The Roman Catholic Archdiocese *of* Washington
Post Office Box 29260, Washington, DC 20017-0260

Office of the Archbishop

February 11, 2026
Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes

Dear Father Caron,

"Love for the poor – whatever form their poverty may take – is the evangelical hallmark of a Church faithful to the heart of God," affirms Pope Leo XIV. Furthermore, "our love and our deepest convictions need to be continually cultivated, and we do so through our concrete actions" (*Dilexi Te*, 103, 109).

From its inception, Cross Catholic Outreach has been dedicated to such concrete action by proclaiming the Gospel, manifesting the love of God to the poor and indigent throughout the world by providing assistance to those in need, and otherwise v by promoting integral human development.

"Even in their poverty or weakness, no one should feel abandoned" (*Dilexi Te*, 21). As I have in the past, I continue to thank all the Cross Catholic Outreach priests who proclaim the plight of the poor and also the missionaries who bring about God's loving closeness to them in the fight against poverty.

I encourage your ministry to grow in love and aid of the poorest of the poor. For these good works of mercy, you have my prayers and support.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Robert Cardinal McElroy,
Archbishop of Washington

Reverend David G. Caron, O.P.
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