December 26, 2019

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, I appeal to you to give generously next weekend to the National Collection for The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Established in 1887, the University has served the Church, students and the community for generations and is the only American University with ecclesiastical faculties granting canonical degrees in canon law, philosophy and theology.

Catholic University is helping to renew and strengthen the Church. The University has always been the research institution where the Church comes to think. Through hosting a national conference series focused on laity response to the sex abuse crisis, and in creating an Institute for Diocesan Excellence in Administration (IDEA), where lay scholars and professionals can support clergy by providing expertise and accountability in the areas of education, finance, canon law and culture, Catholic University serves as a springboard in renewing and strengthening Catholicism in our country.

Catholic University serves the Church by engaging its students to discover knowledge and truth through excellence in teaching and research. With its 12 schools and 23 research centers, the University provides an exceptional Catholic education to almost 7,000 students annually. The University prepares students to respond to the many issues facing the Church and society today by way of its many programs, such as those in ethical business practices; classical architecture; intelligence studies; neuroscience; nursing; Spanish language and Hispanic ministry; social service; and Catholic bioethics.

I encourage you to be generous in the special collection for The Catholic University of America, to be taken at the Lord’s Day Masses in all the parishes throughout the Diocese of Worcester on the weekend of January 5, 2020.

With every prayerful best wish for a Blessed New Year, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

Please read or print this letter in the parish bulletin on the weekend of December 29 and take the collection for the Catholic University of America on the weekend of January 5, 2020.