

April 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

The disturbing COVID-19 pandemic has prompted us to distance ourselves from one another in a spirit of charity, though we continue to hold our family, friends, fellow parishioners and neighbors in our hearts. Throughout our Des Moines Diocese and in the universal Church, this time of crisis has called forth a deepened sense of unity among our brothers and sisters of faith and our fellow citizens. We have made spiritual sacrifice of familiar ways of communing with Jesus in the Eucharist and other sacraments, yet we have also embraced opportunities that deepen the bonds among us through technology and spiritual solidarity. Iowa Catholic Radio offers the means to realize this blessed unity within Christ's Body.

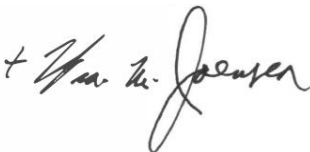
Iowa Catholic Radio broadcasts daily Mass, the Rosary, devotional prayers, and eleven live and local shows that connect people with Christ and His Church on their faith journey. I trust you will not charge me with self-interest when I invite you to tune-in Fridays at 9:00 AM to hear the show I moderate, "**Making it personal with Bishop Joensen.**" This is only one of a host of programs that can enrich our immersion in the mystery of God's grace and help us give mature witness to the truth of Jesus Christ. Through our collective listening and support, thousands of Catholic and non-Catholics are united through Iowa Catholic Radio.

Iowa Catholic Radio offers various opportunities to hear the word of God – streaming online **www.iowacatholicradio.com**, on the Iowa Catholic Radio smartphone **app**, and 1150 AM, 88.5 FM, and 94.5 FM. We all can listen to Iowa Catholic Radio to receive Catholic content and deepen faith during these days that evoke our trust in God's mercy, as well as our fortitude and patience.

I'm grateful to the staff and board members at Iowa Catholic Radio *and* the Iowa Catholic Radio Foundation for their service to our Catholic community, and for connecting people to Christ through modern media. As a nonprofit organization, Iowa Catholic Radio relies on *our* contributions to keep the station on air. Please accept my gratitude for tuning in and supporting Iowa Catholic Radio.

I pray that the peace of Christ's Resurrection will abide in your hearts throughout the Easter Season and allow you to cast all your cares on him, and to praise him without ceasing.

Faithfully in Christ,



The Most Rev. William M. Joensen, Ph.D.
Bishop of Des Moines