



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary



October 15, 2019

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As Pope Francis recently reminded us, “poverty is not inevitable. We can enact models of development that support the fight against poverty and social exclusion, on the basis of trust, education, hard work and commitment, for these are always indispensable for the dignity of the human person.”

This is the essence of Mission Mexico and I am pleased to declare December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mission Mexico Day in the Diocese of Calgary.

You are God’s hands and feet to bring life and hope to communities in Southern Mexico that are widely regarded as the poorest of the poor. You can make a donation to your parish collections on December 7-8 or at participating schools on Thursday, December 12.

The Lord stretches out his hand, freely and not out of duty and Jesus asks that we give to those who have nothing to give back, and to love gratuitously. And so it must be with us. We must not work solely for our own personal agenda and goals, but for others as well.

For twenty years our diocese has given its support and has shared in the struggles faced by our indigenous brothers and sisters in Southern Mexico. The indigenous “People of the Mountain”, from over 700 towns and villages, share with you their prayers, gratitude and perseverance as your generosity fills their hearts.

Mission Mexico continues to move forward on dignity-affirming projects to help improve education, health care, human rights, women’s rights, and to help support the youth in building a better future.

As the People of God, let us help build a better future for the youth and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us continue the good work and remain faithful as Catholics in our partnership with Mission Mexico.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

† Most Reverend William T. McGrattan