when we see them come alive in people of the Gospel.

My prayer for you and your loved ones this Easter is that these Gospel themes will come alive in you. Happy Easter. He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!

Yours in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Anthony Daniels", with a cross symbol to the left.

Most Reverend R. Anthony Daniels
Bishop of Grand Falls.