



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Office of the Cardinal

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When I chose the Diocesan Services Fund's theme *Walk in the Light of Christ*, COVID-19 had not yet affected us. Now, with so many suffering from illness, unemployment, and social isolation, walking in the light of Christ is a beautiful and appropriate theme for us all. Christ is our consolation and hope in times of distress and darkness. He is our way and our light.

Christ's light shines brightly through more than 60 ministries supported by the DSF. During this pandemic many of these ministries have been challenged to increase their services and also to find new ways to deliver those services. A few examples are:

- Catholic Charities is distributing thousands of tons of food
- San José Clinic devised curbside prescription pick-up
- Our Chaplain Corps is providing pastoral care to hospitalized patients despite extreme contact restrictions

These ministries have been on the front lines reflecting the light of Christ into the lives of those who have been especially affected by the pandemic. Your gift to DSF strengthens these important works of mercy.

The Catholic Schools Office (CSO) is leading the way for our school communities to adapt during these difficult times. Balancing between virtual and in-person classes and maintaining safe learning environments has not been easy, but our schools have done well. The mission of our Catholic schools is to form students to become messengers of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Evangelization is vital in helping teenagers live their Catholic faith. The Archdiocesan Youth Council has more than 100 members from Catholic schools and parishes throughout Galveston-Houston. Council members, now meeting virtually, provide valuable insights for me and their pastors into the joys and concerns of our young people.

Each year I emphasize the Office of Vocations in the DSF. This office works to attract, shepherd, and guide men being formed for the priesthood. Your donation and your prayers for vocations are paramount to the future of our new pastors.

I know that economic circumstances may have changed for many of you due to the pandemic, but for those who can, please give generously to DSF this year. I also ask those who have never given to consider your first gift to DSF as we walk together in the light of Christ.

Thank you for your commitment. With assurances of my prayers for this local Church, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston