



ROMANIAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE
Eparchy of St. George in Canton
**STRENGTHENING
THE CHURCH AT HOME**



Office of the Bishop

March 1, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Home mission dioceses are found in every region across the United States and its territories. Often their small Catholic populations are distributed across a large geographical area and have few priests to serve them. The Diocese of Owensboro, in western Kentucky, fits that mold. With Catholics making up about 6% of the population in a mostly rural territory of 12,500 square miles, pastors often serve multiple parishes that are more than 25 miles apart. Like many regions, it has a large and growing Hispanic Catholic population with a need for liturgical, sacramental, and pastoral support in Spanish.

With your support, Catholic Home Missions assists the Diocese of Owensboro's Hispanic Ministry program to meet the needs of its growing Hispanic community. Its 31 bilingual priests celebrate more than 900 Masses in Spanish each year, along with Baptisms, weddings, and Confirmations in Spanish. Your support of the Catholic Home Missions Appeal provides home mission dioceses with the resources to welcome and minister to their growing multicultural populations.

Your support of this appeal makes a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters right here in the United States, especially our eparchy. 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—*our Romanian Greek-Catholic Church!*

Sincerely in Christ-God,

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

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