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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Since Easter Sunday on April 4, 2010, we all have been animated by the joy of the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. This event keeps us proclaiming our faith that Christ has died, He is risen and He will come again.

This major season ends on Pentecost Sunday on May 23 this year. It means that we are still in Easter season, a time that the whole Church invites us to express our joy of being Christians in our communities of faith. As Eucharistic people we come together every Sunday to celebrate in memory of Death and Resurrection of our Lord at Mass.

It means that the Celebration of Mass becomes a big event for all of us so that what we have experienced during Holy Week becomes for us an event of weekly Feast, the center of lives. The words that Jesus said at the Last Supper before He died make us live out those three strong moments of His life: Life of an unconditional love for us; Death out of love for us; Resurrection from the dead as hope for us to share in His everlasting Life.

This is the reason why the Church challenges each one of us to set Sunday as a day to gather for worship on the Lord's Day because it is the center of our Christian life. We cannot live our Christian life without it. The Lord, Himself has told us to "do this in memory of Him" until He returns. Let us be faithful to Christ in the Eucharist and constantly invite our brothers and sisters to join us in the celebration.

You are all invited to check my traveling schedule and read this newsletter on the website: www.dioceseofjuneau.org and click on the link "On Mission."

Happy Easter and God bless you all!

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Celebrations in Various Communities from the last week of Feb to March

Holy Week in Yakutat March 31- April 5: It was such a special celebration that started on Holy Wednesday with a reconciliation service to get the community ready for the Triduum. Then came Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday Mass. All the celebrations went well. I learned from people of Yakutat that they love to celebrate their faith so much.

Tenakee Springs April 8-10: It was a wonderful visit with the people in Tenakee. I flew in on a float plane on Thursday and stayed there through Saturday to return on the ferry back to Juneau. My visit was enjoyable even though most of people were in Juneau with families and friends.

Pelican April 13: The visit was a round trip on the ferry LeConte. I was there for two hours, time to visit and to say Mass in Bernice Kempel's house. It is a whole day trip, leaving Juneau at 7:00 am and arriving in Pelican at 2:00 pm. I left Pelican at 4:00 pm and arrived in Juneau at 11:00 pm.

Kake April 17- 18: What a beautiful day, even though cloudy, to fly into Kake. People were ready for Mass on Sunday at 9:30 am, which was followed with a brunch. Kake is one of the communities that is holding together very well.

St Paul's in Juneau: April 24- 25 (Men's ACTS) ; April 30- May 2 (Fill in)

Hoonah May 8- 10: Hoonah's visit was fantastic. It is summer and most of people are getting busier with fishing and hunting. But something that is growing in Hoonah is the tourism business. On Sunday May 9th, we had two Masses: in the Church at 11:00 am and I was asked to say Mass on the Celebrity Cruises ship at 2:00 pm. These passengers, mostly from San Diego, were truly "hungry" for the Eucharist. They were there ready and waiting for me to arrive and say Mass for them. Afterwards, the Event Coordinator took me on a tour of the ship to meet people and look around. I was pleased to be able to reach out to those Catholics on the cruise.

My schedule for Missions Visits April through June 2010:

St Paul's April 30- May 2; Hoonah May 8-10; Pelican (+ Elfin Cove) May15-18; Yakutat May 22-24; Tenakee Springs May 27-29;

Gustavus June 5-6; Pelican June 8; Hoonah (+Excursion Inlet) June 11-14; Kake June 18-20;

Yakutat June 25- July 5.