PILGRIMS

Happy New Year, Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of HOPE"

**Hope** (Catechism of the Catholic Church)

1817 Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful." <sup>84</sup> "The Holy Spirit . . . he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life." <sup>85</sup>

1820 Christian hope unfolds from the beginning of Jesus' preaching in the proclamation of the beatitudes. The *beatitudes* raise our hope toward heaven as the new Promised Land; they trace the path that leads through the trials that await the disciples of Jesus. But through the merits of Jesus Christ and of his Passion, God keeps us in the "hope that does not disappoint." <sup>88</sup> Hope is the "sure and steadfast anchor of the soul . . . that enters . . . where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf." <sup>89</sup> Hope is also a weapon that protects us in the struggle of salvation: "Let us . . . put on the breastplate of faith and charity, and for a helmet the hope of salvation." <sup>90</sup> It affords us joy even under trial: "Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation." <sup>91</sup> Hope is expressed and nourished in prayer, especially in the Our Father, the summary of everything that hope leads us to desire.

We are all Pilgrims of Hope. My hope is that we are all brave enough to carry out this mission, to proclaim by our actions and example a sense of HOPE to all we encounter. We have the special privilege of gaining a Jubilee Indulgence during this year. Check out the Diocesan website to find the stipulations in gaining one.

As chair of the nominating committee, it is with great privilege that I get to announce that Susan Porter was unanimously chosen as the new Vice President-President Elect of the SLC DCCW. An electronic vote was held with all 38 votes cast in her favor. Thank you Susan for your "yes" to serve on the Executive Board. I want to thank all of the nominating committee members, Becky Colombo, Cleo Mato, Teri Miller, Kathy Fazio, Jamie Beert, and Lydia Farnell for reaching out to the eligible candidates and working to submit candidates. It is with many hands that the work is done, Thank you. Please know that our work is not completed. We are tasked with finding a new slate of officers for 2026. I want to encourage all eligible candidates to consider and pray about saying your "yes" when asked to serve. The job descriptions for each of the positions will be posted on the dccwutah.org website. It is a privilege that comes with many blessings in serving on the Board of Directors of the DCCW.