NEWS RELEASE Catholic Diocese of Peoria December 7, 2020

For Immediate Release

Catholic Diocese of Peoria Offers a Holy Hour of Prayer for People Caring for and Suffering with COVID-19

PEORIA, IL: The Catholic Diocese of Peoria invite all people of good faith to pray in this most precarious time for those suffering from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and for those who serve on the front line of caring for the sick. On Thursday, December 17 at 7:00pm in the Cathedral of St. Mary, a Holy Hour will be offered to pray in an intentional way for this unique and troubling moment. Gathering with our future priests, our seminarians, we will pray for the sick and suffering, for our health care worker and their supporting staffs, for all essential workers and for an end to the pandemic. In the short days and long nights of winter, we can often focus more on darkness than light. Yet the Church beckons us in the Advent season to not lose hope. In the final days of Advent, utilizing ancient titles for God, the "O Antiphons," we implore God to come into our lives. All are invited to join in this prayer time, which will be livestreamed from the Cathedral to pray "Come, O Divine Healer." We hope that the many individuals who are struggling at this moment know of our prayerful support and encouragement. Coadjutor Bishop Louis Tylka will preach the reflection for this prayer service.

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