


INSPIRED TO SERVE



See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the wilderness I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers. Isaiah 43:19

Director's Desk

Happy New Year!! We all agree 2020 was a unique and challenging year. Yet for all its demands, the year provided invaluable lessons in human resilience, spiritual courage and relational reverence. We did not simply endure the trials but grew individually and collectively. We are better people for the experiences and more equipped to move forward into the new year. Bless you my dear colleagues.

As he so frequently does, Fr. Richard Rohr provides insight and reassurance. The following is an excerpt from his new year reflection:

"The new year puts some symbolic distance between ourselves and 2020, a year that brought so much chaos, heartbreak, and uncertainty to so many people throughout the world. I dare say that no one lived through the past year without experiencing some level of disruption and loss of freedom, of health, of loved ones, and especially our cherished notions of how things 'ought' to be.

No matter what is going on around us, it's important to remember that God keeps transforming creation into something both good and new. Instead of hurling us towards catastrophe, God always wants to bring us somewhere even better."

As we greet the new year, it's understandable wanting an immediate return to "normalcy" in ministry. Hang on! We're gaining traction toward that goal as positive signs emerge. Most notably, the vaccine distribution has begun and will become increasingly available. Consequently, hospitals will "open up" soon than later, though it's impossible to predict when in-person ministry will begin.

Each hospital will have its own timeline. If you have a hospital badge, please contact your Lay Chaplain and / or assigned hospital to gain the latest information about updated visitation policies. Please do not contact the CCC Office with those 'returning-to-ministry' questions. When you return to in-person ministry, please notify our office so we can keep a record of who has returned and who is still waiting. If you run into challenges in communicating with your Lay Chaplain or hospital, please reach out to the CCC Office and we can assist you.

If you do NOT have a hospital badge, please wait for further notification from the CCC Office. That HR process will operate on a different time schedule.

Thank you for your ongoing patience. We will get to the Promise Land of in-person ministry.

With gratitude and prayers for blessings upon you...

Denise Foote, BBC, MBA

Director Catholic Chaplain Corps.

713-747-8445

dfoote@archgh.org.