

*Christ is risen, Alleluia! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!*



In the Octave of Easter 2021

Dear Friends and Supporters of the Ordinariate,

Last year, at the beginning of Lent, we launched an appeal aimed at supporting a number of activities: ongoing parish development, establishing a chancery, evangelisation, communications outreach and nurturing of vocations. Of the \$24,000+ raised, the majority of it went to the last on the list.

Yes, we have an Annual Vocations Appeal, which itself begins on the First Sunday in Advent – the Church New Year. Many thanks to all who supported this year's appeal; some \$26,000 were donated in support of vocations.

The stark reality, however, is that just to support our three seminarians: Nigel McBain, Bradley Le Guier and Andrew Iswahyudi costs over \$50,000 per year.

Recognising that, and coupled with the reality that, looking ahead over the next several years, we must plan for new priests in several of our communities, this year's Appeal is aimed exclusively at ensuring that we are able to cover the costs of supporting our current seminarians, even as we encourage everyone to pray for more vocations. We have more than three communities that will need replacement priests in the years ahead!

Last year I also mentioned that we were hoping to establish official communities in the Philippines and perhaps New Zealand. While the former is still in the planning stage, the latter has not progressed. Instead, an entirely unexpected group "jumped the queue" in Guam. We officially began a community there just prior to Christmas, *Santa Cruz*. As we have no available Ordinariate priests to minister to them, the Catholic Archbishop has graciously provided pastoral oversight through the ministrations of two of his diocesan priests who have very quickly become familiar with the Ordinariate Forms of our services. *Laus Deo!*

This year's appeal happens even as we are now 25% of the way through the year in which we have established concrete financial benchmarks for our capital cities communities to achieve. Of course, a truly important aspect in terms of the ability to increase income is to increase membership – which programme was encouraged to begin in new lay-lead ways last September. In that sense the need for evangelisation is at least as crucial as is the nurturing of vocations. We must ensure the ability to support new priests, who won't be surviving on pension income, as they step into active ministry.

As mentioned last year, the time of the initial generous financial stimulus from the Church is now past; we are very much on our own. This Eastertide, and beyond, if we are serious about furthering the vision of Pope Benedict XVI, we must not only pay our own way, but we must be able to fund new evangelistic initiatives in order to bring more people into a relationship with God through the Ordinariate. I therefore ask you to prayerfully consider supporting the work of the Ordinariate in making a sacrificial commitment to the Ordinary's Appeal.

In thanksgiving to the gracious Lord, and in trust of his enduring mercy, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**The Reverend Monsignor Carl Reid, PA**

Ordinary, The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross