Statement by Bishop Michael P. Driscoll on Pope Benedict XVI's latest encyclical, Caritas in Veritate:

I am very grateful that Pope Benedict XVI has released his social encyclical Caritas in Veritate ("Charity in Truth").

These are difficult times for the poor in Idaho or anywhere around the world. The devastating financial crisis that has caused such hardship didn't just happen overnight. The complex economic systems, from the inflated housing market to fraud in the financial markets, took years to develop and it will take time to recover from this mess. I urge Catholics and all people of good will to read Pope Benedict's encyclical and to discuss it in your communities. The Holy Father, who has seen the terrible toll these times have taken, has given us a new vision on which to build a just economy, where all can thrive, not merely the rich and powerful. We cannot achieve true prosperity unless it is built upon a foundation of justice and care for all, including the poor.

I eagerly look forward to reading "Charity in Truth" and to meet the challenge of using it to build a better future for Idaho families.