

MOST REVEREND
LOUIS F. KIHNEMAN, III
BISHOP OF BILOXI



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September 5, 2019

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:

Thank you for your sharing your 2018 Annual Report and information on Cross Catholic Outreach's collaboration with the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Your ministry to the poorest of the poor worldwide is an admirable response to the call of Pope Francis to remember the poor and show them God's love.

We were blessed to receive generous financial support from Cross [Catholic] Outreach following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, and we are truly grateful. You have my prayers and support of your vital ministry.

The Diocese of Biloxi is a mission diocese. Our Catholic population is very small. Only about 3% of the people in Mississippi are Catholics and we rely upon appeals and grants to help make our Church ministries possible. It will be up to each pastor's discretion in permitting or denying your request to visit parishes with the intent of raising funds for Cross Catholic Outreach. A copy of the scheduled 2020 diocesan collections is enclosed. Your appeals may not coincide with the scheduled diocesan collections nor our annual Catholic Sharing Appeal which is held during Lent. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

May God bless your ministry as you strive to "bring food, shelter and hope to the poorest of the poor" throughout the world. I am remembering you in my prayers and Masses I offer daily.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Louis Kihneman".

Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman, III
Bishop of Biloxi

"A welcoming family of GOD seeking to live faithfully, love generously, and share the good news of Jesus Christ"