

Dear Partners in Mission,

How strange and challenging these days of isolation are for us as followers of Francis—a saint for whom hospitality and community were part of his DNA!

While we understand and appreciate the need to keep appropriate "social distance" as all of us strive to defeat this deadly pandemic, it is difficult to be separated from our supporters and friends, from other members of our community, and even from the Body of Christ made present in the Eucharist.

Yet we, too, are the Body of Christ and we want to let you know that you are *never* distant or separated from our thoughts and prayers!

Even though prudence and the directives of our archdiocese temporarily keep our sisters resident in Milwaukee from gathering together for common prayer in St. Joseph Chapel, please know that you are very much in *all* our sisters' prayers throughout the day. Our international congregation is praying for your health and safety, and that of your family, every day.

We want to assure you that our sisters in leadership and our dedicated staff are taking every precaution and following stringent, protective guidelines to ensure that all our sisters—both those in active ministry and those who minister simply through their prayers and presence—are safe and receiving the best possible care.

As we continue to serve those in need through our ministries across the United States and around the world, we want to express our appreciation for your valued partnership as you walk with us in mission. Our sisters, associates, staff, and volunteers count on, and are blessed by, your prayers, and we are tremendously grateful for your continued financial support.

St. Paul reminds us that faith, hope, and love are the three things that endure; they will bring us, together, through this difficult time. And we look forward in faith to the time, very soon, when we can once again celebrate and embrace together.

The School Sisters of St. Francis

As always, we invite you to share your prayer intentions with us. You may <u>use this</u> <u>link</u> to send your intercessions and thanksgivings to the sisters.