

# STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME

Dear Diocesan Director,

Catholic Home Missions supports dioceses throughout the United States and its territories that cannot support necessary pastoral ministries without outside financial assistance. Home mission dioceses often have small, widely dispersed Catholic populations, and many deal with economic challenges resulting from unemployment, migration, and natural disasters. Diocesan offices in home mission dioceses often have small staffs, but they are filled with passionate and dedicated clergy, consecrated religious sisters and brothers, and lay employees—all of whom work to be faithful, innovative leaders in the face of financial hardship and other challenges.

In the Diocese of Stockton, such dedication has made its migrant ministry for the pastoral care and evangelization of Hispanic migrant-immigrants a leading example of ministry directed toward the unique needs of the many migrant agricultural workers who come into the area to labor in local fields and orchards. Parish-based teams provide catechesis, faith formation, and sacramental preparation to both children and adults. The teams also help migrant workers access health care and legal services. With the help of critical funding from Catholic Home Missions, Stockton's migrant ministry is equipped to serve up to 3,500 migrant farm laborers, including families and single men of all ages.

Your diocese's support for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal enables home mission dioceses to lead the way in addressing the unique needs of the populations they serve.

We need your help to promote this appeal in your parishes. **Please remind parishes to announce the collection at Mass and to use the parish appeal, bulletin insert, and social media tool kit, available free for download by you and your parishes at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).**

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

Gratefully in Christ,



Margaret Hren  
Assistant Director, Promotions



## CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

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