

ROMANIAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE
Eparchy of St. George in Canton



STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME

June 26, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every year, I have had the occasion to write you, asking you for your support of the Catholic Home Missions collection. I've pointed out that our own Eparchy is a beneficiary of this collection—indeed, we rely upon it. But we aren't the only Byzantine Catholic diocese that relies upon this collection to carry out its work. Here is an example from one of our Byzantine neighbors in Parma, Ohio:

From the post-industrial cities of Ohio and Michigan in the east to the prairies of Nebraska and Kansas in the west, the Byzantine (Ruthenian) Catholic Eparchy of Parma encompasses a vast and diverse territory of 12 Midwestern states. Founded in 1969 to serve the needs of Slavic immigrant families, the eparchy currently ministers to more than 5,200 Catholics in 28 parishes and 6 missions. One of the most effective ways the eparchy fosters unity among this widely dispersed flock is through its *Horizons* newspaper, published every three weeks, which reaches readers not only in the eparchy's 12 states but beyond, in Canada and even Europe.

It is wonderful to see what the Catholic Home Missions collection is able to do to support other Eastern Catholic Churches like our own. Your support of this appeal makes a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters right here in the United States: not only Eastern Catholics, but mission dioceses throughout the country. *It is no exaggeration when I tell you that without this collection, our Eparchy of St. George in Canton for Romanians would not be able to function.* Please prayerfully consider how you can support the appeal this year. To learn more about the appeal and those who benefit from it, visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

Thank you for strengthening the Church at home.

Sincerely in Christ-God,

(Most Reverend) John Michael Botean, DD
Bishop of the Eparchy of St. George

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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 (search "home missions").