



April 18, 2008

Dear Members of the Youth and Young Adult Pilgrimage:

How do we thank you for your most generous Lenten sacrifice that will mean so much to the families at Sarah's House? The offerings you made are a wonderful testament to you who heard this year's theme to "answer the call" to be holy in your own way and to pray for your vocation in life.

Those of us at Catholic Charities also seek to answer the call by caring for people who need our help to live full lives. At Sarah's House, we provide housing, employment support, childcare, transportation, counseling, classes and workshops aimed at helping families to get back on their feet. You may be surprised to know that of the 563 people who were welcomed at Sarah's House last year, 330 were children! It takes a lot of dedicated people to turn a transitional housing facility into a true home with a sense of community. Our wonderful staff does just that.

The offerings that you put into the baskets during the concert at Holy Rosary will go a long way at Sarah's House. The money and the gift cards will allow our families to shop at the local stores and make purchases. This is a real treat for them. Your Lenten sacrifice totaled \$6,423.00! This is most amazing and I understand this is the largest amount ever contributed during a Pilgrimage.

I know that Archbishop O'Brien was proud to have you demonstrating their faith through the streets of Baltimore on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. I am most gratified that you also considered the needs of our sisters and brothers who Jesus called the "least of our brethren." Catholic Charities' Sarah's House is most thankful that you answered the call to make life a little easier for our families.

Sincerely,

Harold A. Smith
Executive Director

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