May 1, 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As the 100th anniversary of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. approaches, we are invited to participate in a nationwide effort to complete the Trinity Dome. The Trinity Dome is the largest dome of the Basilica and will feature mosaic depictions of the Trinity, the Immaculate Conception, the four Evangelists and saints associated with America and the Basilica. In addition, around the perimeter of the dome the Nicene Creed will be written in mosaic in English as a testament to the faith of all those who have visited and will visit the Basilica.

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is dedicated to the Patroness of the United States of America and is not only the preeminent Marian Shrine in the country, but also the largest Roman Catholic Church in North America and one of the ten largest churches in the world. The Basilica represents the Catholic Church on a national and international stage and is America’s “parish church.”

During the month of May parishes across the nation will participate in a special collection, approved by the U.S. Bishops, to honor their Catholic heritage by completing the Trinity Dome at the Basilica. Your support for this worthy cause is greatly appreciated.

If you have not visited the Basilica, I urge you to do so. The Basilica has been designated by the United States Bishops as a National Sanctuary of Prayer and Pilgrimage. One can learn more about the Basilica and the Trinity Dome at: www.nationalshrine.com

With gratitude for your continued generosity and every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach

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