



DIOCESE OF GREAT FALLS-BILLINGS
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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December 7, 2023

Reverend Monsignor Ted Bertangi
Director of Clergy and Diocesan Relations
Cross Catholic Outreach
PO Box 273908
Pompano Beach, FL 33427-3908

Dear Monsignor Bertangi;

At the heart of Catholic Social teaching lies the profound principle and challenge of the “preferential option for the poor.” This precept, rooted in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, underscores the Church’s unwavering commitment to prioritize the well-being and raising up of those marginalized by the bondage of poverty.

From its founding, Cross Catholic Outreach has made the “preferential option for the poor” as one of its fundamental core values. Having a preferential option for the poor is not merely a charitable gesture or just an act of compassion; it is a core expression of our faith. It is a recognition that God has a special love for the poor and vulnerable, and that we, as followers of Christ, are to do the same, to put our love in action.

As you continue your work, in collaboration with bishops around the world and the Dicastery for Charity in Rome, know of my support and prayers for the mission of Cross Catholic Outreach.

In His love, peace, and joy,

Most Reverend Jeffrey M. Fleming
Bishop of Great Falls-Billings