

Diocesan Ministry Appeal

228 North Cascade Avenue Colorado Springs, CO 80903 Giving.DioCS.org

Praise the Lord who Heals, giving Hope to All.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

You may or may not be aware that I am a proud graduate of Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. It was a period of challenging intellectual growth, rewarding friendship cultivation, and deep faith building. My Creighton years helped form who I am today as both a priest and a human being.

And central to this formation was the Jesuit charism of "men and women for and with others." St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, heeded – with gusto – Christ's command to serve rather than be served.

Service was deeply embedded in my Creighton experience. It is a calling I carried into my priestly vocation and, I believe, is foundational to being a follower of Christ. Indeed, the servant leader model I witnessed in the Jesuit priests, my professors, fellow students, and other Creighton community members is a model (I hope!) for my own leadership as bishop of the Diocese of Colorado Springs.

In many and varied ways, we are all called to be servants in our lives. We serve our family, friends, and community when we volunteer as room parents in our children's classrooms, help our elderly neighbors with their yard work, devote time mentoring a young associate at work, share our talents by singing in the church choir, and give our parents the precious gift of time over a cup of coffee and game of rummy.

Actions, they say, are louder than words. Through our acts of service, we praise the Lord who heals, giving hope to all. We become His hands and feet, His ears and eyes, and His warm, loving smile here on earth.

What joy there is to be Christ for others, to bring His love and grace to all.

When you make a gift to the annual Diocesan Ministry Appeal, you are once again serving as Christ in a world that sorely needs His healing and hope.

The ministries, services, and programs of our Church touch every life within the Diocese, and you – a servant leader in the vein of St. Ignatius and Christ – are instrumental to their success. Because they cannot do so themselves, I say thank you for your unceasing support of the Diocesan Ministry Appeal on behalf of those who benefit from your generosity. May the peace that only our Lord, Jesus Christ, can bring be with you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James R. Golka

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