



Diocese of Worcester
Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

May 28, 2021

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last weekend we celebrated the Solemnity of Pentecost during which we heard these words from the Acts of the Apostles: “we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.” Consider these two thoughts as our diocese recognizes **World Communications Day** next weekend and take up the annual **Catholic Communications Campaign**.

First, we must recognize that communication is at the heart of how we fulfill our mission as Church. Just as the Holy Spirit empowered those early apostles, so, too, we are all commissioned to share the good news of salvation. Secondly, today we communicate not just in every language but on every platform, including printed and broadcast media as well as social media including Facebook and Livestream.

Our patron, St. Paul, witnessed to the faith in the marketplace. Today, examples of witnessing to the faith abound. Pope Francis inspires the world as the Vicar of Christ on all forms of media; our national conference of Bishops advocates for key justice issues, including immigration reform, religious liberty and protecting the most vulnerable in society from the unborn to the elderly and infirm. Locally, our communications efforts in conjunction with our parishes build our communities of faith, and were critical to keep parishioners connected during the pandemic through emails, websites, the *Catholic Free Press* and cable TV programming as well as social media.

In his message for World Communications Day, Pope Francis writes:

“...the Gospel comes alive in our own day, whenever we accept the compelling witness of people whose lives have been changed by their encounter with Jesus. For two millennia, a chain of such encounters has communicated the attractiveness of the Christian adventure. The challenge that awaits us, then, is to communicate by encountering people, where they are and as they are.”

The Catholic Communications Campaign supports national and diocesan resources to enable those encounters. Please give generously on the weekend of June 5 and 6 in your parish or visit worcesterdiocese.org to make an online donation or to learn more.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

*Please announce the Catholic Communications Campaign on the weekend of May 29 & 30
and take up the collection on the weekend of June 5 & 6.*