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THE  
GATE  
FOR  
THE  
SHEEP

JOHN 10:7

## Parish Staff

Rev. Msgr. John J. Enzler, Pastor  
Rev. James Boccabella, Associate Pastor  
[jboccabella@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:jboccabella@blessedsacramentdc.org)  
Rev. Msgr. Maurice V. O'Connell, Senior Priest  
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Rev. Tesfaye Fesuh, Resident Priest  
Deacon Daniel Thompson  
Deacon Mark Gallagher  
Mr. Chris Kelly, Principal of **School**, 202.966.6682  
Mr. Rob Maro, Director of **Religious Education**, 202.449.3989  
Mrs. Patricia Kavanaugh, **Social Concerns** Minister, 202.449.3987  
(Office Open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., and by appt.)  
Mr. Jay Rader, Director of **Liturgy and Music**, 202.449.3981  
Ms. Kathy Gillespie, Director of **Athletics**, 202.449.3972  
Mr. Mark McCaffrey, Coordinator of **Youth Ministry**, 202.449.3978

## Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap, Catholic University  
Rev. Michael Witzczak, SLD, Catholic University

## Duffy Parish Center

**Main Office** 202.966.6575

(Open Monday - Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

In an emergency, 202.966.6575, Ext. 3988, to page priest on duty

**Facilities** 202.449.4610

**St. Pius Library** 202.449.3974

**Sacrament of Baptism** — Baptismal preparation is required of all parents prior to the celebration of baptism. We recommend that this take place before the child is born. Contact the Religious Education Office at 202.449.3989 for more information.

**Sacrament of Matrimony** — Please contact one of the parish priests six months in advance. All couples who are to be married at Blessed Sacrament must complete our parish marriage preparation program.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** — Friday and Saturday after the 11 a.m. Mass (if no funeral); Saturday 4 - 5 p.m. and after the 5:30 p.m. Mass, or anytime by appointment.

**Care of the Sick and Homebound** — If you or someone you know is hospitalized and would like a priest to visit, or if you know of anyone who is homebound who could benefit from a regular visit, please contact the parish office at 202.966.6575.

**New Parishioners** — Welcome to Blessed Sacrament! Please register for parish membership by stopping in at the Duffy Parish Center and filling out a registration form. Forms also available in the pamphlet rack inside the Quesada Street entrance to the church and on the parish website.

**Departing Parishioners** — We will miss you. Please notify one of our staff members in the Duffy Parish Center office that you will be moving away.

**Bulletin Announcements** — Please send all announcements to [bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org). Deadline: Mondays @ 10 a.m.



*The Shrine of the Most  
Blessed Sacrament  
3630 Quesada Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20015*

[www.blessedsacramentdc.org](http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org)

## From The Pastor's Desk . . .

Dear Friends,

As we approach this last weekend of April and prepare for the most beautiful month of the year, we enjoy the gift of Easter in so many different ways. The spectacular weather that is enjoyed by all in Washington during this season brings us out of our homes for picnics, downtown trips, athletic events and some special time with friends and neighbors. There is just a greater sense of well-being and joy during these last few weeks of school for the children before Memorial Day.

I hope that you are able to make the connection between the Resurrection of Jesus and the peace and serenity of these wonderful days. As you know, the Easter Season continues through Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Do the Easter liturgies remind you of the spirit of Resurrection? Do you sense new beginnings, new opportunities for growth and the voice of God in your heart? Are you still on that treadmill that allows no time for the Lord and oftentimes no time for family and friends as well? These are days – gifts from the Lord – that enable us to sense inner-peace that only God can give.

If you call me and get my voicemail, you will hear my greeting: "Today is God's gift to you! What you do with it is your gift to God!" May the wonder of each day remind you of God's goodness, and may the activities that keep you so busy be kept in balance with the need to "stop and smell the roses" and to reflect in a very serene way on God's many blessings to us.

