

## **Encountering Jesus, Healer of Wounds and Source of Mercy**

Evening of Adoration and Reflection

Sunday, 2 July 2017, 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. – Regency Ballroom

Good evening. Allow me to thank Cardinal O'Malley for being here to lead us in this Evening of Adoration and Reflection. Tonight we pause to pray and reflect together on both our wounds, and the ways that we, as individuals and as Church, have participated in or failed to prevent the woundedness of others. It is also a time to ask for Jesus' healing touch upon us all, and to praise Him, truly present here among us, in thanksgiving for his mercy and redeeming love.

We face a variety of challenges in our work, including the discussion of very sensitive topics and the reality of the brokenness and wounds of so many in our world. In the spirit of encountering Jesus' healing touch, some of these difficult topics will be addressed in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament during this prayer service, and throughout the Convocation. As a community of believers, we have hope in Jesus and great faith in His care and healing.

At the same time, we accept the reality that exploring these issues can open wounds or cause painful reactions in our hearts and minds. Please be aware of the need for maintaining a healthy self-awareness and practicing good self-care if negative reactions arise.

Information on self-care is available in a resource pamphlet "Care of the Person, Care of Self" provided in your registration bag and available after this healing service tonight at the tables outside the Confessional Space. The pamphlet provides helpful information for consideration tonight and during the convocation, as well as resources for when you arrive back home.

The liturgy tonight will conclude with the Blessed Sacrament being transferred to the Magnificat Adoration Chapel across the hall, where people will be welcome to pray.

To meet pastoral needs, Confessions will be available in the Confessional Space in Regency Express, immediately after the close of this prayer service, and until 10:00 p.m.

However, be aware that the last hotel shuttle leaves at 10:00 p.m. So if you need a shuttle, please be to the bus pick-up locations before 10.

Thank you everyone, for being here to pray and encounter Jesus together at this evening of reflection and adoration.