



## OBLATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

### Statement on Shootings in Uvalde

Oblate School of Theology and the US Province of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate stand together with Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller of the Archdiocese of San Antonio in expressing extreme sorrow and overwhelming sadness over the deaths of 21 people, 19 of them children, in Uvalde. We agree with and support the statement from Archbishop Garcia-Siller:

*There are no words to adequately convey the deep sadness and sorrow and overwhelming shock at the incomprehensible loss of life of 19 children and two adults at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde this afternoon at the hands of a young gunman. When will these insane acts of violence end; it is too great a burden to bear. The word tragedy doesn't begin to describe what occurred. These massacres cannot be considered "the new normal." The Catholic Church consistently calls for the protection of all life; and these mass shootings are a most pressing life issue on which all in society must act — elected leaders and citizens alike. We pray that God comfort and offer compassion to the families of these little ones whose pain is unbearable. They must know that we are with them and for them. May the Lord have mercy on us all. From the Book of Wisdom, "The souls of the just are in the hands of God. ... They are in peace."*

We pray for the comfort of those who suffer the loss of children, of loved ones. Their agony can be heard resounding throughout the city. Let those who have ears, hear. May their cries move our hearts and minds to act so no one has to experience such loss again.

Today, we pray families find comfort. Give us strength to not fail our children any longer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Woodward".

Scott Woodward, DMin  
President  
On behalf of Oblate School of Theology

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fr. Louis Studer, OMI".

Rev. Louis Studer, OMI  
Provincial  
On behalf of the U.S. Oblate Province