



ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD
134 FARMINGTON AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
06105-3784

OFFICE OF
THE ARCHBISHOP

October 20, 2009

Dear Friends,

For 41 years the Office of Urban Affairs (OUA) has worked for greater economic and social justice in support of the dignity and basic rights of every person. OUA's initial mission was to serve urban parishes with support from suburban parishes, through programs such as Cooperative Parish Sharing and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. These vital works continue today.

Over the years, new programs have been developed to address the many stubborn inequities that confront Connecticut and the world, expanding the capacity of parishes to respond through the development of effective parish social ministry.

As the work of OUA has evolved, its name has become less representative of the breadth of its actual work. Therefore, I am pleased to announce a new name for the office—the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry.

In his new encyclical on authentic human development, *Caritas in Veritate*, Pope Benedict XVI said, "As we contemplate the vast amount of work to be done, we are sustained by our faith that God is present alongside those who come together in his name to work for justice." (no.78)

I ask God's blessing on all who work for and with the Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell
Archbishop of Hartford