Father John

**Second Collection This Weekend** — Please see page 6 of this bulletin for the letter from Bishop Barry Knestout concerning the collection for the Catholic Home Mission. Please be generous. —Father John

**Poor Box Donations in April** will benefit the Langley Park Food Pantry, which is run by St. Camillus parish. The pantry provides emergency food assistance to hundreds of mostly Hispanic families. Because the need for assistance has increased so dramatically with the economic downturn and high unemployment rates in the immigrant community, the pantry has had to cut back on the amount of food given to each family and to limit the number they serve. Contributions will be used to provide basic food packages to additional families.

**Dramatic Reading This Wednesday, April 28, 7 p.m.** Join the latent thespians (you may read or just listen) for the second part of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, a play full of fun and quirky characters. Discussion and refreshments after the play. Call John Dluhy at 202.841.6925 for more information.

## Religious Education News ...

**Adult Confirmation Classes** — Are you an adult Catholic in need of the Sacrament of Confirmation? Classes begin on Wednesday **May 5, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.**, in the Duffy Parish Center library. Please contact Rob Maro at [rmaro@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:rmaro@blessedsacramentdc.org) to register in time to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Archbishop Wuerl at St. Matthew's Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday, **May 23**.

## Youth Corner

**Question Of The Week** — Jesus said "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." How does Jesus speak to you? What new path is he asking of you?



### Sunday, April 25 — Bingo Night

All Grades - \$5.00 admission  
Pizza, candy and soda will be sold

For more info, contact Mark McCaffrey at 202.449.3928 or [mmccaffrey@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:mmccaffrey@blessedsacramentdc.org).

**Coffee And Doughnuts Next Sunday** — Join fellow parishioners for coffee and doughnuts in the school auditorium next Sunday, May 2, following the 9 and 10:30 Masses. Enjoy time catching up with friends and the opportunity to meet new parishioners we are welcoming to Blessed Sacrament.

**Outreach Weekend** — Next weekend is Outreach Weekend for our Soup Kitchen Ministry. When making a donation by check, please make the check payable to "Blessed Sacrament Outreach—Soup Kitchen". If you would like to learn more about this ministry, visit: [www.blessedsacramentdc.org/ministries/outreach/outreach-sunday-soup-kitchen](http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org/ministries/outreach/outreach-sunday-soup-kitchen).

**Blessed Sacrament Nights at Ledo Pizza** — Let Ledo's do the work next Monday and Tuesday, **May 3 and 4!** Dine in or take out from 5 p.m. until closing at Ledo Pizza on River Road (near Whole Foods) to support Blessed Sacrament School. Ledo's will give our school 20% of all dine-in sales and 20% of takeout sales by those who identify Blessed Sacrament. Call Ledo Pizza at 301.656.5336. Sponsored by the Home and School Association

**Carnation Sale Mother's Day Weekend** — Carnations will be sold after all Masses on Saturday, **May 8**, and Sunday, **May 9**, to benefit the Northwest Pregnancy Center and Maternity Home in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of Washington, D.C. The minimum suggested donation is \$1 each. The Pregnancy Center helps needy women find alternatives to abortion. The Maternity Home provides long-term housing for homeless pregnant women (and their children) to enable them to deliver healthy babies, learn child care, and become self-sufficient.

**Register Now for the Bulldog 5K** — Don't miss the fourth annual Blessed Sacrament Bulldog 5k race which will be held beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, **May 22**. Enjoy a beautiful day with family and friends while you get in shape for the summer! There will also be a kid's fun run/walk starting at approximately 8:45 a.m., and a post-race celebration. For more info and to register, visit [www.BullDogRace.org](http://www.BullDogRace.org). If you don't want to run but would like to volunteer, please contact Elizabeth Feldman at [ehfconsult@yahoo.com](mailto:ehfconsult@yahoo.com).

**Sanctuary Sodality News** — Spring Sodality Mass and Dinner will be held on Thursday, **May 20**. We will be celebrating 100 years of sisterhood and service. We will also be inducting new members at 5:30 Mass. If you are a sodalist and have not received an invitation, please call Meghan McCaleb at 301.652.0477 and a message with your name, unit and address. If you need a ride to the Mass and dinner, call Laura Beh at 202.363.4575.

