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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Dear Friends,

Recently, I attended a Sunday Mass given by a wonderful priest from Villanova University. His homily is what really impressed me as he defined the differences between hope and optimism. On this particular Sunday, I needed to know those differences as I had gone through a difficult period and hearing about them, especially about hope, gave me a new perspective. I never make resolutions with the new year but this year I decided to do somewhat of a resolution, and that is to keep hoping. Hope is my mantra for this year, hope for my family, hope for the college I work for and hope for the Catholic Library Association. This hope comes from looking at all the work that was accomplished at leadership this year and will be accomplished through our strategic plan. The members of CLA fill me with hope and encourage me to continue to look at our organization in different ways and to try to transform and reinvigorate it so that it will support us and grow.

*Change to me is a form of hope.* No one wants to change but sometimes change is necessary and it is a sign of growth. If you attend the convention this year, you will see some of these changes, for example: fewer group meals, there is an opening dinner and the Regina Medal luncheon; the conclusion of the CLA convention will be with the Thursday evening Mass, the best prayer of all; and a chance to meet with awardees in individual sessions. With these changes, there will be more time for members to renew acquaintances especially over lunch

or dinner and a chance to tour Indianapolis, visit their art museum, etc. Changes have been made to this publication, *Catholic Library World*, as you will see in this issue. These changes are all improvements and give us hope and show us as a growing organization meeting the needs and suggestions of our members.

Just to keep everyone updated and hopeful: *A Handbook for Church Librarians* with the *Catholic Supplement* is now available; *Sinfully Good, 2nd edition*, recipes from the CLA Members, will be for sale at the convention; the *Oliver Leonard Kapsner, O.S.B. Cataloging Bulletin* (thanks to Tom Duszak, Robert Kusmer, and Maxine Lucas) is available on the CLA website; plans are being made for a CLA meeting/convention program at ALA this summer in Anaheim, CA; and plans are in process for an advanced archives workshop. Please continue to check the CLA website, [www.cathla.org](http://www.cathla.org), for all these items and much more.

Let's keep hoping and remember:

*Hope is the thing with feathers*

*That perches in the soul,*

*And sings the tune — without the words,*

*And never stops at all,*

Emily Dickinson

  
President, CLA