



Most Reverend Richard G. Henning, DD, STD
Bishop of Providence
One Cathedral Square
Providence, Rhode Island 02903
Phone: (401) 278-4546

October 26, 2023

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

I enjoyed meeting with you to learn more about Cross Catholic Outreach and its mission of supporting Catholic missionaries helping the poor in the developing world and I'm pleased to join so many of my brother bishops in endorsing this good work. By providing essential food, water, shelter, and medical care to those in need, you are responding to the command of the Gospel to show concern, compassion, and mercy to those who need the basic necessities of life.

Your work to address the root causes of poverty through integral human development is an approach that sets Cross Catholic Outreach apart from many of the world's charitable organizations. Through the Catholic lens, we understand that each person is made in God's image and has a spiritual need that can only be filled through Christ our Lord. This spiritual dimension is so important to permanently transforming the lives of the poor, lifting them and their communities out of the bondage of poverty.

In just a few weeks, the Church will observe World Day of the Poor, an annual observance instituted by our Holy Father Pope Francis. This year, the theme is "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor," which comes from the Book of Tobit. Let us thank the Lord that so many men and women are devoted to your mission of caring for the poor and have generously opened their hearts to support the mission of Cross Catholic Outreach.

Please know of my prayers for all of the priests and lay staff members engaged in the work of transforming the lives of the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ Richard G. Henning
Bishop of Providence