



DIocese OF SAN BERNARDINO

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

April 2021

Dear Friend,

Peace and wellbeing to you and your loved ones in this Holy Easter Season.

I wish to thank you for your devotion and resilience in carrying out the ministry of God under very difficult circumstances. I am truly humbled by your generosity and stewardship to the Diocese of San Bernardino.

As I embrace the traditions of the Diocese, I have decided to host the 20th Annual Bishop's Dinner on Saturday May 29, 2021. The dinner this year will be a hybrid event consisting of an in-person component and a virtual component. To follow the protocols on social distancing, the number of guests will be limited for the in-person event at the JW Marriott Resort in Palm Desert. Nevertheless, the virtual component will be open to everyone using our social media platforms. The tradition of this dinner has been to highlight the diversity of our Diocese and raise funds for the Seminarian Education Fund.

The dinner also brings us together to celebrate and recognize distinguished community leaders who have inspired others through their dedicated efforts in supporting our mission to impact family, neighborhoods, and society so that people's lives might be filled with hope. *This year our special honoree will be Bishop Emeritus Gerald R. Barnes, D.D.* In his 29 years of episcopal service to our Diocese, Bishop Barnes has provided visionary and compassionate leadership. He expanded ministries, empowered the laity to leadership roles, and supported our clergy and religious for their tireless work to build the Kingdom of God. He called us all to join him in living out his episcopal motto of "*Amar Es Entregarse*" ("Love is the total giving of oneself").

My heartfelt hope is that you will join me in celebrating Bishop Emeritus Barnes and assist in the support of our seminarians by offering a generous financial offering to the 20th Annual Bishop's Dinner. May we count on you to be part of the success of this special event?

Enclosed please find the sponsorship opportunities. All proceeds will benefit the Seminarian Education Fund. For more information on how you can participate, please contact Mr. Julio Chavez in the Office of Mission Advancement at (909) 475-5462 or by email at jchavez@sbdiocese.org.

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to embrace the traditions of our Diocese. I also want to thank you for your continuous support. May Our Lord bless you in this special season of hope and Resurrection.

Sincerely yours in Christ's Peace,

Most Reverend Alberto Rojas
Bishop of San Bernardino

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