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, May 1

5:30 p.m. ~ Father Jim

### Sunday, May 2

7:30 a.m. ~ Father Armstrong

9 a.m. ~ Father Armstrong

10:30 a.m. ~ Father Witczak (Church)\*

10:30 a.m. ~ Father Jim (Gym)\*

12:30 p.m. ~ Father Jim

5:30 p.m. ~ Father Jim

**\*Nursery services available in the kindergarten room under the school gym.**

### Weekday and Saturday Masses

Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m., 11 a.m.

**Filipino Mass** in Tagalog every 4th Sunday at 4 p.m.

### Holy Day Masses

Eve of the Feast: 5:30 p.m.

Day of the Feast: 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

### Holy Hour

Thursday before first Friday of each month: 9 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Exposition: Monday - Friday, 3 p.m. - 5:15 p.m., in the church



Maxwell Alexei Dunne



Sally R. Flanagan

**Please include our sick in your prayers  
that they may experience healing and comfort**



Zachary Balog

Edgard Bertaut

Bill Bray

George Crozer

Joaquinita Diaz

Aiden Goheen

Mary Gray

Donald Johnston

Sylvia Ann Lamberg

Marian Middendorf

William Middendorf

Julia Poppeliers

Catherine Schemp

Jim Schoettler

Chester Sleboda

Fenner Urquhart

Stephen Vermillion

Linda Wivel

**2010 Annual Jubilarian Mass** — The annual Jubilarian Celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50 + years will be held Sunday, June 6, at 2:30 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Archbishop Wuerl will preside at the Mass. Registration forms are available at the back of the church or at the Duffy Parish Center and must be returned to the Duffy Parish Center by tomorrow, **Monday, April 26**.

## Visit Your Parish Library

What are the magazines saying?

'England's Gift to the World' by Frank Field, The Tablet, April 3, 2010, 12 – 13. The year 2011 will mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launch of the King James Bible 'which many argue has done more for the English language than Shakespeare, carrying it across the globe'. King James, as king of both Scotland and England, had the idea of translating the bible anew as a way of fostering unity in a country fractured by political and religious dissent. He appointed six teams of translators who lifted a lot of William Tyndale's translation (the first in English to use the Hebrew and Greek texts); they also drew heavily on the Catholic Douai version. Read about the extensive events that will commemorate the anniversary ([www.2011trust.org](http://www.2011trust.org)).

'Steps of Faith: Pilgrimage to Chimayo', by Marion Amberg, photos by Daniel Long, St. Anthony Messenger, April, 2010, 20 – 25. Each year on Good Friday thousands of pilgrims converge on El Santuario de Chimayo, thirty miles north of Santa Fe in New Mexico. This small adobe chapel marks the place of miracle and healing; it's sometimes called 'The Lourdes of America'. The crucifix at El Santuario is shrouded in legend and has an amazing history ([www.holychimayo.us](http://www.holychimayo.us)) described by the author. The sanctuary was completed in 1816 and declared a National Historic Landmark in 1970. Since then more than 30,000 pilgrims visit it each year.

'Truths Still Held' by George Weigel, First Things, May, 2010, 41 – 47. In this article, the author examines John Courtney Murray's great work We Hold These Truths: Catholic Reflections on the American Proposition, on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. On publication the book's importance was immediately recognized. Murray was invited to the Second Vatican Council, where he advised on the discussions on religious liberty resulting in Vatican II's Declaration on Religious Freedom. This article aims at reviewing the 'American Proposition as a template for measuring the health of the American republic and its public culture as we enter the second decade of the twenty-first century'. The careful and persuasive argument that Weigel presents demands commensurately careful reading by all ([www.firstthings.com](http://www.firstthings.com)).

For copies of these articles, visit the library or call 202.449.3974.

