

# STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME

Dear Diocesan Director,

When your diocese supports the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, you strengthen the faith in the United States. Home missions are those dioceses and eparchies that face fragile financial situations, vast distances, or difficult terrain that significantly impacts the ability to offer the most basic pastoral programs to the faithful. With your help, basic pastoral programs become accessible for our brothers and sisters who long to grow closer to Christ.

The Diocese of Lubbock in Texas, for example, is geographically isolated but has a growing Catholic population. The young diocese is ethnically diverse and vibrant in its faith, but a prolonged drought in the region is putting strain on the farming and ranching communities. All 25 counties in the diocese face high poverty rates. The Church is called to minister to all who suffer—but in Lubbock, priests face additional challenges. Many pastors are assigned to two or more parishes across great distances.

Your support of the Catholic Home Missions Appeal helps educate new seminarians for the Diocese of Lubbock. Because of your assistance, the diocese can welcome new vocations to the priesthood and provide workshops and other pastoral training for these future priests. Without your contributions, the diocese would not be able to provide for all the men interested in joining the priesthood and meeting the needs of Lubbock's parishes. Your generosity is giving new life to this diocese, helping them welcome all who feel called to this vocation.

We need your help to promote this appeal in your parishes. **The most effective thing you can do is to remind parishes to announce the appeal at Mass.** A parish appeal, bulletin insert, and social media tool kit are available online, free for download by you and your parishes at [www.usccb.org/home-missions/collection](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions/collection).

If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or at [ngermain@usccb.org](mailto:ngermain@usccb.org). On behalf of all of those who benefit from this appeal, thank you for helping strengthen the Church at home.

Gratefully in Christ,,



Nicole Germain  
Assistant Director, Promotions, Office of National Collections



## CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

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