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Cross Catholic Outreach receives apostolic blessing from Pope Francis

*Catholic nonprofit praised by the Holy Father on its 20th anniversary
for its work of serving the poorest of the poor throughout the world*

BOCA RATON, Fla. – Oct. 19, 2021 – Cross Catholic Outreach, a global relief and development non-profit, has received an apostolic blessing from Pope Francis in recognition of its 20th anniversary.

“On the twentieth anniversary of Cross Catholic Outreach, His Holiness Pope Francis sends prayerful good wishes to those engaged in its mission of bearing witness to the Gospel through concrete works of mercy and the promotion of integral human development, particularly in this time of worldwide pandemic, and cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of strength and peace in the Lord,” said Monsignor L. Roberto Cona in a letter sent on behalf of Pope Francis.

The letter can be downloaded [here](#).

James Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach, said he was humbled to receive Pope Francis’ recognition for the ministry’s works of mercy and promotion of integral human development.

“Six years ago we were honored to receive formal canonical recognition by Pope Francis and today we want to express our gratitude to the Holy Father for his Apostolic Blessing honoring our 20th anniversary,” said Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach.

“The Holy Father’s apostolic blessing on the occasion of our 20th anniversary of service to the poorest of the poor in the World both affirms the Gospel works of mercy we perform and confirms our approach to integral human development. The outreaches we pursue transform the lives of those who look to the Lord for hope and peace,” said Monsignor Ted Bertagni, Cross

Catholic Outreach's director of clergy and diocesan relations, outreach priest, and, as commissioned by Pope Francis, Missionary of Mercy. "It is truly a 'blessing' to receive this special recognition from Pope Francis."

Cross Catholic Outreach is an official Catholic ministry that partners with bishops, priests, religious and lay workers to provide food, water, housing, education, orphan support, medical care, microenterprise and disaster relief — and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ — to the poorest of the poor in more than 30 countries around the world.

To learn more, visit www.crosscatholic.org. For additional information, or to schedule an interview, please contact Kevin Wandra of Carmel Communications at Kwandra@CarmelCommunications.com or 404-788-1276.

About Cross Catholic Outreach CrossCatholic.org

Based in Florida, Cross Catholic Outreach is an official Catholic nonprofit 501(c)(3) relief and development organization that, since its founding in 2001, has given more than \$3 billion in aid to help "the poorest of the poor" in more than three dozen developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and other parts of the world. For more information about Cross Catholic, visit CrossCatholic.org or call 800-914-2420.

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