



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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November 1, 2017
The Solemnity of All Saints

My dear sisters in Christ:

It is again my privilege to invite and to encourage you to attend the fifth-annual **Rochester Catholic Women's Conference**, to be held on **March 10, 2018**, at Aquinas Institute, in Rochester. By the grace of God, the Rochester Catholic Women's Conference has now become an annual event which gathers a sell-out crowd of nearly 1,000 women who joyfully spend the day learning about, loving and living their Catholic faith. It is a powerful and beautiful witness to the unity and charity so characteristic of women of faith.

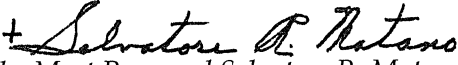
The theme this year, *The Power of the Eucharist, Glorifying God and Sanctifying the World*, is familiar to each of us as we continue to celebrate our Diocesan *Year of the Eucharist*, as a way to commemorate the 150th anniversary of our Diocese of Rochester. It has been, and will always be, the presence of our Lord, truly present in the Most Holy Eucharist, Who has sustained us over all these years and Who will be our constant Companion and strength for the future. The closer we are attached to the Lord, the more our daily lives glorify God; the more Eucharistic we become, the more His power will be able to sanctify the world through us.

Again this year, the Conference falls during the holy season of Lent and will be a sure aid to our Lenten journey by including the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, uplifting music and two noted authors and engaging speakers: Dr. Edward Sri and Mrs. Danielle Bean who will speak about the Conference theme and help prepare the attendees to better celebrate the Lord's glorious Resurrection on Easter.

I renew my deep gratitude to God for the many volunteer organizers of this event who work closely with the staff at the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, for their initiative, prayers and planning. I hope that you are able to be present for this Conference as together we rekindle our love for the Eucharistic Lord.

Asking the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, this Woman of courageous and extraordinary faith, to intercede for us, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,


The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano
Bishop of Rochester