



# DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 13, 2020

Mr. Leslie D. Hirsch  
St. Peter's Healthcare System  
254 Easton Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Dear Les,

I write to assure you and the Saint Peter's Team that you all are in my prayers during these challenging times and I will encourage our people to pray for you and the good work of St. Peter's University Hospital. The Covid-19 pandemic is unsettling, but the medical services and quality of care offered at SPUH are a source of comfort to our community.

Pope Francis has encouraged our medical professionals "to provide care with sensitivity and with respect for the dignity and for the physical and psychological integrity of each person," offering encouragement and comfort and giving hope. Thank you for your leadership in doing this for the people of Central New Jersey.

Please extend my gratitude to everyone and do not hesitate to call if I can be of assistance. When this is all over, I will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for the staff and the labor of their love.

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA  
Bishop of Metuchen