

THE MOST REVEREND
GREGORY J. HARTMAYER, OFM CONV.

Protocol No. 68467

Monday 31 August, 2020

Reverend Monsignor Ted Bertagni
Director of Clergy and Diocesan Relations
Cross Catholic Outreach
2700 N. Military Trail, Suite 300
Boca Raton, FL 33431

Dear Monsignor Bertagni,

Recently I received a copy of the Cross Catholic Outreach 2019 Annual Report. I read with great interest your focus on Community Transformation in the coming years and that last year the ministry provided aid to 285 different missionary projects in 28 countries, many of which are in Latin America, an area of focus of Pope Francis.

For the upcoming World Day of the Poor, the Holy Father chose the theme "stretch forth your hand to the poor." He wrote that doing so

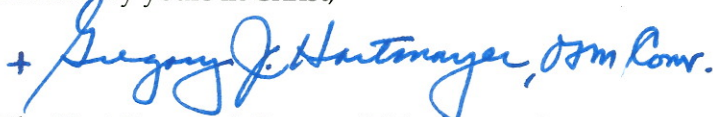
...encourages us to bear the burdens of the weakest, in accord with the words of Saint Paul: "Through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself' ... Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal 5:13-14: 6:2)

The ministry of Cross Catholic Outreach in keeping the plight of the poor in front of the Christian community and supporting Catholic missionaries serving on the front line is an admirable example of stretching out your hands to the poor in accord with Catholic social teaching.

I commend the work of Cross Catholic Outreach and encourage you to keep your eyes fixed on the poor and continue to spread the love of Christ to our brothers and sisters who suffer the bondage of poverty in the developing world.

For this mission you have my prayers and support.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ 

The Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer, O.F.M Conv.
Archbishop of Atlanta

THE OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

2401 LAKE PARK DRIVE, S.E. • SMYRNA, GEORGIA 30080-8862 • TEL: 404-920-7300 • FAX: 404-920-7301 • www.archatl.com