March 13, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ our King,

Yesterday we commemorated the Feast of Pope St. Gregory the Great, who made extensive contributions to the texts and musical chants of the Roman Liturgy. These prayers found in the Holy Mass and the Divine Office are a profound source of God's grace for our ever-changing world. These prayers of the Liturgy strengthen our souls with divine peace, joy, and stability in order that we may always live in a spirit of Faith rather than fear.

Nevertheless, Faith does not eliminate prudence, but rather it enhances this virtue to allow us to make decisions for both our spiritual and temporal good. Asking our Divine Lord for the grace of His guidance, we wish to do all things with faith-based prudence and true fraternal charity.

Therefore, in light of the recent general precautions taken regarding the corona virus (COVID-19) and desiring to respect the reasonable request of authorities to refrain from large gatherings at this time, we have decided to reschedule the Institute's Benefit Gala for Saturday, October 31, 2020 (instead of Saturday, March 21).

By God's Providence, this date (proposed to us by the gala venue) falls just days following the Institute's titular feast of Christ the King and will provide a beautiful occasion for us to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Institute's foundation. Your tables and seats have all been reserved, and we look forward to seeing you all then for this providential occasion.

We are encouraging people to apply their paid tickets, donations, sponsorships, and/or ads to the October Gala. However, if you do need a refund, you may call us at (773) 363-7409 or email us at gala@instutitute-christ-king.org.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us respond to all the extraordinary circumstances of our times not only with prudence, but also with a deep Faith. As we still wish to celebrate the feast of our patron St. Benedict with you all on March 21, I invite you to join us spiritually at 6:00pm CST that same evening, uniting your prayers with ours at the feet of Christ our Infant King.

## We will chant Solemn Vespers for the Feast of St. Benedict at the Shrine of Christ the King followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the Crypt Chapel.

I also encourage everyone to be united in prayer through the pious recitation of the Holy Rosary.

Together, let us prayerfully ask the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for a greater acceptance of God's holy Will, for His mercy amidst this outbreak, for the spiritual and bodily welfare of those affected by it, and for the increase of our Faith and Hope in the goodness of Christ our Infant King as we continue to live in the joy of His eternal Charity.

May He continue to bless you all, and may He continue to bless our work and mission as a spiritual family to restore Catholic life and culture in the United States and throughout the world for His greater glory and for the salvation of souls.

Thank you very much for your generosity to the Institute. With the assurance of my daily prayers for you and your intentions at the holy altar, I wish you a blessed continuation of this Lenten season and remain,

Faithfully yours in Christ our Infant King,

Monte Talain

Rev. Canon Matthew Talarico

Provincial Superior in the United States