



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

January 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the story of the Last Judgment, Jesus reminds us to care for those in need and to recognize him in the poor, the hungry and the disadvantaged. When we act with compassion and commitment to justice for the “least among us,” we act as true disciples of Jesus.

The **Catholic Relief Services Collection** provides a real opportunity for Catholics in the United States to express Christian compassion and generosity. In a concrete way, the collection helps build the Church’s international social ministry by funding the work of six agencies: Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., the Holy Father’s Relief Fund, Migration and Refugee Services, Justice, Peace and Human Development and the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church.

In addressing today’s global realities, resources raised by the annual collection make possible much needed humanitarian aid to people suffering, such as young Congolese boys, families in Chadian refugee camps, orphans in Lesotho, and victims of conflict in places like Sudan, Israel, Palestine and other war-torn nations.

This year’s collection will take place on the weekend of **January 16 and 17, 2010**. We, who are so blessed with abundant resources, must always remember the poor since service to those in need is at the heart of the mission of the Church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

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 9 and 10, 2010. This collection is to be taken up the weekend of January 16 and 17, 2010. Collection remittal should be made to: ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA, and sent to the Office for Accounting Services, 222 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.