



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

April 16, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The shortage of priests is a growing problem in the United States. In mission dioceses of the United States, where funding is often limited, the call to educate and encourage future leaders is a serious challenge.

The **Catholic Home Missions Appeal** is dedicated to strengthening the Church here at home. It is sponsored by the United States Bishops' Committee on the Home Missions. It supports Home Missions from the Deep South to the Western Mountains and beyond. With your support, mission parishes will have greater opportunity to support seminarian training, religious education and other important pastoral functions that will ensure their growth in the faith.

I am deeply grateful to you for your assistance to this splendid cause.

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 April 17 and 18, 2010; the collection is taken up the following weekend of April 24 and 25, 2010. Collection remittal should be made payable to ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA and sent to Office for Accounting Services, 222 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103)