

“...out of God’s gifts then, we make gifts to God, and from us He receives what He first gave us. Our state of beggarhood would, unless He first gave us something, remain absolute emptiness.”

*St. Augustine*

Archbishop Peter L. Gerety, then Ordinary of the Newark Archdiocese and now retired, indicated his approval of the program and tithing itself by inviting the witnesses and their spouses to his residence for dinner. He said, *“People respond to a good, clear, specific goal. Tithing taps an instinctive Christian impulse to charity already in the faithful. For the witnesses, it is a true work of love.”*

Bishop Frank J. Rodimer who heads the Paterson Diocese said in an interview *“Yes, I would recommend it [tithing] to all Bishops. It frees the Bishop to be a pastor to his people - not just an administrator.”*

In September 1992, Bishop John R. McGann, Ordinary of the Diocese of Rockville Center, NY, celebrated Mass for the group at its fourth annual Day of Recollection at Convent Station, NJ. Bishop McGann said, *“You’re very conscious of the fact that we need money to carry out the mission...not money for money’s sake, but money to enable us to carry on the mission of Christ... And you never ask ‘What’s in it for me?’”*