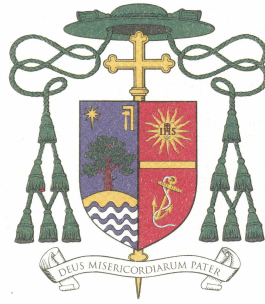


MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J.
BISHOP OF OAKLAND



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March 17, 2015

Dr. Filomena Giese
President
Joseph Naik Vaz Institute
67 Kingston Road
Kensington, California 94707-1321

Dear Dr. Giese,

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation for organizing the beautiful celebration and hospitality honoring the canonization of Saint Joseph Vazon on March 15, 2015. I was very impressed by the beauty, the reverence, and the sense of sacredness of the liturgy. Please convey my sincere gratitude to everyone who was involved in the planning of the liturgy.

It was a great moment for all of us as we recalled the heroic missionary work and life of Saint Joseph Vaz, and his efforts for peace, especially during these challenging times.

I appreciate the support which you have given me in my service to the Church in Oakland. With prayers that this Lenten season will prove spiritually fruitful for you and your community, I invoke upon all of you God's blessings of joy and peace.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Michael Barber S.J.

The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.
Bishop of Oakland

For the greater glory of God