



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson  
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8 April 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of April 25–26, 2026, parishes in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will take up the annual collection for the ***Catholic Home Missions Appeal***. Catholic Home Missions provides valuable support to dioceses and eparchies throughout the United States, as well as its territories and former territories. These home missions are unable to support essential parish operations and diocesan ministries, often due to local economic hardship, small or widely dispersed Catholic populations, or remote locations that make travel and communication difficult.

One strong example of a home mission diocese is found in the overseas US territory of American Samoa. Located in the South Pacific, American Samoa is an archipelago of seven islands situated closer to New Zealand than to the United States. In addition to its remote location, American Samoa's population of 68,200 is concentrated on its main island, Tutuila, in and around the capitol city of Pago Pago. High unemployment, combined with low incomes and reliance on imported goods, means that food scarcity is an unfortunate reality for many. Funds received through the ***Catholic Home Missions Appeal*** provide the resources that the dedicated clergy, religious sisters, catechists, and lay leaders need to carry out their mission.

Your generosity to this collection supports Catholic leadership who need the financial help to sustain core pastoral services and missions of mercy to those they serve. I encourage you to be as generous as you can to our home missions.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson  
Archbishop of Indianapolis