



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIocese
OF CHARLESTON



June 13, 2016

Dear Pastor or Parish Administrator:

After the historic flooding of last October, I am happy to once again announce that On Fire With Faith has been Rekindled. We have rescheduled it to be held in conjunction with another major diocesan event, the annual Hispanic Ministries Conference. Coming together will enable us to celebrate our unity in the Church, both universally and locally, in a **fully bilingual event**. Our joint conferences will be held on **August 13, 2016** at the **Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center**. I am really looking forward to this joint venture and strongly encourage you and your parishioners to join us.

Historically, *On Fire With Faith* is a biennial conference, which was previously called 'Fire at the Beach'. At *On Fire With Faith*, we celebrate the fact that as a Eucharistic people we are *Called, Nourished, and Sent*. This time out, we are trying a **one day** schedule, which will begin Saturday morning at 9am and will conclude with Mass on Saturday evening. This year, we have included a variety of speakers and topics that should be of interest to **all Catholics** as we are operating under the theme of '**Casting the Nets of Mercy**'. Our keynote speakers will be **Hector 'the Motivangelist' Molina**, who is known for his work with *Catholic Answers*, and **Dr. Carole Eipers**, who is known for her work with the *Sadlier, Inc.*, the publisher of many of the catechetical materials in use within our diocese. Both are phenomenal speakers and will each bring their unique approach to the topic of evangelization. Some of the sessions are particularly focused on catechesis and should be of interest to clergy, parish and school catechetical leaders, catechists, and school teachers. Other sessions are aimed at evangelization, a task we **all** share as Christians. In other words, there should be something edifying and inspiring for everyone in your parish and/or school.

This is a **major event** for our diocese, so please encourage your parish/school staff, faculty, and parishioners to attend. I should also note that we are offering this year's conference at a **reduced registration rate of \$20** (lunch will be available for purchase at the venue). What a great value! Additionally, we hope that locating the conference centrally and on a one day schedule will make it less cost prohibitive and encourage parishes/schools to send large groups.

Enclosed, you will find a publicity packet for your parish. It includes brochures with registration forms, small posters, and sample bulletin/app announcements. These may be reproduced. If you would like additional paper copies or electronic copies, please contact Mrs. Cathy Roche at cathy@catholic-doc.org. Please visit our website for more information: www.onfirewithfaith.org. **Please help spread the word.** We need your support to make this event a success.

I know that I am personally excited about this event and I hope that you feel the same. I look forward to seeing you and your parishioners there. May God continue to bless you and your parish and may you and your parishioners find strength and inspiration in this event!

Sincerely in Christ,

Michael J. Martocchio

Michael J. Martocchio, Ph.D.
Director of Catechesis and Christian Initiation