



July 2011

Dear Friends in Christ:

Missionary zeal has always been a sign of the vitality of the Catholic Church. The energizing spirit of missionaries, by sharing Christ's love and service, brings faith-filled hope to people living in the developing countries. The annual collection for the **Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg** offers the opportunity to further our own passion in supporting the ministry of our missionaries.

During the weekend Masses of July 30 and 31st, the parishioners of Adirondack, Clinton, Franklin, Essex, Hamilton/Herkimer Deaneries will be given an opportunity to support our missionaries. Our parishes will offer prayers for the recipients and take up collections to fund missionary activities such as catechetical and lay leadership programs as well as youth ministry.

The **Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg** appeal will be used to:

1. Provide continued financial support of our former mission in Mollendo, Peru;
2. Support the United States Bishops' annual appeal for Latin America; and
3. Assist other missionary projects throughout the world that our diocese deems appropriate as part of our evangelization efforts.

I am grateful for your gift to promote missionary endeavors in our young parishes among the poor of the world. May God bless you and your families for your generous response to this year's appeal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry R. LaValley". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a small cross symbol at the beginning.

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg