



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

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June 3, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Next weekend's special collection on June 11 & 12 will support two critical missions: Catholic Home Missions and the Black and Indian Missions.

Catholic Home Missions provides a unique opportunity for you to assist struggling Catholic communities in the United States. For many decades, the Church in the United States has sent missionaries overseas to serve the people of Latin America, Africa and Asia. The Home Missions are dioceses and parishes here in our country that need the same kind of support. Without support, these 87 dioceses cannot fund basic and essential pastoral works such as catechesis, seminary formation, and lay leadership training, or to provide aid to parishes struggling to keep their doors open. Your funds will be used to bridge the gap between need and available resources.

For more than 125 years, Black and Indian Missions has been evangelizing and serving the Black, Indian, Eskimo and Aleute communities. Through the years, the funds from this annual appeal have been responsible for supporting Catholic communities on reservations, in rural areas and inner cities. Your financial contribution funds evangelization programs to strengthen the faith, continue the legacy and share the mission with children and adults in our country.

Last year, your support for these missions raised \$85,662. With your help, the faith of many Catholics in the United States will continue to be nurtured and supported. It is only through the constant generosity of Church members that the efforts of Catholic Home Missions and the Black and Indian Missions are realized.

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 THIS LETTER IN THE PARISH BULLETIN OR HAVE IT READ AT ALL MASSES ON THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 4 & 5.