



BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
UNITED STATES SENATOR, RET.

February 26, 2017

Fr. Richard Lawrence
Pastor
St. Vincent de Paul Church
120 N. Front Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Fr. Lawrence,

It is an honor to offer my congratulations on the occasion of your retirement after forty-three years of exceptional service to the members of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States culminating with your tenure at St. Vincent de Paul. It is always a pleasure to recognize excellence and reflect upon a life of outstanding contributions.

You are to be commended for your day-to-day teaching of the Christian principles of faith, hope, and charity. You have fostered a congregation of caring people who follow your example and fight for social justice in their lives. More than a building, a church is a community of people living the commandments that were handed down so long ago.

At St. Vincent de Paul you have served youth, neighborhoods, the sick and elderly, the shut-in and excluded. You have never hesitated to take the first step to right a wrong, to protect the vulnerable or to extend the hand of mercy and understanding.

Fr. Lawrence, you have lived your faith through charity and mercy. Your work is a powerful example of the necessity of mercy in our lives, and your legacy will continue for years to come. St. Vincent's parishioners will miss your leadership and your contributions to the vision and reality of the Roman Catholic Church in America.

Well done. Enjoy the retirement you have surely earned,

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Mikulski

*You are a Baltimore original
a national treasure
& brought the Realistic &
to every day.*