



Diocese of Davenport

Office of the Bishop

One more way to develop your faith in 2021

January 28, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Post it, tweet it, pin it, listen to it, read it! On multiple media platforms, *The Catholic Messenger* connects you to the Good News of Jesus Christ as lived out in our local Church and universal Church. One more way to develop your faith.

That connection has proven more vital these past 10 months because of the pandemic that has required substantial changes in our ability to come together in the parish and in the community at large. The *Messenger* provides easy access to the latest developments — from diocesan pandemic protocols, online Mass schedules and event cancellations to videos, podcasts and my letters on our response to COVID-19. Check out the *Messenger's* website at www.catholicmessenger.net, which is the gateway to the publication's media platforms, including the e-edition.

"*The Catholic Messenger* entered a new age with its e-edition," says Tim Walch, who serves with me on the *Messenger's* Board of Directors. "The pages come alive with color and convenience and news of the diocese is readily accessible at the touch of the keyboard. It's hard to imagine a more attractive and useful format for such an important publication." Subscribers get the e-edition delivered to their email address.

Responding to the constantly evolving digital world and your preferences for accessing news, faith formation and inspiration, the *Messenger* completed a 13-week training with the Catholic Media Association. Editor Barb Arland-Fye said this about the training: "We have added technological tools to our tool belt. We feel energized, which moves us to build on our creativity and explore the 'what-ifs' to guide our publication well into the future. The Catholic Media Association developed this training initiative to equip our faith-based publications to continue to be a voice for the Church for generations to come."

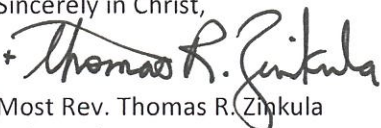
That training took place at the same time that the derecho, a straight-line windstorm, barreled into Iowa Aug. 10 on the *Messenger's* deadline. The storm left nearly 1 million homes and businesses without power along a 770-mile path in the Midwest, according to news reports. The *Messenger's* staff managed to get the initial story online and in print — on time.

This weekend, parishes kick off the 2021 subscription drive. To help encourage more people to subscribe, all households in the diocese will receive one free edition of *The Catholic Messenger* on Jan. 28. That special issue also will include Catholic Schools Week coverage and the monthly Spanish page.

No other media, print or digital, covers the Catholic Church in our diocese with the expertise and integrity of *The Catholic Messenger*. It is a real value at \$29 per year for 50 issues — print or E-edition. Watch for the subscription drive in your parish.

My hope is that all households will subscribe to *The Catholic Messenger*. Please subscribe for yourself or buy a subscription for a friend or family member. Staying connected to our local Church and the universal Church is one way to develop your faith.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Rev. Thomas R. Zinkula
Bishop of Davenport