



Diocese of Austin

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Office of the Bishop

January 3, 2018

Very Reverend Albert Laforet, Jr.
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
2541 Earl Rudder Fwy. S.
College Station, Texas 77845

Dear Father Albert:

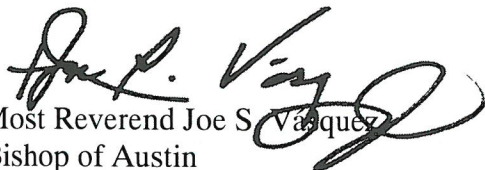
Please accept our heartfelt thanks for opening your parish on December 9 to pilgrims participating in the Tour for Peace featuring the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima. The tour provided people from all over the diocese a marvelous opportunity for reflection, prayer, and evangelization. It is in large part because of your parish's hospitality that pilgrims were able to receive the spiritual benefits bestowed by Our Lady. Their enthusiasm and gratitude were made apparent through numerous responses to diocesan social media posts and emails we received.

We also extend our appreciation to your parish tour organizer, Diana Jetter, parish staff, and volunteers who graciously took on the extra tasks required to make this pilgrimage a success. Their work in coordinating, promoting and praying for the tour was evident throughout our diocese. The collaboration between the World Apostolate of Fatima, the diocesan Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, and the five parish host sites was remarkable.

Although the Fatima Tour has since moved on to other dioceses, we know that its effects and those of our diocesan-wide consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary will continue to unfold. We welcome any feedback you wish to share—especially any good stories of blessings related to hosting the pilgrim statue in your parish.

Be assured of our prayers for you and your parish during the Christmas season.

Gratefully in Christ,


Most Reverend Joe S. Vasquez
Bishop of Austin


Sharon K. Perkins
Director, Secretariat for Formation and Spirituality

JSV:mj