

## **A message from Dave DeMers, Census Coordinator for the Diocese of San Diego**

The Census is upon us. We ask that all our parishes in the Diocese consider and support the Census 2020 training and people count effort.

If a regional San Diego and Imperial County census representative contacts your parish about available space to do Census trainings, we ask if you could please do your best to accommodate that request in an effort to make sure the Census count 2020 goes as smoothly as possible and that ALL people are counted.

The Census occurs every 10 years and is a constitutional requirement.

Make sure to let us know when or if you get contacted. Also, don't hesitate to check with our office before you make a decision or if you find yourself with additional questions. My email is embedded in the link under my name above or my direct dial phone number is **858-490-8327**.

Here are some important Census facts:

- Everyone counts. Whether you are a citizen or not. ALL are, and need to be counted.
- The Census is about representation – Every 10 years, the results of the Census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives determining how many Congressional seats each state gets for the next 10 years.
- It's in the US Constitution – The Constitution requires a Census every 10 years. The Census covers the entire country and everyone living in the US. The First Census was in 1790 and has been conducted every 10 years since.
- Based on the Census count, CA state officials use the results to redraw voter boundaries for local and state legislative districts.
- It means \$675 Billion – Census data determine how more than \$675 Billion will be spent supporting state, county and community programs that directly impact our parishioners' and their families' lives.
- Completing and participating in the Census is all of our civic duty. Furthermore, it enhances the dignity of the individual by making sure they count in this important process.

Thank you for your support in this vital and important civic effort.