



Office of the Bishop

*Jesus said to her, "Mary!"
She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni,"
which means Teacher.*

John 20:16

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

A blessed Easter season to you! Welcome to the Diocese of Orlando. I am grateful to you for your faithfulness and sacrificial journey to come to this meeting place.

I find these words from the Scripture reading for April 7, the opening of this National Catholic Educational Association Convention, to be especially appropriate for our gathering. By our baptism, we are all called to be teacher, modeling our curriculum of faith in Jesus Christ.

Our life of faith is ongoing from the moment of our first breath to our very last. The richness of the National Catholic Educational Association invites us to become the best teachers of faith. We use this guidance to enkindle a deeper faith by helping each person know and love Jesus Christ, inviting deeper intimacy and communion with Him in and through the Catholic church. We form leaders in Christ so we can confidently and respectfully engage with people of other religions or beliefs in ways to reflect God's love and plan for the world. We harmonize ministries of faith formation to the mission of the Catholic Church so that together we grow in our personal, intellectual and technical abilities to provide Spirit-filled catechesis among the diverse people of God.

I pray that your gathering will bear fruit for the people of God and that your time together will bring you to an intimate understanding of the wondrous gift of the call to be, *teacher*. May the Lord's kindness be upon us who have put our hope in Him.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend John Noonan
Bishop of Orlando



Office of Schools

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

On behalf of the Bishop of Orlando, the six other Superintendents in the Province of Florida, teachers and staff, I welcome you to the National Catholic Educational Association Convention 2015 in beautiful Central Florida. It is my hope that you will enjoy your stay in the Sunshine State so that you will be spiritually nourished, professionally enriched and leave with many “happy” memories of your visit with us.

We are honored to partner with the National Catholic Educational Association in hosting this convention. This will be the first time that the convention has been offered in Florida and we are looking forward to sharing with everyone our southern hospitality. Many people have worked diligently to provide you the best that Florida can offer.

This will be a wonderful professional development and spiritually renewing experience for all attendees. The sessions are varied and numerous. The presenters are experts in their fields. Seeing friends from other dioceses and networking with colleagues is an invaluable experience. There are many ways that you can benefit from your attendance.

I hope that you partake in the myriad of activities that are planned for you. Uplifting liturgies, keynote speakers, presenters, exhibits and after-hour fun are waiting for you.

So thank you for joining us and may your visit to Florida be one that you won't forget.

Peace and all good things.

Henry Fortier

Secretary for Education/
Superintendent of Catholic Schools