## Dear Friend in Christ,

We are very excited to provide you with an initiative entitled "Going Deeper in Prayer." The essence of this initiative is to pray a specific prayer each day, while deepening your understanding of the words and underlying principles. Praying the *Memorare* each day allows for an encounter with Our Blessed Mother, leading to conversation with her that becomes more personal.

God prepared a beautiful and sinless Woman to be the Mother of Jesus, our Savior. When Jesus was dying on the Cross for our sins, He gave us Mary, His Mother, to be our Spiritual Mother. Mary wants to lead each of her children to her Son, Jesus. She listens with great love and concern as you speak with her. You can talk with her at any time about anything. This is part of God's plan that you go to Mary.

The goal is that you continue to deepen your friendship with Jesus Christ and Mary. When you complete the year of praying the *Memorare* and learning more about this specific prayer, it will become a part of your life that you will never forget.



The *Memorare* prayer card can be downloaded from the website and inserted into a plastic sleeve to protect it. Visit <u>diolc.org/deeper</u> and scroll down.

## Resources for the *Memorare*:

The following Resources are also provided for use in helping you to go deeper in your understanding of the *Memorare* <u>diolc.org/deeper</u> and scroll down.

- A simple introduction about God's love
- The goals for praying this prayer each day
- The meaning of the words of the prayer
- Learning the Principles
- Activities to help students remember the words
- Spiritual Comprehension
- Encountering God in Prayer
- The Scriptural Foundation of the words of the prayer



## The following truths underlie any formation in prayer:

- 1. The Person of Christ desires that you develop a friendship with Him. This relationship is prayer. Further, you will want to learn more about Mary, your Spiritual Mother in Heaven. You will want to develop a friendship with Mary through personal and communal prayer. Mary will always lead you to Jesus.
- 2. Every person needs to learn how to pray. "Like a wise teacher Jesus takes hold of us where we are and leads us progressively toward the Father" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, hereafter CCC, paragraph 2607). Jesus teaches you how to pray!
- 3. The Holy Spirit dwells within you and guides you in prayer! "The Holy Spirit is the interior Master of Christian prayer" (CCC 2672). The Holy Spirit helps and guides you to develop a daily habit of prayer. If you ask, He will even give you the desire to pray.



