



## ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

222 North Seventeenth Street · Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-1299  
Telephone (215) 587-0506 · Fax (215) 587-4545

OFFICE of the ARCHBISHOP

November 13, 2021

Dear Brother Bishops,

I write to express my strong support for The GIVEN Institute and the 2022 GIVEN Catholic Women's Leadership Forum, taking place June 21-25, 2022 here in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

It will be an honor to host this event bringing together women from across the country for leadership training, faith formation, and dedicated mentoring. Saint Francis Xavier Cabrini, who brought the Gospel across the United States, is as a model for the young women who will gather here and later enact their Action Plans in their home dioceses. I am reaching out to you on her feast day asking for assistance with promotion of the 2022 GIVEN forum in your local Church.

The mission of the Institute is a direct response to Pope Francis's call to engage in the work of forming missionary disciples. Beyond inspiring young women for that mission, GIVEN equips each participant with the practical tools necessary to evangelize by using their own particular gifts.

I can attest to the quality of the faith formation and leadership development that the Institute offers the next generation of female Catholic leaders. The lay mentors and staff, in collaboration with participating female religious, provide attendees with an in-depth look at the myriad of ways that faithful women can maximize their God-given potential in service to the Church and our broader culture. The mentoring partnerships facilitated by GIVEN offer a holistic approach to the integration of faith and personal vocation.

At a time when our Church is embracing synodality anew, it is important that we encourage faithful women to ponder and activate their gifts. The GIVEN Institute emerges as a timely apostolate that is both faithful and forward-thinking. I am confident that it will bear fruit for the life of the Church for years to come.

Please be assured of my prayers and my gratitude for your consideration of this request.

Fraternally in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nelson J. Pérez".

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia