



Office of the Bishop

May 7, 2009

Dear Members of the Bishop's Guild,

The heart and soul of almsgiving, of prayer, penance and fasting, is our communion in Christ. We give alms, we pray, we fast and do penance for the sake of the Church, for the sake of others and, too, for our own sake.

These things we "do" are first an attitude of the heart that must find expression. This expression of our holiness through almsgiving, prayer, penance and fasting is conformity to the Eternal Law – to God who lives in himself in perfect charity – is our conformity to the Law of Love.

Every spring, we gather together as the Bishop's Guild for two important reasons: The first and primary reason is to offer *Evening Prayer* to God. Having given alms for the sake of his Church, we come together and pray – with the same power of Christ Jesus who prays with us – for your special intentions, for the intentions of your bishop, and for the needs of the Church in East Texas, the Diocese of Tyler.

Secondly, our annual spring gathering is, for me as bishop, an opportunity to be with you and visit with you and express personally my appreciation for the alms you give so faithfully to the Church through *The Bishop's Appeal*. This is also an opportunity to acknowledge, in a special way, those who have offered extraordinary gifts of alms – the recipients of the *Lladró Angels*.

I hope for the honor of your presence at the gathering of the Bishop's Guild. Until then, may Jesus continue to fill your heart with the love of His Bride, the Church.

Your servant in Christ,

Most Reverend Alvaro Corrada, S.J.  
Bishop of Tyler

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