



DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT

April 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of our diocesan staff members, Dan R. Ebener, has spent the past five years working on his book, [Servant Leadership Models for Your Parish](#), which gleans what he has learned from over 30 years of ministry and over 10 years of teaching graduate classes in organizational leadership. (See attached flyer with order form.)

I personally recommend this book and invite you to read and reflect on its message of servant leadership. As I state in the foreword to the book, servant leadership “offers the wisdom of the ages to a world that desperately needs new approaches to leadership.” As Dan points out in Chapter One, “Servant leadership is a paradoxical concept that fits the teachings and example of Jesus.”

Dan has a sense of mission to communicate the message of servant leadership. Therefore, he has graciously decided to donate all his royalties and proceeds from the sale of the book to charity. A teacher at heart, Dan has been conducting leadership trainings in our diocese for priests, deacons and lay people.

This book can be a useful source of ideas for parish discussions about leadership. Parishes might also consider having their parish councils or study groups read and reflect on one chapter at a time. Dan would also be willing to visit parishes and do book signings if you are interested. He may be contacted at [ebener@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:ebener@davenportdiocese.org). As I am sure you realize, leadership development has become a critical aspect of faith formation in today’s parish. We need to form Catholic leaders in the theology, philosophy and practice of servant leadership.

I recommend you order a copy of Dan’s book. It can help us create servant leadership models in our parishes and develop servant leaders in our diocese.

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Martin Amos  
Bishop of Davenport