

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Imagine the Catholic Church in San José fully alive: where each person experiences the compassionate healing of our Lord and is transformed through the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist; where our parish and school communities are more interconnected and overflowing with the love of Jesus Christ; and where empowered by the Holy Spirit, all go out joyfully to care for the poor and marginalized and bring God's healing love to a broken world.

I am profoundly grateful for the hundreds of clergy, religious, and laypeople from our diocese who, over the last year and a half, have participated in our synodal process of consultation, listening, and planning to discern how we can accomplish this vision together, guided by the Holy Spirit, to spiritually renew our diocese.

“As servants of Christ and stewards of God’s mysteries” (1 Cor 4:1), we are all called to this journey of spiritual renewal, both personally and as a local church. Moved by the mystery and gift of Christ’s sacrifice in the Eucharist, we are called to respond in gratitude and give of ourselves to share His love with others.

Each year, we unite as a family in Christ through our Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA) to continue proclaiming the truth of the Gospel in the Santa Clara Valley in ways that are not possible for our parishes on their own. Through “Supporting Our Mission Together,” we provide essential support for our parishes with outreach to the most vulnerable, worship that deepens our connection with Christ, formation of more missionary disciples, engagement of youth in training and mentoring, and Christ as the center of family life.

Nearly 500 years ago, Our Lady of Guadalupe was a key messenger of the Gospel in evangelizing the Americas. Today, I invite you to look to Our Lady’s example and intercession as you prayerfully consider “Supporting Our Mission Together” through your sacrificial gifts and intentional prayer for the ADA.

Thank you for your faithful generosity and commitment. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may the Lord guide and accompany us as we proclaim and share the saving love of Jesus Christ throughout the Santa Clara Valley.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Oscar Cantú

Bishop of San José