



CATHOLIC *Diocese of Fresno* CHARITIES

Dear Friend,

“Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all” [Galatians 6:9-10].

This scriptural passage chosen for this year’s Lenten Message of the Holy Father holds deep meaning for so many people, perhaps now more than ever.

It’s been two years since great fear and pain would forever change the world as we once knew it. Over the last two years, many of our brothers and sisters have walked down their darkest paths and still today, many are faithfully waiting for the harvest mentioned in the scripture. Even as I’m writing this letter, our brothers and sisters in Christ in both the Ukraine and Russia are suffering tremendous loss.

But you, a friend of Catholic Charities, continue to respond to the needs of those walking through darkness by continually showing them the light.

Whether that harvest meant being able to feed a hungry family with both parents out of work, clothe a previously homeless man preparing for a job interview, pay an elderly woman’s PG&E bill before her heat was turned off, or help rebuild a home that was burned to the ground during the Creek Fire – the harvest continues to be made possible because of you.

It’s because of you that more than 200,000 lives were changed last year. You, friend, do not grow tired of doing good.

Lent is the time for personal reflection and an opportunity to get closer to God. A period of renewal for our mind and our heart. A time to recognize that we are all sinners, yet deeply loved by God. It is with this understanding that we can have faith and hope for a better world.

Thank you for your continued commitment to embracing the vulnerable, the weak and the poor who walk through the doors of Catholic Charities. Thank you for continuing to do it with dignity, respect and deep love. Thank you for continuing to sow the seeds of kindness, no matter how small, while carrying the goodness of Christ into the world.

Please consider sending a donation in the enclosed envelope to help those most vulnerable. May you always remember whenever you feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty or welcome a stranger, you are encountering the Risen Christ. I pray that this Lenten season, you are renewed and strengthened by the hope He imparts.

May the love of God be with you now and always.

Jeff Negrete
Executive Director

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