

## Message for 2021 Diocesan Welfare Sunday

Shalom Brothers and Sisters in Christ. I bring greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from the Diocesan Welfare and Disaster Relief Board.

Our Diocesan Welfare Week which usually falls on the first Sunday week of every June month, has been delayed for this year due to the FMCO (Forced Movement Control Order) for the whole month of June 2021. With permission granted by Archbishop Melter Tais, we have decided to adopt the first Sunday week of August 2021 as our Diocesan Welfare Week just for this current year. I would like to take this opportunity to share with all of you some of the broad ministry works that the Board is involved in, namely,

**1) Seguntor Alternative Learning Centre, Sandakan & Kundasang Community Learning Centre ran by St. Paul's Church, Ranau** – the Board is presently supporting these two centres with an annual grant for their educational ministry amongst the undocumented children of foreign workers. Both centres have been in operation for quite a number of years already.

**2) Sabah Prison Fellowship** – the Board has been giving annual grants to support their work and ministry amongst fellow prisoners, past and present.

**3) Education** –the Board provides a one-time study grant to local institutes of higher learning for ten eligible and deserving students on a first come first serve basis annually. Parents' total income of less than RM1,500.00 per month is eligible to apply. All application forms can be obtained from the priest in charge of the respective parishes in our diocese and all completed forms are to be handed back to the said priest to forward them to the Welfare Board.

**4) Financial Assistance** – the Board provides various financial assistances to disaster-stricken members of our diocese. In the recent flood in Tenom, we provide some funds to St Peter's Church for food assistance to some of their affected parishioners. Food assistances were distributed to the needy families within our diocese last year in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. May I call upon the parish priests to take note and inform us whenever the well-being of our diocesan members is affected. The Board will do our very best to assist as and when necessary. Medical related assistance is also taken into consideration on a case-to-case basis. A grant was recently given to a diocesan member for his son's operation in the hospital.

**5) Community related projects** – All Saints' Cathedral has recently applied to Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) to serve as a Vaccination Centre for the KK City area and we are presently awaiting their approval. We want to serve the community by opening up our church compound to a worthy cause and also to encourage those of our Diocesan members in the greater KK area to register and get vaccinated as soon as possible. It is with hope that the other town parishes within our diocese will emulate this act. From time to time, the Board will identify worthy project(s) to be implemented within the diocese to alleviate and remedy the personal, social and economic life of all Diocesan members.

As the Board desires to reach out to bless more people in need, let us all continue to uphold the Welfare Board wholeheartedly in prayers and with financial support through our generous offerings.

I would like to apologize for the non-availability of the Diocesan Welfare Fund envelopes for this year as the Diocesan Office decided not to print and distribute the envelopes to every local parish due to the various MCOs and no regular on-site Sunday services. However, you may contribute through your local church by using a church or normal envelope and mention "For Welfare Fund". Alternatively, you may transfer or bank in your offerings through **DIOCESE OF SABAH HSBC Account No. 392-013397-001** or **RHBB Account No.2101 03 0000 9829** and mention also "For Welfare Fund from .....name of Church". Kindly send your bank in slip to Diocesan Account Department via whatsapp @ 016833 3371 or email : [lilyliau@gmail.com](mailto:lilyliau@gmail.com).

May the gracious Lord look upon us with favour as we gladly serve those who are in need. My Board members and I would like to thank you all for your faithful contribution. Praise the Lord!!

In Christ we serve,  
**The Chairman of Diocesan Welfare and Disaster Relief Board**