



Sanctuary of Hope Prayer & Retreat Center

"Where you stand is Holy Ground." Exodus 3:5

Dear Friends,

December 4, 2020

This year has been hard for everyone.

The disruption of our routine. The anxiety about our future. The loneliness of our isolation. The distractions in our prayer. The loss of our loved ones.

But as the Psalmist urges us, "Let your unfailing love surround us. Lord, for our hope is in you alone."

Like you, Sanctuary of Hope has been buffeted by the waves of the pandemic. We were forced to cancel retreats, postpone programs, delay repairs, and watch as our best laid plans for this year crumpled. Throughout this trial, you have been very much in our prayers.

Yet in the midst of uncertainty there is also a sense of anticipation, in a time of thanksgiving, a feeling of gratitude, in a season of anticipation, a need for preparation. This is why we are delighted to share that next year marks the **25th anniversary of Sanctuary of Hope.**

Without your generosity, countless volunteer hours, not to mention the many prayers that have been offered for Sanctuary of Hope, we would have never reached this momentous milestone. To celebrate this special occasion and prepare for our next quarter century of ministry, we are launching the *Fr. Dennis Wait and Companions Legacy Campaign.*

In order to ensure that we can continue to be a place of rest in God's Holy presence and to find peace, healing and hope in a busy world, will you consider donating \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, even \$1,000 or more, to our Fr. Dennis Wait and Companions Legacy Campaign?

In this time of unrest, we continue to welcome an increasing number of people to our beautiful grounds and also welcome some retreatants. We are increasing our online opportunities and now offer a weekly centering prayer group, a weekly prayer and praise group, and individual and group study of the Called & Gifted program. Go to sanctuaryofhoperetreat.org to learn more.

The past year has demonstrated that Sanctuary of Hope's mission has never been more important:

- We need a place to retreat from the distractions, noise, and stress of everyday life
- We need time to think and relax while renewing our relationship with God
- We need a place to come in our suffering where God can care for and heal us.
- We need the solitude of a private, beautiful place to walk and pray amid God's creation.
- We need programs to help us pray, praise and more fully discover God's calling for our unique purpose in life, the work of love that only we can do.

Each year we collaborate with a variety of healing, recovery, and faith-based ministries. It has been said that the one adjective that best describes Sanctuary of Hope is *healing*—something that is certainly needed in our world today.

A poem written by a friend of Sanctuary of Hope about her time in the chapel on our campus ends with this beautiful stanza, describing the Holy Ground that is Sanctuary of Hope.

I kneel. No books, no hymns, no liturgy. Time
For resting with those who came and those to come
To this place made holy by those the angels guard.

Truly, a sense of the sacred pervades this place in the middle of our busy city.

Now—*more than ever*—your financial support is vital to the future of Sanctuary of Hope and our work Will you consider making a generous gift to Sanctuary of Hope today—\$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, even \$1,000 or more—to help this oasis of prayer and solitude thrive for its next quarter century? You can make a donation online at sanctuaryofhope.org or by mailing a check to Sanctuary of Hope 2601 Ridge Ave. Kansas City, KS 66102, noting Fr. Dennis and Companions Legacy Campaign on the memo line.

Thank you for considering supporting the Fr. Dennis Wait and Companions Legacy Campaign. With your help, we will continue to serve a diverse and ecumenical community of people from across the country and collaborate with others in new ways to be a place of rest and healing in God's holy presence for those who are most in need of hope—individuals, youth groups, churches, and other organizations that meet, share fellowship, volunteer, serve in the surrounding community, experience personal renewal and create opportunities for small miracles along their way, all because of Sanctuary of Hope.

“In hope we were saved,” says St. Paul to the Romans, and likewise to us. We are grateful to God and to you, our friends, for our successes in 2020, and we look forward to many more in 2021. Now we pray for all our generous friends and supporters. Through your prayers and support, our Lord has provided us with nearly 25 years of ministry. May He bless us with many more!

Thank you again for your generosity and support of Sanctuary of Hope.

Sincerely,

Fr. Joseph Arsenault, Fr. Dennis Wait, and the Sanctuary of Hope Board of Trustees

P.S. If you have already contributed to the campaign and our email crossed paths with your gift, thank you so very much. We look forward to keeping in touch with you about how your gift makes it possible to fulfill Sanctuary of Hope's mission!

P.P.S. If you haven't had a chance to make a gift to the campaign, please support our work with a [secure online donation](#) or mail your donation to 2601 Ridge Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66102.