



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 2016

Dear Fellow Bishop,

The launch of *Gathering for Mission* was an amazing event! As the host, I came to it with much trepidation, anxious over who might come. I had been briefed on the format, but did not know what to expect. We were all drawn into a free-flow conversation and reflection that was framed by short video clips featuring Jesus, Pope Francis, and a local response. In these polarizing times, this dialogue process is exactly what we need. At the end of the day, with the other participating bishops joining me, I knew that we must share this process with Church leadership all across the country. The best starting place could be the meeting of the Province, diocesan clergy days, or at the regional seminary. Following Pope Francis, the way forward is dialogue.

In the Lord's Peace,

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmo
Bishop of Charleston
Chair, Catholic Committee of the South