



Archdiocese of Philadelphia  
Office of the Cardinal  
222 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

January 9, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The annual **Catholic Relief Services Collection** challenges American Catholics to see “Jesus in disguise” in the faces of our brothers and sisters in drought-affected Ethiopia, families in storm-affected communities such as Haiti, refugees in Lebanon and the hundreds of thousands of families affected by the global food crisis in many parts of our world.

Catholic Relief Services gives active witness to the mandate of Jesus Christ to respond to the needs of the human family. The collection supports agencies that build the international social ministry of the Catholic Church. Ministries include relief and resettlement services, development programs to improve the living conditions of the poor, peacemaking and advocacy for a more just and peaceful world.

The collection will be taken up in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia the **weekend of January 17 and 18, 2009**. The American Catholic community, and in particular, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, have always responded generously to this annual collection.

I am grateful to you for your charitable response to this request. May you be blessed for your faithfulness to the Gospel and in recognizing Jesus in those who are in need.

Sincerely in Christ,

**+Justin Card. Rigali**

Cardinal Justin Rigali  
Archbishop of Philadelphia

(Please communicate the contents of this letter to your parishioners in the most appropriate manner on the weekend of January 10 and 11, 2009. The collection is taken up the weekend of January 17 and 18, 2009. Collection remittal should be made to : ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA, Office for Accounting Services, 222 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.)