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PASTORAL LETTER

OF
HIS LORDSHIP THE BISHOP OF LONDON,
TO THE
CLERGY AND LAITY OF THE DIOCESE.

JOHN, by the Grace of God and the appointment of the Holy See, Bishop of London, to the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN:

The time is come for taking up, in the various missions of the diocese, the annual collection for the purpose of ecclesiastical education. I need hardly urge the Rev. Clergy to impress upon their people the duty of contributing generously towards this praiseworthy and holy object. The faithful cannot contribute their means towards a more necessary, and at the same time a more meritorious work.

Without a sufficient number of priests religion would decay and perish, and immortal souls would starve for want of the bread of life. Now, we cannot have a sufficient number of priests in this country without the means of educating them, and these means must come from the generous offerings of our ever faithful people. It takes about eight years to educate a young man in College and Seminary, before he is qualified by science and ecclesiastical training, for the efficient discharge of the high and holy duties of the Sacred Ministry. This one fact serves to show that a very large expenditure of money must necessarily be incurred in the education of young men for the holy ministry in this diocese.

All who have at heart the good of our holy religion; all who desire the solid establishment of the holy Church of God in this free and happy country; all who value the salvation of immortal

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CR 1936-496