



ARCHDIOCESE OF DENVER

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 24, 2013

Dear brother bishops and pastors,

The International Missionary Foundation (IMF) is an apostolate that seeks to bring health, hope and dignity to the poor in developing countries through its Parish2Parish mission model.

IMF is unique among Catholic apostolates because it invites those with medical expertise in American parishes to go on medical missions to help their brothers and sisters in a parish they are paired with in a developing country.

On the spiritual level, I am struck by how missionary efforts of the Foundation are rooted in a devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, where it sees and is inspired by Christ's example of "unmitigated love, compassion and long suffering ... for humanity."

Joseph Williams, the founder of IMF, is well equipped for this ministry by his formation as a FOCUS missionary, his connections in his homeland of Nigeria and his own experience with foreign missions. IMF also has a board of advisors who are respected within the Archdiocese of Denver and are experts in the fields of evangelization, medicine and finances.

Consequently, I, Archbishop Samuel J. Aquila hereby grant the International Missionary Foundation permission to operate within the territory of the Archdiocese. Before operating within a given parish, the approval of the pastor is required.

The International Missionary Foundation's first and most important level of contact with parishes and their pastors will be to ask for volunteers for its medical missions.

IMF will also conduct fundraising in order to create "Christ-centered medical missions" and support human development projects. I also authorize it to solicit donations from the Faithful (c. 1262), according to the norms of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

I wholeheartedly recommend this apostolate to my brother bishops and offer my prayers as they discern how it may promote the good of the Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Samuel J. Aquila, S.T.L.
Archbishop of Denver