



Catholic Home Missions Appeal

OFFICE OF NATIONAL COLLECTIONS

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Strengthening the Church at Home

Dear Diocesan Director,

Lay ministers are an essential component of parish life in home mission dioceses, where the presence of a priest is unfortunately an occasional occurrence. Lay ministers strengthen the Church in parishes struggling to keep their doors open and provide essential pastoral outreach.

In addition to the important funding it provides for lay ministry training, the **Catholic Home Missions Appeal** supports basic pastoral projects like catechesis, aid to poor parishes, religious formation, and evangelization. Poorer dioceses right here in the United States rely on funds from the Catholic Home Missions Appeal to fill the gap between the need and their own ability to fund ministries.

You can make this year's Appeal more successful by encouraging your parishes to use the posters, fliers, and bulletin announcements provided. Additional materials, such as clip art and Web banners, are available at www.usccb.org/nationalcollections. The national date for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal is the weekend of April 30-May 1 (your diocese may schedule it on a different date).

For more information please contact me at 202-541-3365 or mcampbell@usccb.org. We truly appreciate your support of the Catholic Home Missions Appeal and helping to **strengthen the Church at home**.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Mencarini Campbell".

Mary Mencarini Campbell
Promotions Director

For more information on the Catholic Home Missions Appeal and the dioceses it funds, please visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.