



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

May 18, 2020

Dear Pastors, Parochial Administrators, Parish Stewards, School Administrators, and Agency Directors:

In light of the serious financial hardships being experienced by our parishes and schools during this COVID19 pandemic and the high level of economic uncertainty that exists for the 2020/2021 fiscal year, I am rescinding the salary adjustment guideline that I published in January of this year. Due to the dramatic change in economic circumstances I now offer the following revised guideline for the 2020/2021 fiscal year:

- For Lay Employees, no increase; and
- For all Priests no increase and no years-of-service step increase.

It is not contemplated that there will be any make-up provision in the future.

Catholic school teacher salaries will be addressed in a separate communication.

In deciding upon this revised guideline, I have consulted with the Diocesan Finance Council and my own staff. They have confirmed my own belief that an increase in salaries at a time when many of our parishioners are unemployed and facing tremendous financial uncertainty of their own would be both unreasonable and inappropriate.

I know that these are difficult times for all and I very much appreciate the understanding and the spirit of sacrifice and generosity with which our co-workers serve.

Pray with me asking God's mercy to end this pandemic. May the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary grant to all of us continued good health, as well as the patience and wisdom of her Son, Jesus.

Respectfully,

+Jaime Soto
Bishop of Sacramento