



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

February 23, 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is important to remember our humanitarian obligations as Catholics. The Catholic Relief Services theme of *Jesus in disguise* reminds us that Christ is present in those who suffer – and in those who respond compassionately to their needs. **The Catholic Relief Services Collection** supports important Catholic organizations that carry out God's work around the world – providing refugee resettlement, HIV/AIDS and international poverty relief, legal aid for poor immigrants, emergency and disaster relief, and advocacy for the promotion of global peace and justice.

In our diocese, The Catholic Relief Services Collection is scheduled for March 21/22. I encourage your participation and generosity to this special collection and the special works of charity it funds. It is a collection that helps to give hope.

Please know that your generosity gives hope to *Jesus in disguise*. Please visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections for more information about the Collection and the essential organizations funded by it.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley
Bishop of Grand Rapids