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December 12, 2018

Dear Friend,

During this most difficult time for our Diocese of Buffalo, The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo wants to reassure its many generous donors and supporters of the following:

1. Incorporated separate and distinct from the Diocese since 1996, The Foundation has operated over the past 22 years as a legally distinct corporation from the Diocese and will continue to do so.

2. Donations to The Foundation, including *Upon This Rock* gifts, invested in the St. Joseph Investment Fund, Inc., a professionally managed investment fund, are not discretionary assets of the Diocese and cannot be used by the Diocese for victim abuse settlements, reconciliation fund payments, claims made by creditors of the diocese, legal fees or anything other than its dedicated mission of philanthropy.

Over the past 22 years, The Foundation has provided over $27 million in grant funding to support parishes, Catholic schools, impactful ministries such as Catholic Charities, the Mother Teresa Home, St. Vincent DePaul, Ignatian Volunteer Corps, Response to Love Center, Little Portion Friary, Peaceprints Prison ministries, Women's Respite Program, Gerard Place, and many other programs which defend the sanctity of life and assist the underserved and at-risk including food pantries, dental and medical clinics, addiction services, youth programs, and job and skills development programs.

In the past two years alone, The Foundation has provided over $350,000 to expand STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering Art, Math) programs in Catholic elementary schools to better equip our community leaders of tomorrow; and over $1 million to provide tuition assistance to Catholic elementary and high schools. It has disbursed over $13 million to the parishes, from their share of the *Upon This Rock* collected proceeds, to support local needs for infrastructure projects including enhanced handicap accessibility, deferred maintenance on roofing, parking lots, heating and cooling systems and modification to their worship space and communal gathering areas.

It is through your support of The Foundation that the good works of these and many other Catholic ministries will continue and be secured for generations to come. The Foundation has secured over $108 million in pledges to the *Upon This Rock* capital campaign, and collected over $44.5 million. Collecting on the outstanding pledges is critical to the continued support of parishes and ministries that have relied upon this capital campaign, including the Mother Teresa Home, campus ministry, Catholic elementary and high school tuition assistance and STREAM programs, parish evangelization and catechesis support and Christ the King Seminary, to name a few.

We ask for your continued prayers, support and help in spreading the good news of the work of The Foundation.

With sincere regard,

George J. Eberl
Vice-Chair of The Foundation Board of Trustees

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STAND TOGETHER.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

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