## From The Social Concerns Office ...

**Host Families Needed** — Host families are needed for three fantastic summer programs. The programs bring together students from post conflict societies to aid in peaceful resolution of historical divides. The Washington Ireland program for Service Leadership (WIP), the South African Washington Intern Program (SAWIP) and New Story Leadership (NSL) are seeking host families for university students from Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, and Israel and Palestine respectively. The students from WIP ([www.wip.org](http://www.wip.org)) arrive early June and depart early August and are here for eight weeks. The SAWIP ([www.sawip.org](http://www.sawip.org)) and NSL ([www.newstoryleadership.org](http://www.newstoryleadership.org)) students are here for six weeks. If you are interested in one of these programs, which are voluntary, or for more information, call 301.657.4343 or email family host coordinator, Terry Eason ([TerryAbelEason@aol.com](mailto:TerryAbelEason@aol.com)).

**The Adult Center** invites all parishioners, 39 and holding, to the Chevy Chase Apartments, #1, for fellowship after the 11 a.m. Mass. Bring a sandwich and join the activities. For transportation, call Rita Killian at 202.363.5069.

<b>Monday</b>	Social/Discussion
<b>Tuesday</b>	RENEW and the Word/Low Vision Support
<b>Wednesday</b>	Art Class with Dick Swartz
<b>Thursday</b>	Bridge For Bridge Lovers
<b>Friday</b>	Closed

**Tithe Proposals for 2010** — Proposals are now being accepted from **now until Tuesday, June 8**, for 2010 parish tithe funds. Tithe guidelines and application forms are available in the main office of the Duffy Parish Center and at the church entrances. Proposals are limited to one per agency and must be sponsored by a Blessed Sacrament parishioner. Agencies may submit proposals every three years. Questions? Contact Pat Kavanaugh in the Social Concerns office at 202.449.3987 or at [pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org).

## From The Archdiocese ...

### Calling All Lawyers Living in the Blessed Sacrament Community

— the Archdiocesan Legal Network needs your pro bono help. Volunteer your legal skills even if they need dusting off! Are you a "non-practicing" lawyer wondering how to take small steps back into your profession in the service of others? Are you a "practicing" lawyer wondering how to volunteer your talents to meet the legal needs of the poor of the D.C. and Maryland area? Are you a "near retirement" lawyer wondering whether your area of expertise qualifies you to help those who can't afford to pay for legal representation? Attorneys from the Archdiocesan Legal Network invite you to come by the Duffy Parish Center for a quick overview of opportunities to make a difference in the lives of the people they serve. For more information, contact Monica Ludwig at the Archdiocesan Legal Network at 202.772.4323.

## And From The Community ...

**ReShape... ReShape... ReShape** — Please join Pamela Meredith & Sheryl Wilson, the ReShape Team of Ardyss International for a showcase, today, Sunday, **April 25**, 2 p.m., at the Cedar Room of St. Thomas More Church, 4275 4th Street, SE, Washington, D.C. Come and learn how to build your wealth by improving your health. You will receive valuable information that will change your life. Learn ways to reshape your body and improve your nutritional level. Guests are free. Distributors: \$10. For more information, please contact Rena Meredith 301.894.0743.

**Flea Market at Nativity Church** — Saturday, **May 1**, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., 6008 Georgia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. Tables available for \$15 each or 2/\$25. Contact Sue at the rectory (202.726.6262) for additional information.

### Sponsor Of The Week

We would like to thank **Jon D. Pels, Esq.** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

# Confirmation

2010

We congratulate these young adults who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last weekend:

Sophie **Cecilia** Alpert  
Antoinette **Therese** Arndt  
Bianca **Bernadette** Beggiano  
Connor **Rose** Bell  
Isabella **Therese** Boland  
Julia **Joan** Boldrick  
John **Stephen** Bolen  
Camille **Bernadette** Bowe  
Courtney **Isabelle** Bratun  
Lindsay **Benedict** Bratun  
Marisa **Mary Magdalene** Brigati  
Christian **Thomas** Burke  
John **Anselm** Butler  
Jane **Therese** Caldwell  
Zoe **Michael** Carty  
Katherine **Joaquina** Castillo  
Jana **Zita** Catuche  
William **Pelagius** Cave  
Emmett **Angelico** Cochetti  
Allison **Dorothy** Coriale  
Brendan **Patrick** Cowie  
Thomas **Peter** Crittenberger  
Chloe **Francis** Cullen  
Meghan **Elizabeth** Cunningham  
Claire **Catherine** Donnellan  
Emmett **Patrick** Dunlavy  
Olivia **Joan** Dunne  
Elizabeth **Michael** Evans  
Jack **Peter** Feldman  
Andrew **Aloysius** Fernicola  
Michael **Ubaldo** Ficca  
Margaret **Monica** Flores  
David **Christian** Flynn  
Ian **Rafael** Forcey  
Alicia **Rocco** Gavin  
Harper **Cecilia** Gensler

