



Congregation of the Mother of the Redeemer U.S. Assumption Province

1900 Grand Ave., Carthage, Missouri 64836 (417) 358-7787

A POST-MARIAN DAYS 2026

LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO THE CITIZENS OF CARTHAGE

Dear Mr. Mayor and the People of the City of Carthage,

Vietnamese people from all over the United States and other parts of the world gathered for the 47th Marian Days Celebration on August 6-9. During those few days, we truly believe that they experienced a wonderful sense of community here in Carthage through your many kind gestures and warm welcome. We, the Brothers and Priests of the Congregation of the Mother of the Redeemer (CRM), would like to join them to express our heartfelt gratitude for your friendly support, which made the 47th Marian Days such another memorable celebration. We are certain that your hospitality was a wonderful way for those who came here to discover the beauty of being in Southern Missouri.

Particularly, we wish to express our most sincere thanks and gratitude to all the beloved citizens of Carthage, especially our neighbors, for your never-ending hospitality in welcoming pilgrims into your homes and onto your properties for family gatherings. Your kindness speaks volumes about your love and generosity toward them. We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Brent Hulett, Senior Pastor of Carthage Nazarene, and to Ryan Weimelt, Lead Minister, and Justin Bass, Student Minister, of Fairview Christian Church in Carthage, for graciously permitting Marian Days participants to use your churches' parking lots. We are also deeply grateful to First Baptist Church and First Methodist Church for generously providing shuttle buses to transport pilgrims throughout the celebration.

In a very special way, we wish to express our deepest appreciation to our Mayor, The Honorable Bren Flanigan; Traci Cox, City Administrator; and the members of the Carthage City Council: Juan Topete, Robin Harrison, Mariella Telles, David Thorn, Jack Perkins, Alan Snow, Beth Kang, Ron Wells, and Susan Fierro-Reddy. We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Police Chief Chad Dininger; Chief Assistant Jeff Pinnell; Lieutenant Eric Miller; the entire Carthage Police Department; Fire Chief Jason Martin; and the Carthage Fire Department. You all worked diligently together under very challenging circumstances to ensure a safe, peaceful, and successful celebration.

Finally, we would like to apologize for any inconveniences that we might have caused our dear people of Carthage during these days. We humbly ask for your forgiveness and understanding. Once again, thank you for your many wonderful gestures of hospitality given to us and the Vietnamese people and for supporting us to host this annual event. May God continue to bestow his rich blessings upon all of you, your families, and loved ones.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

(Very Rev.) Paul M. Tai Van Tran, CRM
Provincial Minister