

Please read or attach this letter to your bulletins the weekend of April 20-21.



# DIOCESE OF RAPID CITY

*Collection dates: April 27-28, 2024*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Here in the United States there is a great need for evangelization and sharing the message of Christ and the beauty of the Church. The Church at home needs to be strengthened and fortified. Soon, as a diocese, we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA), which supports the neediest dioceses in the United States. This appeal makes the most basic faith programs possible and shares the Gospel message with our brothers and sisters in dioceses where Church communities are scattered and struggling.

The Diocese of Rapid City is classified as a mission diocese: a diocese with small or widely dispersed Catholic populations, large or rugged areas of land that make it difficult to minister to the needs of the people, or economic challenges caused by poverty, unemployment or natural disasters.

The Catholic Home Missions Appeal provides much-needed assistance for ministry in our diocese and in other rural, mission dioceses in our country. In 2024 we will receive \$54,000 from this collection to help with faith formation, communications, our safe environment program and Native American ministry. These funds help us to support our rural parishes, to send the *West River Catholic* to each Catholic household in the Diocese and provide information through other means to parishioners, and to provide for the needs of pastoral teams in the most remote areas of our diocese.

The Collection helps provide retreats, youth/campus ministry, service projects, RCIA classes, Bible studies, Hispanic ministry, sacramental preparation, criminal justice ministry and Sunday Masses in mission dioceses across our nation.

Your support of this appeal makes a difference in the faith lives of our brothers and sisters right here in our own diocese and in other mission dioceses in the United States. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the appeal this year.

Thank you for strengthening the Church at home.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Daniel Juelfs, JCL  
Diocesan Administrator

For more information on the Catholic Home Missions and the dioceses and eparchies funded by the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, please visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

**SUPPORT the CATHOLIC  
HOME MISSIONS APPEAL**

