



October 27, 2020

Dear Pastors, Principals, Art Teachers, Directors of Religious Education and Catechists,

With this letter, I want to officially invite you and your students to participate in the *Bishop's Nineteenth Christmas Card Competition* (for Christmas of 2020). Although this year's contest is unique due to the pandemic, I continue to count on you for this project, hoping that you will encourage your teachers, catechists, and students to participate.

Each year, the Bishop of San Jose sends out more than 1300 Christmas cards. Although the pandemic prevents us from sending printed material widely, we will share our Christmas message throughout our different venues. Within the Diocese of San Jose, the Christmas Card artwork is sent to the clergy, religious, benefactors, diocesan personnel, and providers of various services and ministries. Greetings are also sent to many bishops, priests, and religious in other dioceses, as well as the Bishop's family members and personal friends both here and abroad.

Since the contest was initiated in 2002, we have had a variety of artwork submitted for this contest. The designs were original, and the Bishop has been very pleased to send them out as his cards. The card chosen to be Bishop Cantú's 2020 Christmas Card will be printed bearing the name of the artist, his/her grade, and the name of his/her school and Parish. The winner will also receive a framed copy of the Christmas card, a letter of thanks personally signed by Bishop Cantu, and a picture taken with Bishop Cantu that will appear in our Diocesan Social Media.

I sincerely hope that you will encourage all your students to enter this competition. Here are some guidelines:

- To be eligible, participants must be from *Kindergarten to 5th grade* of age
- Students must be enrolled in any of our *Catholic Schools or Parish Faith Formation* programs of the Diocese of San Jose
- No more than one entry per participant and the entries must have a religious theme, i.e., *NO Santa Claus, Christmas tree with presents, reindeer, etc.*
- All entries should be submitted electronically to the Office of the Bishop; to anabella.estrada@dsj.org;
- Please make sure that the name, age, grade, school/parish of the participant are clearly affixed to the entry
- Please make sure that all entries include a contact person from the school/parish and appropriate contact numbers
- All entries should be received at the Office of the Bishop no later than **November 11, 2020**. Upon reception of your entries, you will receive a confirmation email of your participation
- Once the winner has been chosen, parental permission will be sought for the use of the design. *All artwork submitted becomes the whole property of the Diocese of San Jose*

Hopefully, you will be able to give this project some attention during the following weeks. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please call me at (408) 983-0146 or email me at anabella.estrada@dsj.org Thank you in advance.

Respectfully yours,

Anabella Estrada,
Executive Assistant to Bishop Oscar Cantú