



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII
DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
WITNESS TO JESUS

August 11, 2023

To our Catholic Faithful in Hawaii and Beyond:

Peace be with you!

Today our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by the devastating wildfires that have ravaged the island of Maui. As a community of faith, we are called to come together and provide unwavering support to those who are suffering. It is in times like these that our collective love, faith, and compassion can make a tremendous difference.

In 2008, the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF) was established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation to support our parish and school communities. We have set up a dedicated webpage for donations to go directly to HCCF to support the relief efforts for our fellow community members affected by the Maui wildfires. This is an opportunity for us to show our solidarity as a Catholic faith community and lend a helping hand to those who have lost so much.

You can make a tax-deductible contribution by visiting the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/MauiCatholic>. Every donation, no matter the amount, will play a crucial role in helping to rebuild lives and restore hope.

Let us also remember the power of prayer. In our collective prayers, we ask for strength, resilience, and healing for the fire victims and their families. May we find the grace to rebuild our families, their livelihoods, and the physical structures that were lost. Let our faith guide us as we navigate the challenges ahead, knowing that with the grace of God, all things are possible.

May God bless you all abundantly, and may our efforts bring comfort and hope to those in need. Maria Lanakila (Our Lady of Victory), pray for us!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Larry Silva
Bishop of Honolulu

Rev. Msgr. Terrence Watanabe
Vicar Forane of Maui-Lanai



3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3610

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

N° 19712/23

This N° Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

August 11th, 2022

Most Reverend
Larry Richard Silva
Bishop of Honolulu
1184 Bishop Street,
HONOLULU, HI – 96813-2859

Your Excellency:

In the temporary absence of Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio, I am asked to convey to you the following message signed by His Eminence Cardinal Pietro Parolin on behalf of His Holiness Pope Francis, who expresses his personal closeness to you and to the people affected by the terrible consequences of the ongoing wildfire on the Island of Maui.

THE MOST REVEREND LARRY SILVA
BISHOP OF HONOLULU

HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS WAS DEEPLY SADDENED TO LEARN OF THE LOSS OF LIFE AND THE DESTRUCTION CAUSED BY THE WILDFIRES ON THE HAWAIIAN ISLAND OF MAUI, AND HE EXPRESSES HIS SOLIDARITY WITH ALL THOSE SUFFERING FROM THIS TRAGEDY, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHOSE LOVED ONES HAVE DIED OR ARE MISSING. HIS HOLINESS ALSO OFFERS THE ASSURANCE OF PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD, INJURED AND DISPLACED, AS WELL AS FOR THE FIRST RESPONDERS AND EMERGENCY PERSONNEL. AS A SIGN OF HIS SPIRITUAL CLOSENESS THE HOLY FATHER WILLINGLY INVOKES UPON ALL THE PEOPLE OF MAUI ALMIGHTY GOD'S BLESSINGS OF STRENGTH AND PEACE.

CARDINAL PIETRO PAROLIN
SECRETARY OF STATE

Your Excellency may wish to share a copy of the message with local authorities, as a sign of the Pope's closeness.

Offering my personal prayers for the victims as well as for all who generously provide first aid and assistance, with kind regards, I remain

Respectfully yours,

Msgr. Séamus P. Horgan
Chargé d'affaires a.i.