

April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday, 2021

Dear Friend of Loyola,

Christ is Risen. Alleluia. Alleluia.

This time last year, the entire world was shutting down as a little understood threat to humanity turned into a horrendous pandemic. Now, thank God, we're seeing some light and hope thanks to the gift of multiple vaccines. I remember all our lost loved ones and I continue to pray every day for the safety of all those who have worked tirelessly to keep us healthy and safe.

"Hope Springs Eternal!" Throughout this past year, we have been planning for our reopening so that this beautiful and holy house can be filled with retreatants again. That hope is still in the process of being realized. Since last Fall, Loyola Jesuit Center has been offering in-person retreats at a greatly reduced capacity, as well as offering each retreat or day, morning, or evening of prayer virtually. As vaccinations increase, restrictions in New Jersey will decrease and Loyola will once again be able to welcome hope-filled, God-seeking souls. In order to do that, we continue to need your financial support.

"Hope Springs Eternal!" Springtime brings new life, the joy of Easter and great hope for all friends of Loyola. The darkness of this past year is slowly lifting even as its effects are still deeply felt. Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to maintain our support staff and keep the house running. I know that we just reached out to you in December and that was not long ago. I am, however, humbly asking for your help again. I perfectly understand that not everyone will be in a position to give this time around.

Covid-19 has taken its toll on us over the past 12 months:

1. Retreat income is down 90%. [This includes Loyola-led retreats and outside groups.] Our total income deficit from cancelled retreats approaches \$1,000,000.
2. Normally, Catholic schools and other organizations contribute 55% [or \$500,000] to the budget. These groups couldn't come during the Covid-19 crisis and are only now beginning to return.
3. The Loyola Golf Outing & Garden Party, which regularly raised over \$50,000, had to be cancelled, although the Golf Outing will return this October 11th at Spring Brook Country Club and the Garden Party will be held in September.
4. Because of our forced cancellations, some 3,000 fewer people came through our doors. We have not been able to see or share things with most of you in person. We miss you and hope to see you soon at one of our upcoming retreats or events.

"Hope Springs Eternal!" God's grace continues and hope endures. Through your generosity last year, we have so far sustained the mission of Loyola without piercing our small endowment and thus jeopardizing our future.

Loyola Jesuit Center needs your generosity. I'm asking you to consider offering a gift that will carry us through the Spring & Summer into what everyone hopes will be a fully-opened Loyola Jesuit Center.

I realize that many others are asking you for donations, but please consider making a gift to Loyola. Donations can be mailed back in the enclosed envelope or made online at www.loyola.org.

May God bless you and keep you. You will forever have my gratitude for the support you have offered and continue to offer us.

Yours in Christ,



Paul Brian Campbell, S.J., Director