Seton **Mary Magdalene** Gilday  
Kathleen **Jane** Greene  
Madeleine **Marie** Greene  
Sean **Jude** Greynolds  
Alyson **Claire** Gurney  
Ana **Bernadette** Hagerup  
Peter **Maximilian Kolbe** Haley  
Elinor **Teresa** Hanley  
Jessica **Roch** Hergenreder  
Brian **Patrick** Huebscher  
Rosemary **Chantal** Joaquin  
Emily **Monica** Johnson  
Owen **Anthony** Kelley  
Jack **Patrick** Kelly  
Steven **Sebastian** Kelly  
Catherine **Francis** Leary  
Amiel **Martin** Lumbre  
Quinn **Brendan** Magner  
Elizabeth **Katherine** Makuch  
Sofia **Maria Gabriella** Marmolejos  
William **Christopher** McCaffrey  
Margaret **Mary Magdalene**  
McCarthy  
John **Nuno** McGlynn  
Elizabeth **Columba** McKinnon  
Grayson **Elizabeth** McPhee  
Caroline **Hedwig** McTaggart  
Frederick **Martin** Mesmer  
Matthew **Crispin** Missar  
Natalie **Cecilia** Molinaro  
Olivia **Michael** Morreale  
John **Blaise** Mullally III  
Kerry **Lucy** Mullin  
Jon **Ralph** Murphy  
Gabriel **Constantine** Nahas  
Colleen **Bernadette** O'Brien

Sean **Patrick** O'Brien  
Isabel **Clare** O'Malley  
Bennett **Francis** Parr  
Connor **David** Pennanen  
William **Francis** Poston  
Jordan **John** Pound  
Sebastian **Robert** Pretzer  
Christian **Francis** Prince  
Margaret **Colette** Quinn  
William **Francis** Railey  
Delaney **Elizabeth** Rego  
Owen **Thomas** Rego  
Thomas **Christopher** Reingruber  
Margaret **Elizabeth** Richardson  
Alexander **Paul** Riishojgaard  
Nicholas **Nicholas** Ruhlmann  
Christopher **Joseph** Surka  
Hugo **John** Schroeder  
Lucy **Joan** Sears  
Charlotte **Virginia** Stabler  
Daniel **Maurice** Starnes  
Sigmund **Elizabeth** Tejada  
Peter **Sebastian** Terpeluk III  
Madeleine **Claire** Thompson  
Nicholas **Francis** Townsend  
Anna **Rose** Vagnoni  
Mary Clare **Elizabeth** Vicenzi  
Rose Marie **Veronica** Vicenzi  
Alexander **Lucy** Walker  
Rebecca **Cecilia** Walters  
Maeve **Siobhan** White  
Andrew **Patrick** Womer  
Luke **Luke** Woodard

# Blessed Sacrament



# Pastoral Council

*“The parish of The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament is a welcoming community seeking to know, love and serve God through our ministries of worship, stewardship, spiritual growth, social justice and education.”*

**Pastoral Council**  
**Chair: Chris Figueras**  
**April 13, 2010**

The Parish Council met and discussed the annual self-evaluations of the commissions (which will be completed by the commissions in May) and re-iterated approval of the long-range strategic planning begun by a member of the Administration Commission. The Worship Commission provided an update of the successful implementation of the new eulogy policy of limiting speakers at funeral Masses. In addition, further details of the on-going planning for the 2011 Centennial Celebration were discussed, including the 100th birthday wish list and the preliminary budget figures for banners, printing and a historic video.

