



# ARCHDIOCESE OF DENVER

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

March 1, 2018

Rev. Marek Ciesla, SChr.  
Saint Joseph Catholic Church  
551 W. 6th Street  
Akron, Colorado 80720

Dear Father Ciesla and the faithful at St. Joseph's parish,

Congratulations on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your parish! A century of faith in Jesus Christ and His Church is a great witness to the faith and dedication of past generations to hand on the sacramental life of the Church to generations to come.

A community which deeply lives the Catholic Faith manifests it through its culture as noted by Saint Pope John Paul II: "A faith that does not become a culture is not fully accepted, not entirely thought out, not faithfully lived." In this light, I want to thank you for working to build a community of faith, committed to building a culture informed by the Gospel and guided by the Holy Spirit. As you strive to make authentic disciples of Jesus and the Church, you help them deepen their relationship with each person of the Trinity and the Church. With our Lord's grace and through the intercession of your patron St. Joseph, we can transform our culture for the sake of the Kingdom of God. You can serve as leaven in a world that so needs the Gospel message.

Thank you again for your witness of faithfulness to Christ and his Church. May you have many more years and may "he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 1:6).

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Samuel J. Aquila, S.T.L.  
Archbishop of Denver