

January 2020

Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Smith
1234 Main Street
Apt. 111
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith,

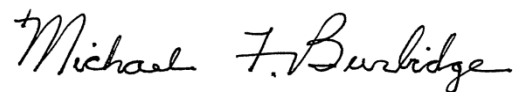
The Blessed Virgin Mary is a perfect model for fulfilling God's will. Two thousand years after she said "yes" to God in Nazareth, her example still offers us strength to follow the will of God in our lives. Our theme for the 2020 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA), *Steadfast in Faith and Joyful in Hope*, represents our affirmation of Mary's "fiat" and her unwavering trust in God's divine plan.

Our ongoing path to holiness requires our "yes" to God with our words and in our deeds. When we support the BLA, we bring the hope of Christ into the lives of thousands of people in need of spiritual, charitable and educational assistance across our diocese. By sharing our unique, God-given talents, gifts and resources, we reveal the steadfast faith and joyful hope of Mary.

I ask you to consider prayerfully a sacrificial pledge to this year's BLA. Further, should your circumstances allow, I invite you to participate in a BLA Leadership Giving Circle. The enclosed brochure explains the ways your gift will be used to enrich the lives of others.

May Our Lord Jesus bless you with His peace throughout the New Year and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael F. Burbidge".

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

Enclosures