



Dear Friends,

Blessings to you and your family as we enter this season of Advent. We pray this letter finds you well!

This letter reaches you at an important time for our Antelope Valley Catholic churches and schools. Your continued support of both our parishes and our schools are invaluable to continue our mission of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ across the Antelope Valley.

Through this pandemic, a group made up of the Antelope Valley Catholic pastors and principals called the Antelope Valley Catholic School Coalition (or AVCSC for short) formed to financially assist our Catholic Schools. Without using any parish funds, together this group funded almost \$200,000 in scholarships this year to help our students in all of our local Catholic schools.

As a local parishioner and/or Catholic school parent, you know how important a Catholic education is, especially here in the Antelope Valley. You know that the stakes are high for us to continue to provide a quality Catholic Education for our students.

The most important person in ensuring that this mission is carried out every day is you! As we celebrate the beginning of the new liturgical year and come to the end of the calendar year, there is a need that we are hoping you can fill with an end of year donation to the AVCSC. Any amount would be helpful and your support will go a long way to helping our families most effected by the current health crisis.

The US Conference of Catholic Bishops document on Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, wrote:

*...We believe that the time has come to revisit and reaffirm our commitment to Catholic elementary and secondary schools as invaluable instruments in proclaiming the Good News from one generation to the next. This Catechesis is a privileged way of initiating the hearers into the fullness of Christian life and is intimately bound up with the whole of the church's life. **We are convinced that Catholic schools continue to be the most effective means available to the church for the education of children and young people who are the future of the Church.***

We must proceed with great passion, not just with our own mission, but with the mission of our schools. Your support will greatly assist us with that mission. If you are able to help our Catholic school children in the Antelope Valley, please make your donation payable to the AVCSC and return it to any local parish or school, including Paraclete Catholic High School. You may also send it to any Bank of America branch, for account number 0001 7220 0258. Any amount will help a struggling Catholic school family.

We wish you a blessed Advent season and thank you for your support of our Catholic school students.

Sincerely,

Fr. Leo Dechant  
Pastor, St. Serra Parish

Fr. Hieu Tran  
Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish

Fr. Vaughn Winters  
Pastor, St. Mary's Parish

Mr. John Anson  
Principal, Paraclete High School

Mr. David Schatz  
Principal, Sacred Heart Elementary

Ms. Anna-Maria Rios  
Principal, St Mary's Elementary