



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS

LETTER FROM BISHOP LARRY SILVA

July 22, 2021

Dear Fellow Priests,

Peace be with you!

As many of you are aware, the Diocese and several of our faith communities have faced significant financial challenges in recent years. Through it all we have continued to work together as 'Ohana in Christ, providing vital services, and supporting important ministries. I thank you very much for all your efforts and your prayerful stewardship of time, talent and treasure.

During the past year, I asked the Stewardship and Development Commission to form a sub-committee of clergy and lay leaders. Their task was to study ways to generate new funding streams to support areas formerly funded, in whole or part, by the *With Grateful Hearts* capital campaign. Specifically, these areas include our priests' needs, seminary formation, deacon formation, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and those most in need through our various social ministries.

After meeting monthly and reviewing various options, it was evident that most initiatives would require time and an extended effort. Consequently, they recommended and I decided to move ahead with the proposal to re-brand the current Bishop's Circle Appeal and broaden its participation by asking each parish to play an active part by raising awareness of our wider church mission and services, as well as helping to raise the funds to sustain them through an annual diocesan appeal.

To this point, a special appeal and collection is scheduled for the weekend of **October 2-3, 2021**. Each parish will be assigned a target goal of 25% of their assessment for the current year. Promotional resources, assistance, and some flexibility will be provided in year one. For a preview, attached are proofs of the poster and prayer card for:

'OHANA IN CHRIST
The Annual Appeal *for the Catholic Church in Hawaii*

I ask for your continued prayers. If successful, I would hope that future assessments can be kept in check, or possibly lowered, as we learn and grow together. Thank you for all you do to give witness to Jesus!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Larry Silva
Bishop of Honolulu