

## Investing in the Future of the Church's Mission



Fr. Linh Pham, SVD

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

Peace and blessings to you. With gratitude, we extend our thanks for your steadfast faith in the Church and your generous support of the mission of Divine Word College. Your partnership and commitment are a concrete witness to a faith that is lived and made fruitful through generous action.

As we recently celebrated the feast of our founder St. Arnold Janssen on January 15, the Church also proclaimed the Gospel of Mark 1:40-45, recounting the moving encounter between Jesus and the man afflicted with leprosy. Approaching Jesus with humility and trust, the leper professes his faith: "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved by compassion, Jesus reaches out, touches him, and restores him to wholeness. This sacred moment reveals the very heart of Christ's mission – faith that calls forth action, love that transcends boundaries, and mercy that restores human dignity.

This Gospel passage is not merely a story of healing, but a summons to all believers. It challenges us to embrace a faith that is active and transformative, inviting us to participate in God's ongoing work of healing, hope, and renewal in our world.

Through your generosity, you share directly in this mission. Your support of Divine Word College makes possible the formation of future brothers and priests who will proclaim the Gospel with love, serve the Church with humility, and bring Christ's compassion to those most in need. We humbly ask for your ongoing partnership, prayers, and financial support, sustaining our mission of forming dedicated missionaries for the Church.

Be assured of our gratitude and our prayers for you and your intentions. May the Lord bless you abundantly for your faith, generosity, and commitment to this sacred mission.

## DWC Reaccredited For 10 years

In January, Divine Word College received excellent news! The Higher Learning Commission has reaffirmed the college's accreditation through the 2035–2036 academic year. This 10-year reaffirmation reflects the strength of DWC's academic programs and the faithful work being done each day to prepare students for ministry and service.

Dr. Joshua Young, Vice President for Academic Affairs, credited the dedication of faculty and staff for this achievement. He noted that the accreditation review offered an opportunity to reflect on what makes Divine Word College unique. "Our Assurance Argument captured and represented the missionary essence of the college, which accreditors experienced when they came to visit," he said, "We look forward to continuing our



commitment to the accreditation standards of U.S. higher education and to our students and community."

Accreditation affirms that Divine Word College meets rigorous academic standards while remaining rooted in its mission to form future priests, brothers, sisters, and lay leaders from around the world. This milestone reflects a shared commitment to excellence and mission that will continue to shape the college for years to come.