

MEMORANDUM

To: All Pastors

From: Alexis Walkenstein, Director of Communications

Date: 7-13-10

Thank you for all you have done to assist our family of faith in Haiti. To thank our faithful for their generosity and keep all informed on the ongoing worldwide relief efforts, Bishop Barbarito requests that you please include the following announcement in your upcoming parish bulletins. God bless!

BULLETIN NOTICE/UPDATE ON SUPPORT FOR HAITI

Six months have passed since the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010. In the months that have passed since the tragic earthquake, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has distributed food and water to hundreds of thousands of people, along with providing emergency shelter and medical care to thousands more. Your generous response to the needs of our brothers and sisters in Haiti totaled **\$1,246,736.10**. This figure includes combined contributions from the Diocese of Palm Beach Special Collection (\$701,250.00) as well as other contributions from groups and individuals within our Diocese (\$545,486). Directly, you impacted the preservation of life as well as the restoration and rebuilding of a country so deeply in need of our spiritual and financial aid. The grand total for the Special Haiti Relief Collection worldwide reached **\$80,090,607.82** – the largest special collection of its kind. In addition to the basic life sustaining needs, a portion of the Special Haiti Relief Collection will be used by the USCCB to now rebuild parish communities and church structures which will include the establishment of a construction entity that ensures all building carried out with these funds will follow accepted codes and practices. This collaborative effort includes the Haitian Bishops' Conference, the French Bishops' conference the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and CRS. Though the news stories pertaining to the crisis in Haiti have moved off the front page and have been buried deeper in television broadcasts, the crisis of need remains critical. With heartfelt gratitude for your generosity, please consider supporting the ongoing efforts to assist Haiti rebuild and restore what was lost. Together we will see the restoration of a new Haiti, new in Christ! (To contribute to the continued worldwide effort to assist Haiti, donate directly to CRS by sending a check, clearly noting "Earthquake in Haiti" to:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Post Office Box 17090

Baltimore, MD 21203-7090

Phone: 1-877-(HELP CRS) 435-7277

Online: <http://crs-blog.org/earthquake-hits-haiti/>