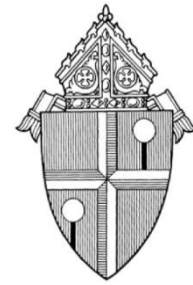


THE OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE STATE OF HAWAII | ST. STEPHEN DIOCESAN CENTER
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May 22, 2020

Dear friends of the Filipino Community, my name is Dcn. Keith Cabiles, Chancellor of the Diocese of Honolulu. On behalf of the Most Reverend Bishop Larry Silva, I thank you for this opportunity to address an important issue: **Your participation in the U.S. Census.**

It is so important for us remain faithful and safe during these uncertain times of the Covid-19 pandemic. For us Catholics, this means a deeper trust in Jesus – to pray, to give Him thanks, and to ask for his saving embrace for all the people of the world.

We also look to our government, who works tirelessly to ensure our well-being and safety. Many government programs have been vital for keeping people safe, fed, and sheltered. There are programs that address poverty, hunger, homelessness, childcare, emergency services and many others that serve communities across the state, including our own Filipino Communities.

Funding for these programs rely on knowing the needs of each community. To gather this information, the government takes a census every 10 years, which is why I am writing this letter to you. Bishop Larry and all the Bishops of the United States want to encourage every Catholic to take part in the 2020 U.S. Census. Whether or not you are a citizen, your participation is important. Some may be hesitant to share their situation or status but be assured that your information will be safe and confidential, and will not be shared with law enforcement, immigration agencies, or housing authorities.

Our Filipino Catholic Clubs are collaborating with other Filipino community leaders to provide you with census information. In fact, Fr. Edgar Brillantes, beloved pastor of Our Lady of the Mount Church, will be participating in a forum on Facebook Live, and broadcast on selected radio stations, such as KNDI, on **Sunday, May 31, 2020 at 12:30pm**. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about this important issue, before you prayerfully consider participating in the U.S. Census.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dcn. Keith Cabiles". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Deacon Keith Cabiles

Chancellor

Roman Catholic Church – Diocese of Honolulu