## Outreach Commission

**Co-Chairs: Eileen Dombo (dombo@cua.edu) and Ann Mahony (agmahony@aol.com)**  
**Parish Council Liaisons: Chris Figueras, Ronde Baquie and Ann Mahony**  
**Staff Representative: Pat Kavanaugh**

Centennial planning continued and as of this meeting the following five special events have been approved by the Outreach Commission and Centennial Committee members: GGC, Food Drive, Outreach Awards Ceremony, Earth Day Celebration, Martin Luther King Service Project and the Wellness Committee Ageing and Spirituality Conference. Outreach Commission recruitment activities were discussed (increase membership for the 2010-2111 year) as well as activities planned for May such as the Mothers Day carnation sale and the community garden. The Outreach Commission plans to begin work on a needs assessment study to ascertain parishioner needs.

## Community Commission

**Chair: Lizzy Lazo (lizzy\_ohara@yahoo.com)**  
**Pastoral Council Liaison: Larry Clark**  
**Staff Representative: Mark McCaffrey**

The next Coffee and Doughnuts Sunday will be held on May 2. The focus will be on the parish picnic, which is scheduled for June 6 at St. Johns' College High School. Additional information will be in forthcoming parish bulletins. The Community Life Commission will host the following Parish Centennial events: a family picnic on Saturday, June 4, 2011; the 100th Blessed Sacrament Parish birthday on October 7, 2011; and, a Blessed Sacrament reunion for graduates of, married in, returnees to Blessed Sacrament on October 8, 2011. If you are interested in learning more about the Community Life Commission please e-mail Lizzy O'Hara at [lizzy\\_ohara@yahoo.com](mailto:lizzy_ohara@yahoo.com). We are always looking for new members to join us in supporting the community.

## Formation Commission

**Chair: Chris Butler (CJWButler@aol.com)**  
**Pastoral Council Liaisons: Chris Butler and Fran Scango**  
**Staff Representative: Rob Maro**

The Formation Commission has been working on its three-pronged program for celebrating our parish Centennial. It has now set March and October 2011 dates for its six-week Faith on Tap series, the goal of which will be to help our young adult parishioners (and especially young parents) rejuvenate their faith and find its relevance in their own lives. The second program will involve a speakers' board of people who have converted (or "reverted") to Catholicism— these would be speakers who are willing to share their stories inside the parish, and would come to speak at bible studies, sodality meetings, etc. upon request. The third program would be our Blessed Sacrament School and School of Religion joint pilgrimage to the Basilica in March of 2011. Planning will continue at the May meeting (and throughout the summer). The commission will also be looking into contributing to the long range plan that is being conducted in tandem with the Centennial celebration, and will be sending out its final newsletter for the year in May. It is looking for new members to serve on the commission. For those who have served in a formation ministry (as catechist in the School of Religion, for example, or attended a Bible Study with regularity) and would like to enrich your participation in our parish, you are most welcome to attend the next meeting on Tuesday, May 7.

**Next Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 7**  
**7 p.m.**  
**School Auditorium**

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### **Letter from Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout** **Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia** **Archdiocese of Washington**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

On the weekend of April 24-25, 2010, Catholics across the nation are invited to contribute to the **Catholic Home Missions Appeal**.

Catholic Home Missions is committed to providing poorer dioceses in the United States with the support they need to sustain essential pastoral care. Over the years, your generosity to the appeal has supported religious education, evangelization, youth ministry, seminarian education and ministry training in mission dioceses in Alaska, Appalachia, the Southwest - across the United States - and in Puerto Rico and U.S. territories in the Pacific islands.

Your contributions make a difference. For example, vibrant youth ministry programs in parishes and dioceses are a tangible way to strengthen the Church. Through youth ministry, young Catholics are evangelized, catechized, trained in leadership roles and encouraged for religious vocations. The young faithful energize the Church and provide a unique vision for the future. Without the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, this essential ministry would not be possible in many mission dioceses in the United States.

As we continue to recover from the economic downturn, please join me in supporting our Catholic brothers and sisters in the United States whose dioceses are financially fragile even in the best of times. Together, we can strengthen the Church at home.

May God bless you and your family.