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**OFFICE OF
THE BISHOP**

August 21, 2012

Rev. Msgr. Ted Bertagni
Director of Clergy & Diocesan Relations
Cross Catholic Outreach
P. O. Box 273908
Boca Raton, FL 33427-3908

Dear Monsignor Bertagni:

Thank you for visiting with me here in Alexandria last week. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the wonderful work and ministry of Cross Catholic Outreach. As a result of this most informative meeting, I have encouraged the priests of the diocese to welcome the priests from Cross Catholic Outreach to their parishes so that our people can hear about and share in the important work of your organization, which clearly embodies the Gospel's call to love our neighbor.

In August of 2005 Hurricane Katrina devastated much of South Louisiana. There was an influx of evacuees sheltered in our parish halls here in Central Louisiana. Cross Catholic Outreach hastened to our aid with monetary support to assist in providing for their needs.

We are particularly proud of the fact that Bishop Sam Jacobs, the tenth Bishop of Alexandria, has served as the Chairperson of Cross Catholic Outreach for a number of years. I am also pleased to know that your organization enjoys a special relationship with the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum*, the Holy Father's personal charity.

I wish to thank and commend you and your confreres who have dedicated their lives to feed, shelter, educate and care for the poorest of the poor in the Third World. May God continue to bless you and your ministry, as we remain

One in the Lord,

Most Reverend Ronald P. Herzog
Bishop of Alexandria