



Office of the Bishop

April 29, 2013

Reverend Monsignor Ted Bertagni
Director, Clergy and Diocesan Relations
Cross Catholic Outreach
2700 N. Military Trail, Suite 240
Boca Raton, FL 33427

Dear Monsignor Bertagni,

I enjoyed visiting with one of your priest collaborators recently, Father Bernard Olszewski, and wanted to contact you in order to offer my support for your good work at Cross Catholic Outreach.

My conversation with Fr. Olszewski made it very clear that the good work of Cross Catholic Outreach is an essential element of living out the Gospel mandate to provide assistance to the poor in our world today. As he and I discussed, I am especially pleased to support your work as bishop of a missionary diocese located between the South and the Southwest. Many influences cause our people to be especially aware of the need to live the Gospel by providing assistance to the materially poor in our world. I am confident that you will receive generous support from the people in this corner of Texas.

I am sure you are excited to hear the message of Pope Francis as he takes up his mantle following on the good work of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. He renews the clear mandate that flows from the message of Christ Himself, "always remember the poor." I look forward to providing my support in any ways that are helpful. Let us pray for one another as we seek to be reminded ourselves and to remind the people of God that we must always be aware of those in need and provide real and meaningful outreach to them in the name of Jesus Christ.

I hope that we can collaborate to raise the profile of Cross Catholic Outreach in the counties of northeast Texas so that it can become known as yet another opportunity to live our Catholic faith and care for the body of Christ.

Sincerely in Christ's Name,

Most Reverend Joseph E. Strickland
Bishop of Tyler

Most Reverend Joseph E. Strickland, Bishop of Tyler

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