



BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION OFFICE EST.1884

Board of Directors
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Father Wayne C. Paysse,
Executive Director

Year 2012 Collection

Dear Monsignors, Fathers, Deacons, Sisters, Brothers, and Laity,

Thank you for your support of the annual Black and Indian Mission Collection. Each year, because of your leadership and encouragement, the Catholic Church continues evangelization efforts among African Americans and Native Americans.

The Black and Indian Mission Collection is the oldest national appeal. Established in 1884 at the Plenary Council in Baltimore, the collection was the first to ask parishes throughout the nation to assist with the ministry of evangelization. The Black and Indian Mission Collection supports dioceses to assist parishes in providing the tools and personnel for passing on our living faith. For over a century, with your help, the Black and Indian Mission Office has kept the light of faith shining and alive.

Our theme for the 2012 collection echoes the theme of Pope Benedict's announcement of 2012 being a special "Year of Faith". The theme is *Faith: Anchored in Jesus, Alive in Mission*.

Colorful posters have been prepared to increase awareness of the campaign in your parish. Please place these posters in your churches, parish halls and schools. You may download more free posters and materials and learn more about the Black and Indian Mission Office by going to www.blackandindianmission.org. Included is a fact sheet about the campaign, which you may want to share with your parish leaders and parishioners. Also, for your convenience, you will find bulletin and pulpit announcements.

A word of support for this annual collection from the pulpit and in the bulletin will greatly enhance the urgent need to promote mission animation.

A new request, my brothers, as we seek to enhance our data base here at the Mission Office and share evangelization communications. *Following the Black and Indian Mission collection, please send me those envelopes or a listing of the donor contact information.* I wish to thank you in advance for your missionary hearts and for the gift of ministry we share in common as the Lord's disciples. I invite you to encourage others to pray often for the success of the Black and Indian Mission Collection.

Together, we also stand in union with our Holy Father as he calls us to a deeper faith and relationship with the Lord Jesus. May we always remain close to Christ and keep His mission of love, reconciliation and peace alive in our Black and American Indian communities.

Your brother in Christ,

Reverend Wayne C. Paysse
Executive Director