Office of the Archbishop 835 North Rush Street Chicago, IL 60611-2030 312:534:8230 archchicago.org

February 26, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ.

To all who are gathered this evening for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Association of Chicago Priests, I send my warmest greetings and offer my sincere apology for not being with you tonight due to circumstances which make it impossible to attend the Mardi Gras.

Be assured that I value the ACP and all it has accomplished over the last half century. Moreover, I am very proud and grateful as the ACP honors Father Dominic Grassi, past ACP Chair, Sister Therese O'Sullivan, IBVM and the St. Martin de Porres House of Hope, Father Larry Dowling and the St. Agatha Restorative Justice Peace Hub, the Catholic Common Ground Initiative, the Cara Program, the National Federation of Priest Councils, and the Marimba Ensemble – Holy Cross/Immaculate Heart of Mary. Congratulations to all the honorees and to the Dorothy Day Scholarship awardees.

In the years ahead, I intend to work closely with the ACP, and as we continue our efforts for *Renew My Church*, I am hopeful you will play a significant role.

Wishing you every blessing, with kind regards I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich Archbishop of Chicago

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Association of Chicago Priests 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mardi Gras Ministry Awards St. John Brebeuf Parish Center