



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

March 1, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

The **Annual Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRS)** theme, *Jesus in Disguise*, reminds us that Christ is present in those who suffer – and in those who respond compassionately to their needs. The recent tragedy in Haiti and how effectively our diocese responded to the disaster reflects Christ’s compassion for those in need. Thank you for your support and contributions. In sum, \$645,871.03 was sent from our diocese to CRS specifically for Haiti relief efforts.

Beyond disaster relief, CRS also provides refugee resettlement, HIV/AIDS and international poverty relief, legal aid for immigrants, and advocacy for the promotion of global peace and justice. This yearly collection for CRS supports these critical on-going programs that carry out God’s work– helping our marginalized, impoverished, and vulnerable brothers and sisters all over the world.

In our diocese, the Annual CRS Collection is scheduled for March 13-14. I encourage your participation and generosity to this special collection and the unique continuing works of charity it funds. It is a collection that provides help and hope to our neighbors throughout the global community, especially, “the least of these”.

Please know that your generosity gives hope to *Jesus in Disguise*. For additional information about the CRS Collection and the essential organizations it funds, please visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley
Bishop of Grand Rapids