

**JOINT PASTORAL LETTER OF THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

April 10, 1985

TO ALL SOULS UNDER OUR CARE:

1. In the beginning of Christ's Church, the Holy Ghost assigned through the mouth of St. Peter the areas to which each of the Apostles were assigned. There was no choosing on the part of the people, the Country or any individual Bishop in this matter. Thus would essential unity in Christ's Church be maintained.

2. However, until such time as a valid Successor to St. Peter reappears, we, the Successors of the Apostles, in accordance with the commission of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Apostles, must exercise an emergency authority based on the prayerfully considered judgment of the majority of the Bishops, and proceed with the allocation of the territory of the United States of America, in which area the undersigned Bishops will accept and exercise episcopal jurisdiction.

By this letter we fulfill the promise in our First Pastoral letter some months ago. At that time we said "in due time" it will be announced in WHAT AREAS of our Country the various Bishops will exercise their jurisdiction as TEACHERS, as RULERS, and as SANCTIFIERS over the souls in their particular area.

3. Size-wise, we are about as limited and handicapped as the Twelve Apostles under St. Peter who faced the entire world with the command of Jesus: "Going therefore, teach ye all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world." (Matt. 28: 19-20) We are tempted to exclaim, what an impossible task! What a desparing undertaking! Yes, quite so, but not with the grace of God and cooperation.

4. With that realization in mind we accept this difficult assignment, fully confident that our Divine Lord will sustain us at all times as long as we are willing to carry our end of the bargain as God wills it. Yes, "in due time" and God willing, this tremendous work-load will be gradually eased as the increase of Priestly and Episcopal personnel and Blessings of God will provide.

5. For this reason we three, validly functioning Bishops, who have undersigned this letter, have determined the following assignment of areas for each of them.

The assigned States or Areas for each Bishop are as follows:

Over Please...

The Most Reverend George J. Musey, D.D.:

Arizona	Minnesota	Oregon
Arkansas	Missouri	South Dakota
California	Montana	Texas
Colorado	Nebraska	Utah
Idaho	Nevada	Washington
Iowa	New Mexico	Wyoming
Kansas	North Dakota	Florida
Louisiana	Oklahoma	Hawaii
		Alaska

The Most Reverend Ralph H. Siebert, D.D.:

Alabama	Maryland	Tennessee
Delaware	Mississippi	Virginia
Georgia	North Carolina	West Virginia
Kentucky	South Carolina	Ohio

The Most Reverend C.A. Altenbach, D.D.:

Connecticut	Michigan	Rhode Island
Illinois	New Hampshire	Vermont
Indiana	New Jersey	Wisconsin
Maine	New York	District Of Columbia
Massachusetts	Pennsylvania	

The above assignments are effective immediately.

Your loyal cooperation will merit an ever richer flow of God's Blessings upon His Remnant Church.

With our Blessings,

New Address

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 1-713-333-4181

✓
+ George J. Musey

 Most Rev. George J. Musey D.D.

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 Most Rev. Ralph H. Siebert, D.D.

✦
~~Bishop Conrad A. Altenbach, D.D.
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~~*+ Conrad A. Altenbach*~~

 Most Rev. Conrad A. Altenbach, D.D.

PLEASE SAVE this for future reference