



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 2  
1<sup>ST</sup> MARINE DIVISION FORWARD  
1<sup>ST</sup> MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FORWARD  
UNIT 73910  
FPO AE 09510-3910

May 2, 2010

St Thomas More Society  
of Central Pennsylvania  
P.O. Box 1945  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Fellow Members:

Greetings from Camp Delaram, Afghanistan! Thanks to your generosity, a Camp Delaram that now has a beautiful Crucifix adorning our chapel altar during mass. We come to miss the little things about home while we are deployed. Although the objects in a chapel do not define the experience, your Crucifix was the "little thing" that was needed to turn our chapel into a holy venue where we can practice our Catholic faith.

I'm sure you've heard the phrase, "there are no atheists in foxholes." At Camp Delaram, we are certainly not living in, as we say in the Marine Corps, "fighting holes," but Marines and Sailors often discover or re-discover their faith while deployed. Whether this discovery comes from loneliness, the loss of a friend in combat, problems at home or a new calling to Christ, it is truly encouraging and faith affirming to see the pews filling at mass each week. I know our Protestant friends are experiencing a similar call to Christ. As you can see in the accompanying before and after photos, the chapel, and its congregation, has taken on a new character in the passing weeks. God is certainly working in many ways at Camp Delaram and I'm certain your Crucifix is part of His work.

Please know how much we appreciate your generosity and that the Marines and Sailors of Regimental Combat Team 2 will always think fondly of Central Pennsylvania and the St Thomas More Society. Please continue to keep us in your prayers and I promise that we will keep doing our job out here and come home safely.

God bless you all and Semper Fidelis!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Cherry".

John R. Cherry  
Major, USMC  
RCT 2 Judge Advocate