



September 12, 2018

Dear Brothers,

Chicago's hotel workers live in every neighborhood in Chicago and are the backbone of our city's hospitality industry. Many of these 6,500 workers and their families are also members of our parishes and our school communities. They are now on strike, as their representatives were unable to come to an agreement with hotel owners on new contracts.

These workers may reach out to our parishes and charitable agencies for assistance. I encourage you to be ready to support parishioners or neighbors experiencing hardship.

We urge hotel owners and union representatives to work together in good faith for a resolution their issues. I encourage the entire Catholic community to pray that they reach just agreements as soon as possible.

This is a teachable moment for all of us to reflect on the Church's Social Doctrine on the dignity of work, the rights of workers, and the responsibilities of all to act with mutual respect in a spirit of solidarity. The Archdiocese of Chicago has a longstanding tradition of not crossing picket lines. So, if you have events planned in Chicago hotels where the workers are striking, please honor that tradition.

Again, we pray hotel owners and the members of UNITEHERE Local 1 can resolve their differences quickly. We invoke the special intercession of St. Joseph the Worker to guide all those concerned.

With cordial good wishes, I remain,

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ *Francis Kane*

Most Rev. Francis Kane  
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Chicago