



January 14, 2021

Marin Conservation League
Attn: Mr. Robert Miller & Ms. Kate Powers
175 N. Redwood Drive, Suite 135
San Rafael, CA 94903

Re: Carmelite Monastery of the Mother of God

Dear Mr. Miller and Ms. Powers,

A copy of your letter addressed to Archbishop Cordileone regarding the property at 530 Blackstone Drive in San Rafael has been shared with me. I have discussed its contents with him. Archbishop Cordileone very much appreciates that your organization's mission is aligned with the Catholic Church in its commitment to the stewardship of the environment articulated so well by Pope Francis in his 2015 Encyclical *Laudato si'*. He is sympathetic to your concerns regarding the preservation of hundreds of trees that were planted by these dedicated Carmelite nuns over the years. However since the deeds to this parcel of land are due to revert to Catholic Charities CYO of the Archdiocese of San Francisco upon the departure of these consecrated religious women, the future of this property will not be left to his discretion or that of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. While these organizations are closely affiliated, they are separate entities. Accordingly your correspondence has been passed along to Ms. Jilma Meneses, the CEO of Catholic Charities CYO.

Thank you for your continued efforts toward environmental conservation. May the joy of the recent Christmas season be with you now and throughout this new year.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Patrick J. Summerhays
Moderator of the Curia/Vicar for Administration

Cc: Ms. Jilma Meneses, JD