



Diocese of Worcester
Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

May 30, 2010

Dear friends in Christ,

Why did the Holy Father encourage the universal church to be more involved in all forms of social media? The answer seems clear in the Scriptures we heard proclaimed recently on the Solemnity of Pentecost. The great commission to proclaim the Good News of salvation is as alive today as it was in apostolic times and we must use every means at our disposal to communicate to the world.

The Catholic Church's commitment to social communication brings a message of hope into the world as our patron, St. Paul, did two millennia ago in the marketplaces of Asia Minor. We continue this public witness as so many Catholics, as well as others of good faith, resort to various forms of social media each day in their own spiritual journeys. We must reach out in new and inviting ways through various media to offer an option filled with hope as we witness to Jesus' invitation to share the Father's love in a cacophony of messages aimed at self-gratification or despair.

Your support of the annual *Catholic Communications Campaign* makes you a part of this ongoing effort, for, without your support, we cannot be a presence in secular newspapers, on the radio, on cable television, and on the internet. This collection supplements our basic communications resources so that we can seek new and more effective ways for the Church's message of love and hope to be heard. I invite you to learn more by visiting our website at www.worcesterdiocese.org.

I encourage you to be generous to the 2010 Catholic Communications Campaign, a special collection to be taken at the Lord's Day Masses in all the parishes throughout our diocese next weekend, June 5 and 6. Through personal generosity in this important appeal, we will all share in the work of evangelization in Worcester County.

Grateful for your goodness and asking the Lord to bless you, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

(Please read or print this letter in the parish bulletin on the weekend of May 29 & 30 and take the collection at all Masses on the weekend of June 5 & 6.)