

## MESSAGE TO HOSPITALITY MINISTERS

We are a resurrection people.

Rooted in our rich Catholic heritage, we are growing in the Spirit, as individuals and as a faith community.

We answer the call to live out our baptismal vocation in our daily lives, bringing the light of Christ's presence to our families, workplaces, neighborhoods and the world.

**We dare to live the life of Jesus Christ, transforming discouragement into hope, fear into love, isolation into community.**

This call to all of us at St. Monica church, this vision and mission of our new community, has special meaning for those of us involved in our **Hospitality** ministry.

When people walk through our doors, we never know what's happening in their lives and hearts. We don't know what their needs are – but God does! Perhaps they are in much pain, experiencing **discouragement or fear or isolation**, and God has led them to us to be touched by His **hope and love and community**.

When people come to our community (for the first time or as regulars), we as hospitality ministers are the first contact they make. Do we focus our full attention on them and let them know that we're genuinely glad they came? Do we really care? Do we take time to listen to what brought them here, what their needs are and how we can help them feel more at home among us?

Whether you're handing them a book, or helping them find a seat, or orienting them to our community, **YOU** are the channel of God's love for them. Through you they will get the message that someone cares and that they matter. **THAT** is our mission – to warmly greet each person and touch him/her with the light of Christ's caring presence.

This is no small responsibility.

When you are scheduled to be a hospitality minister, in whichever role you're assigned (see attached information), God is asking you to commit yourself during that time to this mission – to be part of a team that extends open arms and hearts to all who are led to our doors – whether they are newcomers or familiar faces.

Thank you so much for your willingness to live your baptismal call through this important ministry in our community.

*“Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.” (Hebrews 13:2)*