

July 2010

Dear Father,

I would like to invite your parish to participate in our 12th annual *Labor in the Pulpit* program this Labor Day Weekend, September 4-5. This program joins the faith and labor communities, and is sponsored by the Interfaith Council on Economics and Justice.

This year, *Labor in the Pulpit* emphasizes economic justice and the common good in our public budgets. It calls on people of faith to commit to act by signing the “Commitment to Moral Budgets” pledge card. It states that criteria for a moral budget include equity, safeguarding of good jobs for working families and concern for the most vulnerable of our society.

The Diocese of San Jose has supported Labor in the Pulpits for many years. Some priests and deacons make this message part of their own homilies or announcements, while others invite guests from the labor movement or the broader interfaith community to speak at their weekend liturgies. Last year, over 6000 pledge cards entitled “Statement of Principles” were gathered from the faith community, expressing a commitment to act so that workers achieved livelihoods that met the basic needs of their families, as well as equitable and respectful working conditions. This witness supported low-wage workers struggling for justice during the year.

To participate, please email Rebecca@atwork.org or return the attached sign-up form. You may also contact Reverend Rebecca Kuiken, Interfaith Council Director, at 408.269.7872, to answer your questions or if you would like to learn more about this program.

Thank you for giving your consideration to participating in *Labor in the Pulpit* this coming Labor Day weekend.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. Francis V. Cilia
Vicar General