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Dear Parishioners,

These have been the most challenging times in the history of our community and of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish and School. We will not know for a few days the full extent of the losses; but we already know that long time and newer parishioners have lost their homes, their possessions, and some, even their livelihood.

Our beautiful Altadena has been ravaged by the fires and resembles a war zone. Yet, more than physical structures have been destroyed, the dreams and memories associated with them have also gone up in smoke.

Nevertheless, though battered, our spirits have not been crushed; because, in the end, material things can be replaced. However, we still have family, friends and community, and that is the most precious thing we possess as a gift from God. We will rebuild because we still have one another. But we need to gather together to give thanks and pray for one another; for the lives that have been lost; and for the strength and generosity we will need to help others in need.

As soon as it is physically possible, we will gather to celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving and to begin planning how we can marshal all available private and public resources to help others with basic essentials like food, lodging, financial assistance and basic information. I have already received many inquiries and offers of assistance from within and from outside our community.

I will try to keep all of you informed of the next steps we will be taking. Meanwhile, you can be assured of my prayers.

With much love and affection,

Fr. Modesto