



DIOCESE OF ORANGE

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Dear Brothers in the Lord,

I have recently visited with Msgr. Ted Bertagni who is the director of Clergy and Diocesan Relations for Cross Catholic Outreach.

Their mission statement says that serve the poor, *"worldwide by empowering Catholic Parishes and ministries already in place overseas to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, deliver medical relief to the sick, supply shelter to the homeless and break the poor's cycle of poverty through the gift of an education and self-help projects."*

They are overseen by an Advisory Board of Bishops and have a relationship with the Pontifical Council Cor Unum. Both Bishop Richard Garcia of Monterey and I are members of this Advisory Board.

I would highly recommend them if you are interested in this type of mission outreach in your parish. I worked with them closely when I was in Fort Worth, and the pastors always appreciated their presence and mission outreach. They can be reached at: Cross Catholic Outreach, 2700 N. Military Trail, Suite 240 - Boca Raton, FL 33427-3908, 800-914-2420.

They offer to come to a parish and take a pastor's place for the weekend, and they do not take up a second collection!

Please be sure and contact either me or Cross Catholic Outreach if you have any further questions.

Thank you for all that you do for all of our people in our Diocese by your preaching of the Gospel and living out of your priestly, diaconal and religious vocations.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

Most Rev. Kevin W. Vann, JCD, DD
Bishop of Orange

KWV:mb