



**Department of Communication  
Archdiocese of San Antonio**

*Monday, September 14, 2020*

**Pastoral Letter *Transformed by Hope, Let Us Rebuild Our Tomorrow!* regarding challenge of COVID-19 pandemic, promulgated by Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS**

Relying on the mercy of God, who has been with us throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS, presented a pastoral letter, *Transformed by Hope, Let Us Rebuild Our Tomorrow!*, to all the people of the Archdiocese of San Antonio. The archbishop promulgated the document at a Mass today, Monday, September 14, at San Fernando Cathedral attended by ministry representatives from various institutions – primarily educational entities -- in the archdiocese.

Prior to signing the Pastoral Letter, Archbishop Gustavo said, “In this challenging time, we ask the Holy Spirit to grant us freedom in spirit, in order to loosen ties and holdbacks that prevent our souls from flying towards the divine. We pray humbly and constantly for the virtue of fortitude, a gift of the Holy Spirit that is rooted in trust. We do not know exactly what God has in store for us, but while we wait and work for this crisis to be over, let us hope together not that this will just be an episode in history from which we recovered, but a turning point that we embraced, allowing God to heal and transform each one of us, our archdiocese, and the whole world into something better.”

The document states, “Ignited by the Holy Spirit who dwells in our hearts, let us dive into the dynamics of the current times! Let us come in closer spiritual contact with God and with one another! Let us recognize and caress the Face of the Lord – whom we adore – in the flesh of every suffering brother or sister. And may our perception, thoughts, feelings and actions become a channel of God’s love for his children. Ven, Holy Spirit, Ven!”

Copies of the Pastoral Letter will be distributed to parishes of the archdiocese as well as Catholic schools. It is also available on the archdiocesan website at [www.archsa.org](http://www.archsa.org) and on archdiocesan social media outlets.

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