



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

January 19, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are a pilgrim people! Holy Mother Church reminds us repeatedly of this reality and we experience it through the challenges, struggle, and pain of this earthly life “as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of the great God and of our Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13). As Christians, we are always pilgrims who “have seen a great light” (Mt 4:16). Our light is the light of faith, the light of Hope that is Christ, and whatever darkness we may face, we are never lost!

As has often been said about the March for Life, we journey as pilgrims, not tourists. On this pilgrimage, remember that you are a bearer of the great and undiminishable light of Christ. With prayerful hearts full of love, let all your actions be more than protest; let them witness to the beauty of our faith, to the dignity of every human person, from conception to natural death.

The March for Life is a great witness to our commitment to defending the most vulnerable, but the witness must continue at home. It is my desire that we all, with the aid and guidance of the Holy Spirit, strive to see that God’s plan for human persons be accepted more fully in New Hampshire. So make the most of your travels, all the while prayerfully considering ways you may continue your efforts to uphold the special dignity of human life when you return.

While this particular pilgrimage is relatively short, our shared journey returning to God our Father is lifelong. Remember that the fruit of all our efforts remain in God’s hands. Let us renew our commitment to prayer, the sacraments, and works of mercy as to prepare ourselves for the Father’s bountiful harvest.

Though I am unable to journey with you personally this year, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci
Bishop of Manchester