



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

February 2021

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 1884, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops established the Black and Indian Mission Collection to provide for the needs of our African American, Native American, and Alaska Native brothers and sisters. Over the years, Catholic Dioceses throughout the country have participated annually through prayer and financial assistance to support programs for these native men, women, and children.

The financial assistance is provided to missions, parishes, schools, religious education programs and other diocesan programs to strengthen the work of evangelizing of these native communities. Funds are used to train catechists who form children to be disciples of Jesus in the world. Ministries are organized to support events and formation that encourages living the Christian life in culturally appropriate ways. Your sacrifice also impacts pastoral work by addressing the need to prepare permanent Priests, Religious, Deacons and Seminarians in their communities for future generations.

The Black and Indian Mission Collection in the Diocese of Venice is scheduled to take place on February 20 and 21, 2021. Please be generous! It is through your generosity that we will make a difference to the lives of our brothers and sisters. Thank you!

I also take this opportunity to extend to you my prayers for your health and safety and that of your families. May you have a Blessed Lenten Season!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida