

precincts, as long as the cross shall gleam from their steeples, an emblem of the everlasting covenant of divine mercy and pardon between the Redeemer and the redeemed, so long shall they be enduring monuments of the faith, and hope and charity of the apostolic people who planted the mustard seed of the Catholic faith in this country, and watered it with their sweat and tears until it has grown up into a mighty tree overshadowing the whole land.

Now, dearly beloved brethren, we earnestly invite you to share in this great and meritorious work, by helping to build our projected Cathedral. Its construction is an urgent necessity, and could not, with due regard to the honour of our religion and of the diocese, be postponed any longer, else it would not be undertaken now. The people of London will make the greatest sacrifices in order to push forward the good work, but they are neither wealthy nor numerous, and of themselves would be quite incapable to carry it out to completion. We know your work and the sacrifices you have made to build up churches and schools in the various missions of the diocese; but we are convinced that you can greatly help us without in the least interfering with local calls or wants. A small sum given each year by every family in the diocese, would certainly not be oppressive, whilst, in the aggregate, it would amount to a considerable sum, and would be of the greatest possible assistance to us. Besides, the Cathedral has claims on every Catholic within our jurisdiction. It is the mother church of the diocese, the centre whence radiates ecclesiastical jurisdiction throughout its whole extent. It is the seat of the Bishop, who is appointed by the Holy Ghost to rule the church of God within prescribed limits; the church in which the holy oils are consecrated and in which priests are ordained, and whence they are commissioned to preach the word of God, and to exercise their sublime functions as ambassadors of Christ and dispensers of His mysteries.

Hence, in every country where there exists no legal connection between church and state, the diocesan Cathedral is