



 *From* **BISHOP BLAIRE**
Diocese of Stockton

My Dear People,

One of the strongest calls we heard from you in the Synod process was to give priority to the deepening of our faith life. The Synod goal that addresses this issue is titled, "Lifelong Faith Development". This was also a goal of our Capital Campaign, "Church for Tomorrow" which funds most of the costs of the ARISE program.

Our Diocese benefited greatly from the RENEW program which was used years ago as a way to deepen the faith life of our people. ARISE is a new program developed through this same group and will build on much of what we learned with RENEW.

It is my great hope that ARISE will be a source of great spiritual renewal in our parishes. I strongly encourage you to participate in the small faith groups being developed in your parish.

Be assured of my prayer and support as you join this tremendous effort.

+ *Stephen E. Blaire*