



# Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of  
THE BISHOP

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June 6, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month's collection supports two critical missions: Black and Indian Missions and Home Missions.

The collection for Home Missions offers financial support to missionary activities that strengthen the Catholic Church in the United States, and in its territories and former territories. Through its annual fundraising campaign, the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, the CHM educates American Catholics about mission needs and invites them to assist fellow Catholics in the practice of the faith. The Appeal primarily supports home mission dioceses, that is, those unable to offer their people the basic pastoral ministries of word, worship and service without outside help. It may also give grants to other dioceses for particular projects, and to organizations and religious communities engaged in missionary work.

The second recipient of your contributions next weekend will be the National Black and Indian Missions which for 125 years has served the black and American Indian communities. Founded in 1884, this is the oldest collection in the Catholic Church in the United States, providing critical assistance for the many schools and parishes who rely on annual evangelization grants to continue local programs and outreach.

Last year your support for these two vital Missions generated \$100,247. During this difficult economic climate, your generosity serves as God's love made manifest to all of our brothers and sisters.

With gratitude for your dedication and generosity, and with assurance of my prayers, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito  
Bishop of Palm Beach

**Note to Pastors:**

**Please publish this letter in the parish bulletin or have it read at all Masses on the weekend of June 6/7**