

April 3, 2025

Dear Deans and Pastors,

As we prepare ourselves to enter into Holy Week, we pray that this Lenten season has been filled with tremendous grace for you and that the Easter season brings forth renewal and transformation within your communities, so that the people of God may continue to be *pilgrims of hope* throughout this Jubilee Year.

Speaking of the Jubilee Year, we just celebrated the **24 Hours for the Lord** and it was a joy to see so many people participate throughout our diocese. Thank you for your time and commitment to make this happen. We are now beginning the second quarter of 2025 focusing on **theme 2** for the Jubilee, **To Be Living Stones in His Temple**. We hope that the printed Jubilee Year materials as well as the information available on the website have been helpful to encourage and engage your community to participate in the Jubilee Year. We ask that you continue to keep the diocesan themes as focal points of conversation and reflection in your parish gatherings and meetings. We hope that they've garnered fruitful discussions. We would love to hear stories, insights, and takeaways from you, the various parish groups, and all pilgrims throughout the diocese about their experience of the Jubilee. Here are two ways to share with us:

- 1. For Pastors & Priests: Please share your experiences, insights, and hopeful takeaways from the 24 hours for the Lord. Rarely do the communities of faith get to hear from our priests how offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation affirms their vocations and gives them hope. We wish to highlight your insights and takeaways through our weekly news, flocknotes, and social media. Please email Steve Do at sdo@scd.org.
- 2. For Parish Ministry Groups: When parish ministry groups gather for their regular meetings, we encourage that they integrate the diocesan themes for the Jubilee in their reflections and discussions and share their key takeaways with the greater diocesan community. Please use this form to submit discussion notes: <u>https://catholic.formstack.com/forms/jubileenotes</u>

The purpose of sharing these insights and takeaways is to see how the Jubilee Year is impacting lives and communities throughout our diocese. Thank you for your support and we look forward to hearing from all the *pilgrims of hope*!

Blessings,

The Department of Family, Faith Formation, and Young People