Diocese of Palm Beach

9995 North Military Trail ÅP.O. Box 109650
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410-9650

(561) 775-9595 Fax (561) 775-7035

Office of
THE BISHOP

March 27, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This year on Good Friday, we join together with Catholics worldwide to support the Shrines in the Holy Land, our Mother Church. Since the 13th Century, Franciscan men and women have devoted their lives to Christôs homeland and its people, promoting a love for the Land of the Lord. The special collection taken up at this time each year from parishes worldwide within the Universal Church supports and upholds the perpetual mission for peace and religious freedom in this land of constant persecution and hardship.

Your prayers and financial support are necessary to sustain the Christian minority in this region ï the cradle of Christianity. I again call on you to generously support the Annual Good Friday Collection to assist our needy brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. The Collection for the Holy Land, in the words of Paul VI is ñnot only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities.ò Your generous support again this year will help maintain the holy shrines and be a source of blessing for these needed resources within the Holy Land.

With gratitude for your generosity, and the assurance of my prayers for you, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Gerald M. Barbarito

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 MARCH 27/28