



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL
1011 FIRST AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

September 9, 2014

Dear friends in the Lord,

Living in Wisconsin for many years as Archbishop of Milwaukee, I experienced first-hand the magnitude of influence the University of Wisconsin has over not just the state but the nation and even the world.

Anyone who's been to a recent Badger game has experienced the exuberance of the "jump around" tradition between quarters. We as a community of believers must give UW students a *lasting reason* to "jump around" as they experience this world-class university! An encounter with Jesus Christ, an invitation to join the thousands of UW students who welcome Christ into their hearts as young Catholics because the mission of *St. Paul's* has invigorated them with joy.

I have met and experienced the joy of the wonderful people at *St. Paul's University Catholic Center*, seeing their confidence and resolve they bring to the task of evangelizing young adults on campus. Their work ripples much further than just Madison. Their success makes them a flagship for campus ministry around the nation. Because of the caliber of the university, the students passing through *St. Paul's* are training to become multi-generational leaders.

However, we've got a major job to do at *St. Paul's*. I've visited the *Center* and seen the harsh condition it's in. The Student Center is falling apart, and the cement chapel dates back to an architecture born in the tumultuous 1960's. All around them, the UW campus is being rebuilt and re-energized with the dollars of those who believe in the University of Wisconsin academic mission. I also believe in that mission, but we must ensure that opportunities to encounter Christ through our Catholic faith are a fundamental part of the secular university environment. *St. Paul's* sits right on State Street in the heart of campus. It is essential that we help it infuse the secular campus with a life-giving faith that draws in the masses of students who are "sifting and winnowing" for truth. We must help *St. Paul's* rebuild to be a beacon of love, meeting the needs of today's and tomorrow's students.

I ask you to join us in supporting an engaging Catholic presence on the UW campus. I assure you, the work of Catholic evangelization and formation is in good hands at *St. Paul University Catholic Center*. I have seen it with my own eyes. The faith, energy, and enthusiasm of the students there give me great hope. Let's make sure our youth on campus have every opportunity to be called to a bright future of faith in Jesus Christ. Let us successfully rebuild this home for Christ and his thousands of young people at the University of Wisconsin.

Faithfully in Christ,

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York