



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

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January 2, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of January 9 and 10 our Diocese will take up the annual collection for Catholic Schools. This annual collection supports our commitment to the growth and continuance of Catholic Schools in our five county Diocese which provide for the education of over eight thousand students from many diverse backgrounds.

Catholic schools need financial support during these challenging economic times to keep tuitions affordable for hard working families, provide competitive wages for lay men and women educators, as well as provide for maintenance and facility improvements as needed.

Catholic schools are necessary institutions to fulfill the mandate of Jesus to His disciples, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations; baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all of the commands I gave you" (Matt 28:19-20). With your support, together we will raise up future generations of Catholics who will lead our communities, states, nation and world.

Together let us support our Catholic elementary and secondary schools, keeping them available and accessible to as many as possible.

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

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach

Note to Pastors: Please publish in bulletins the weekend of Jan 2 and 3.