



Diocese of Springfield

Office of the Bishop

September 10, 2015

Dear Friends in the Lord Jesus,

Since his election in March 2013, Pope Francis has been an ambassador of the poor and those on the margins of society. He reaches out in loving care especially to those who lack the basic necessities of life and has reminded us time and again of the Lord's mandate to "care for the least of these" (Matthew 25: 40). Cross Catholic Outreach, since its inception, has taken this mandate and in so many practical ways is engaged in bringing the basic necessities of water, shelter, food, medicines and clothing to the poor in third world countries. Working hand in hand with *Cor Unum*, the Holy Father's direct outreach to the poor and suffering, Cross Catholic Outreach is able to transform the lives of the poor by providing the means in which they can help themselves out of substandard living conditions.

I am pleased to endorse the work of Cross Catholic Outreach that works as the hands and feet of Christ for the entire Church in helping the poor people of third world countries. If we are to truly follow Jesus' command to help those in need, Cross Outreach is a wonderful means of truly bringing hope to those whose lives need the transformative power of Christ to improve their basic living conditions.

Sincerely in Christ,

(Most Rev.) Mitchell T. Rozanski
Bishop of Springfield, Massachusetts