



<<Date>>

<<Name>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<City State Zip>>

Dear <<Salutation>>,

May the Lord give you Peace!

You may have already heard; our Diocesan Sesquicentennial celebration begins next March. There is much to look forward to, and I am inviting you to look ahead and consider the opportunities available in your area that will launch us into the next age of encounter through our faith and works for our Diocese.

Lest we get too far ahead, however, I would be so happy if you would join me taking a moment and gratefully recalling those who came before us, their sacrifices, their pains, their joys, most notably their hopes and dreams. The realization of their spiritual and cultural hope is the door through which we pass and now hold open for those who will follow us with hope for the future. It is now our time to steward this gift of hope the future. When we give to the Diocesan Annual Appeal –*Stewards of Hope*—our prayers and financial gifts enable us to support the many charitable, pastoral and educational works offered in our beloved Diocese as instructed by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis reminds us, “Hope is born when one can experience that all is not lost;” many are counting on us to give what we can. In a genuine spirit of gratitude and humility, I ask that in your charity, you, please pray for and consider contributing to the Diocesan Annual Appeal –*Stewards of Hope*. Your sacrificial gift helps support 38 missions in our Diocese and the greater Church that provide incredible acts of mercy that are the inspiration of hope for so many people. Without your help, the work of our parishes and our Diocese to fulfill the Mission of Christ diminishes.

Thank you for your generous spirit and consideration of participation. May God reward you and bless you and your family.