



## AN APPRECIATION LETTER

October 26, 2017

Dear Parishioners,

*On Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> after the 8:45 am Mass there were a few of us in the parish hall. We were talking about the devastating disaster of wildfires, but we didn't know what to do with no power, no phones or internet service. We knew that some of our parishioners had already been evacuated from their homes while some had their houses burned to the ground.*

*We thought that we must somehow be available to assist those who needed us. While in the hall Fr. David walks into the kitchen and announces, "We can boil water"! That was possible because we had a gas stove there, and it was working. Once we realized that we could warm up water to make instant coffee we started to pull out pots. But.....we don't use instant coffee; we only use the electric coffee makers. So Fr. David hurried to the grocery store to get some instant coffee. Within those few hours things started happening. Parishioners started bringing in food and people started coming in looking for shelter, food and water.*

*With the parish staff, several of you and other wonderful people in and around Napa stepped up to help our brothers and sisters in need. Meals were provided, cots were given to sleep on, and clothing was donated. With all this happening so fast, we decided to make our parish hall, youth center, gym, and the convent building a place for all who needed a respite. It was so amazing to see God's providence in all of this!*

*We would like to place on record and deeply appreciate the outpour of generosity from many of you, from several businesses and from many volunteers both within and outside of our parish. Our special appreciation and thanks go to our parish staff.*

*Let us continue praying for those who have lost the members of their family, friends or acquaintances. Let us also pray for those who have lost their homes.*

*May the Lord bless you all for your kindness and support.*

*Sincerely in Christ,*

*Fr. Fr. Balaswamy Govindu*  
Fr. Balaswamy Govindu

*Fr. David Jenuwine*  
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