

# STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME

Dear Editor/Communications Director,

The Catholic Home Missions Appeal supports dioceses throughout the United States and its territories where distance, difficult terrain, small or widely dispersed Catholic populations, and local economic or cultural challenges mean that those dioceses need outside financial help to minister to the faithful who live there. In southern Louisiana, the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux draws its strong Catholic heritage from its multicultural population, which includes Cajun, African American, and Native American peoples, as well as growing Hispanic and Vietnamese communities due to recent immigration. Although the diocese has a strong legacy of Catholicism, the region's economic and environmental challenges have led the diocese to call upon Catholic Home Missions to support its mission to bring Christ to the people it serves.

The diocese serves a fragile coastal area that is subject to soil erosion, flooding, and economic hardship due to storms that not only damage property but also affect the oil, gas, and marine industries that power the local economy. Diocesan communications are a crucial part of reaching people who have difficulty traveling to parishes and events. They are also a way for the diocese and Catholic Charities to coordinate responses to natural emergencies. When Hurricane Ida struck Louisiana in late summer of 2021, the communications office was an essential part of diocesan food distribution efforts and other relief.

Funds collected during the annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal support the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux's Office of Communications and many other essential ministries in more than 70 dioceses throughout the United States and its territories. When your diocese participates in this collection, you help make these ministries possible. The #iGiveCatholicTogether website also accepts funds for the collection: [usc.cb.igivecatholictogether.org/organizations/usc.cb-catholic-home-missions](https://usc.cb.igivecatholictogether.org/organizations/usc.cb-catholic-home-missions).

We need your help to promote this appeal. Please use your publications, website, social media channels, and other outlets to share this story and the importance of this appeal. Helpful materials, including a social media tool kit, web banners, and a sample letter from the bishop, are available at [www.usc.cb.org/home-missions](http://www.usc.cb.org/home-missions).

If you have any questions or need more materials, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or [mhren@usc.cb.org](mailto:mhren@usc.cb.org). Thank you for helping to strengthen the Church at home.

Gratefully in Christ,



Margaret Hren  
Assistant Director, Promotions

To find additional resources or learn more about how this this appeal makes a difference, please visit [www.usc.cb.org/home-missions](http://www.usc.cb.org/home-missions).



## CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

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