**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**To the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB):  "What we hope for from the National Conference Assembly of Bishops in Baltimore on November 12-14, 2018."**

Leadership from Baltimore area Catholic churches are heartened by the three goals Cardinal Daniel DiNardo announced in his 16 August statement on the measures to be taken by the USCCB and the Holy See to address the moral catastrophe that has overtaken the Church. An open letter created by the St. Ignatius "Women of the New Testament Ministry" has now been sent to DiNardo, Archbishop William Lori, and his auxiliary bishops which proposes further steps in increased accountability and transparency we believe necessary for restoring trust in the bishops and for advancing the reform of the clerical culture of the Church. That letter can be accessed here.

We would appreciate your support in this effort as the USCCB gathers in Baltimore on November 12–14 to discuss *"stronger protections against predators in the Church and anyone who would conceal them, protections that will hold bishops to the highest standards of transparency and accountability."*

If you agree with what is proposed in the open letter, would you please share it with friends at parishes and ask them to support this effort? This can be accomplished by doing the following:

1. Print out letter (upload letter)
2. Sign it
3. Mail it to Cardinal DiNardo at the address listed in letter. For the maximum impression, the letters should be received by Cardinal DiNardo before the Conference begins.

The Conference will be held at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront. We are planning a vigil at the hotel site as we await the news of the plan developed by the Bishops. More details on that event are forthcoming and will be posted at www.st-ignatius.net and on various social media venues.

For more information, contact Candra Healy: 410-978-9211 or candrahealy@st-ignatius.net.

Sincerely,

Candra V. Healy
Chair - Justice & Peace Committee