



Good and gracious God,
source of wisdom and generosity,
who, through your ever-present Holy Spirit,
has bestowed upon our diocese in every generation
the means to accomplish the mission of the church,
we humbly ask for the grace to lovingly respond
to your Spirit, leading us in the service of the Gospel
through this *Encountering Christ* campaign.

May we experience a deep and profound
encounter with Christ
so that, transformed through faith, hope and love,
we are moved to respond to the needs of the marginalized,
raise up vibrant parishes, form fruitful ministries
and call forth pastoral leaders.

Asking the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
may the work of this campaign be pleasing to you,
as we await, in joyful hope,
for the fullness of your glory.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

For the men studying for the priesthood as they advance to the day of their ordination, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For retired priests, in gratitude for a life of service to the Church, we pray to the Lord ... Lord hear our prayer.

For students attending college, may their faith be strengthened in our College Campus Ministry programs, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For Catholic school students, faculty and staff, may they grow in faith and wisdom, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For catechists and all children and adults in faith formation and religious education programs, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For our parishes, especially our rural parishes and new and expanding parishes, may they be Holy places of worship and community, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For young adults, may they find community in our parishes, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For Church leaders, may they be formed to lead the Church into the future, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For Catholic Charities, may they be able to respond to the needs of the poor and marginalized, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.

For Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center, may it be a place of rest and a place of encounter with Jesus Christ, we pray to the Lord ... Lord, hear our prayer.