

Diocese of Palm Beach

9995 North Military Trail • P.O. Box 109650 Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410-9650 Office of THE BISHOP

(561) 775-9595 Fax (561) 775-7035

September 6, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Next weekend, September 14/15, our Diocese will collect funds to aid the local Catholic Charities Respect Life Ministry and three parishes that minister to many migrant families.

Half of the second collection will support pro-life projects that raise awareness in such areas as abortion, physician-assisted suicide/euthanasia, the death penalty, end-of-life care and bioethics. The Respect Life Ministry honors the dignity and sanctity of human life by leading and advocating for prayer, teaching, legislative action and parish outreach through implementation of the Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. At this time, more than ever, we need to support our pro-life efforts in all that we do from voting for life, to donating to these programs and educating others on the value of life from conception to natural death.

The other part of the collection will support the faith communities of St. Philip Benizi in Belle Glade, St. Mary in Pahokee and Holy Cross in Indiantown, whose large migrant populations present unique ministry challenges. These parishes serve communities that need our generosity. Your support will assist the parishes greatly in serving their diverse pastoral and social needs, and your prayerful and compassionate response will help change the lives of those who cry out to God as they seek a safe home for their hard-working families.

With gratitude for your continued generosity and with every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito Bishop of Palm Beach