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March 29, 2026 - HOLY WEEK

Dear Friends,

This week we begin that most holy of journey to the cross. It is somber, sacred and reflective. Many of us will engage in Holy Week services remembering and re-telling the long-ago stories of Christ's journey to the cross. We will gather to celebrate the institution of the Eucharist while engaging in the ritual of the washing of feet and the stripping of the altar. We will gather on Good Friday in stripped-bare churches, at ecumenical services or prayer walks, recalling the story of Christ's crucifixion. We will keep vigil through the three holy days of the Triduum until the sun sets on Holy Saturday evening and as the sun rises on Easter morning.

As we make our solemn journey to the cross, we cannot help but feel the weight of the world around us that is filled with sorrow, chaos, and unrelenting darkness. I am sure that Christ would have felt that full weight as he made his way to the crucifixion.

As followers of Christ, it is important that we remind ourselves that we are Easter people, people of the resurrection. We cannot fully embrace the magnitude of the resurrection without first going through the cross of Christ. It is why we enter the fullness of Holy Week, lingering at the cross before we bring out the Easter flowers and white linens, and before we celebrate with Easter festivities.

We know that Christ did not stay on the cross, the tombstone was rolled away, and we discover once again that Christ is ALIVE! Friends, it is our witness and testimony of the resurrection that is so desperately needed. We are to be signs of light and hope in our world, wherever we are. The world needs US! Our faith matters. We know that Christ has already overcome the sin of the world and has taken on the brokenness that prevents us from thriving and living fully. We have been set free. Christ came to make all things new! Do you believe this? And if you do, how will that be reflected in your story, journey and shared life in community? The stones of our world need to be rolled away. We may not be able to solve all the worlds problems, but we can make a difference in even one person's life right here, right now, today.

As we prepare to celebrate that most magnificent gift of life and renewal on Easter Sunday, may we find strength for the journey, inspiration and joy. I wish you all a blessed Easter. My prayers are united with yours and your loved ones.

In Christ's Service,

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The Rt. Rev. Clara Plamondon
Bishop