

Madison, December 3, 1850.

Rev. Dear Sir,

As the Festival of Christmas is approaching, I desire to remind the Reverend Clergy, and, through their zealous co-operation, the faithful of the Diocese, of the collection for the Orphans, which, according to the tenor of my pastoral letter of last year is to be made in every congregation and station of the Diocese, upon that day, or as soon thereafter as convenience will allow it to be done.

The number of Orphans received into the asylums has increased rapidly during the course of the present year, and gives hopes of much good, which shall be, with the blessing of God effected by those institutions. But you know, Reverend Sir, that this good work cannot be perpetuated, unless the generosity of the faithful give those homes of charity a permanent support. I request you then, urgently, to recommend the exercise of this virtue to all those entrusted to your charge, both in your established congregations, and on any public works which may be found within the limits of your district. This is but just; for many of those maintained by the diocese, are the children of persons who have been engaged on such works, and lost their lives there.

It is also my wish, that the Pastor himself should in every instance, make the collection in person, and thereby win for himself the consolation of procuring, with his own hands from the charity of his people, the bread with which the destitute and the fatherless shall be fed. Exhort the faithful, from time to time, to cast into the Orphan-box erected in the church, a mite, the value of which is known only to Him, who sees in secret. This pious practice may furnish a considerable revenue, and enable me to come to the relief of many a catholic child, which would otherwise be abandoned to poverty and ignorance.

The liberality formerly manifested by many congregations of my Diocese, makes me confident that with proper efforts on the part of the clergy, my hopes will not be disappointed on the part of the people.

I depend on your aid to strengthen me in the fulfilment of a sacred duty. By giving it, you will lighten, in some measure, my responsibilities, and secure to yourself a new title to the esteem and affection of your Friend and Father in Christ.

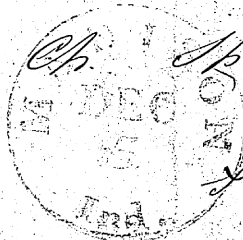
J. Maurice Fe St. Piliis
Bp. of Vinc.

Nota Bene..... All the collections made in any Church on Christmas day, must be appropriated to the Orphan-fund alone, and also those taken up on the first appointed day, after that Festival, on which divine service shall be held in each station and mission.

N^o 6.

Circulaire de M^{rs}
de St Palais à
M^{rs} Shilling
pour les Capitaines

Per. Ch. Shilling



St. J. Dubae

St. Joseph Co.

Indiana