

Archbishop Borders' generosity left an impression

Due to four scheduled back-to-back confirmations last weekend, I was unable to attend Archbishop Borders' funeral. But I was more than present in spirit.

I would simply like to express my deep gratitude for the privilege of having served as a priest of the Archdiocese of Baltimore during his tenure. He was one of the kindest, gentlest and friendliest persons I have ever known. The joy that his infectious smile radiated, invited one and all to be at peace.

I would like to recount just one instance of his unassuming generosity. In August 1981, while on vacation from my mission assignment in Peru, I paid Archbishop Borders a short visit in his office. As I was about to leave, he said to me, "Victor, just a moment, please." Returning to his desk, he opened a drawer and searched for an envelope.

Without staring, I noticed that he emptied the envelope, did some writing and then deposited everything into a fresh envelope. Handing it to me, he said, "Here, take this with you." On opening the envelope, I discovered a check made out in the amount of \$486.32. An attached note read, "For the needy poor in your mission." That check was his salary for the month of August!

Archbishop Borders, may your beautiful soul rest in peace!

Bishop Galeone is the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine.