



Office of the Archbishop

Archdiocese of Anchorage

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November 2007

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I hope this message finds you preparing to enjoy the Holiday Season with family and friends.

The 6th Annual St. Francis of Assisi Awards Banquet will take place on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, starting at 6:00 p.m., at the Hilton Anchorage Hotel. Once again, we will come together to enjoy one another's company and recognize Catholic individuals and groups who have made exemplary gifts to our local Church and our community.

In 2001, I announced the institution of the St. Francis of Assisi Awards in honor of Archbishop Francis T. Hurley, Archbishop Emeritus, on the occasion of his retirement and in honor of his patron saint. The Archdiocese of Anchorage is blessed with many who strive to live St. Francis' realization that "it is in giving that we receive."

The deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. on Monday, January 7, 2008. Please take a moment to consider nominating individuals and groups whose devoted work you know of for this year's St. Francis of Assisi Awards. We are looking for nominees in three categories:

- Clergy or Religious men and women who have served the people of our local Church through their unique vocation;
- Lay women and men who have served their parish or the Archdiocese in a special way through individual stewardship of time, talent and treasure; and
- Individual youth or youth groups who have provided outstanding service to their church community.

I hope to see you at the Awards Banquet on February 5. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to gather as a family and celebrate the generosity of those working especially hard to make our Church and community all that God intended.

Sincerely Yours in Christ and Mary,

+*Roger L. Schwietz, OMI*

Archbishop of Anchorage