Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose hope is the LORD (Jer 17:7)

January 28, 2022

«Addressee» «Address_Line1» «City_», «State» «Zip»

Dear «Salutation»,

Trust in the Lord! These words are prayed and exclaimed, the anointing of each day. They are the praise of our ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; the fiat of Mary, our Blessed Mother; and her spouse, Joseph. They are St. Peter's cry to Jesus when he stumbles walking on the water. They are Jesus' triumphant words and His profound prayer which He taught us. These four words are the words of faith in God.

Over the course of the last two years, you and I have learned much about trusting in God as we have experienced the pandemic. Trusting in the Lord means accepting what is placed before us as a gift from God and praising God, prospering what we have been given as blessing.

As one family of faith, we join together on *Our Catholic Appeal* Weekend every year to support the ministries of the Diocese of Orlando which build the Kingdom of God for His blessing. Our collective stewardship sustains the gifts of priesthood through Vocations and Clergy Care; forms our permanent deacons to satisfy the hunger of the people; teaches us to pray and sing within God's liturgy; leads our young people to know and serve God; offers mercy and sustenance to the meek and lowly; sanctifies the dying and buries the dead; keeps us safe as we walk the sacred ground of parishes and missions; and communicates God's essential Word through all forms of media that all might also hear God's Word.

I am grateful for our faith family which supports the continuation and growth of these ministries each year. This year our faith family will come together to accomplish all this and more and I ask for your additional stewardship of our Church in Central Florida this year by joining me and others in supporting *Our Catholic Appeal*. Should your personal circumstances allow, I request that you prayerfully consider a first-time gift in the range of \$25 or a pledge of a larger amount if your personal circumstances allow.

To make your gift or pledge, please visit our secure website at <u>www.ourcatholicappeal.org</u> or if you prefer, return the enclosed pledge card to me by mail or bring it with you to Mass at your parish on *Our Catholic Appeal* Weekend, February 12th-13th. If you are able to respond with your commitment no later than March 15th, this is helpful for your parish's planning process for the new fiscal year.

Trust in the Lord! We delight in the law of the Lord. I rejoice in your faithfulness and thank you for your blessing through a gift to Our Catholic Appeal. May the kingdom of God be our blessing.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John Noonan Bishop of Orlando