



ONE BALTIMORE

From Hope to Wholeness

April 15, 2016

Dear Friend in Christ,

One year ago, the City of Baltimore was in crisis. The death of Freddie Gray was the tipping point for many residents tired of living in fear for their safety and the daily search for those things we take for granted which contribute to our inherent human dignity: quality education, employment, healthcare, racial equality, and housing. People took to the streets to protest and rally. Far fewer resorted to violence and destruction to show their frustration. In both cases, their actions spoke to a deep, systemic problem in our city that needed addressing by all who love Baltimore.

Since then, the Catholic Church in Baltimore has re-evaluated how it is present and serving God's people in the city, with a goal of better coordination among Catholic institutions. The Church has also re-evaluated its partnerships with many other faith- and civic-based organizations and institutions in hopes of more effectively addressing the underlying causes of last year's unrest.

This work is ongoing and progress is being made. We cannot turn back years of neglect and abandonment overnight, but we are committed to the work to which we've recommitted ourselves. As the city prepares to mark the painful one-year anniversary of the events of spring 2015, leaders of many faith communities in and around the city will gather for an [interfaith prayer service](#) on Monday, April 25th at 7 p.m. at the [Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#), 409 N. Charles Street. Parking is available at the Franklin Street Garage between Cathedral and Charles Streets. We are proud to host this historic, prayerful gathering and pray you will join us, as we unite as people of many faiths with a common goal: a better Baltimore for all God's people.

Faithfully in Christ,

+ William E. Lori

Most Reverend William E. Lori
Archbishop of Baltimore



Archdiocese of Baltimore
320 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

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