



*Our Lady of the Pillar Church*  
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April 29, 2022

To all my concerned Parishioners regarding protecting your family by promoting a more secure and prosperous life:

The Roman Catholic Church has a long history of supporting workers and workers' rights dating back two centuries to Pope Leo XIII. The Church's teachings tell us we are to support the dignity of every human including those that provide us with our basic needs whether it be providing our tables with fruits & vegetables, or providing a myriad of services from hospitality, cooking and serving food at our restaurants. In a 1996 statement by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) "A Framework for Economic Life" they state 'institutions must be judged by how they protect the dignity...of the human person, support the family and serve the common good.'

I feel obliged to communicate to you, your right to organize and ask for workplace protections through representatives<sup>1</sup>. Unions are a way for workers to negotiate for just wages, benefits and better working conditions, and to look after the rights of vulnerable workers, including those with injuries and disabilities<sup>2</sup>.

In addition, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a roadmap for Catholics to help us achieve economic justice for all. Please reference the website: [www.catholiclabor.org](http://www.catholiclabor.org) for more in depth information regarding the position of the Catholic Church and workers' rights.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Jose M. Corral, Pastor  
Our Lady of the Pillar Parish  
Half Moon Bay, California

1 – [Labor Day Statement – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops – Sept. 2, 2019](https://www.catholiclabor.org)

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2 - [Pope to Workers Assoc: Solidarity promotes the common good - Vatican News](https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2018-09/pope-to-injured-workers-association-solidarity-promotes-the-com.html)

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