



# RESTORE THE CHURCH BUILD THE FUTURE



Dear Communications Director/Editor,

Soon, your diocese will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. I would like to share with you one example of how your support makes a difference.

Building the future in Ukraine includes not only fostering vocations, training seminarians, and forming lay leaders but also helping to restore the family unit. Ukrainian society faces many challenges, especially in large cities such as the capital, Kyiv. Corruption, poverty, and outward migration—as well as low wages, alcoholism, infidelity, and violence—are all serious issues pressing on society and, as a result, on marriages and families. Religious education, forbidden during the soviet period, has left an entire generation without the anchor of a solid formation in faith life. People are therefore unprepared to pass on the faith to the next generation.

The Latin Rite Diocese of Kyiv-Zhitomir has responded for years with a proactive approach that focuses on family pastoral programs to help address the family as a unit. In addition to assistance in routine matters, the diocese also organizes annual family retreats that include ample opportunities for Mass and other devotions, leisure activities in a natural setting, and participation by professionals who can provide counseling, guidance, and healing to families in need.

With funding from the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, the diocese can provide this opportunity to 50 families who would otherwise be unable to participate. Your contribution helps strengthen these families so they can build a positive future for themselves and for the Church in Ukraine.

We rely on your help to promote this collection. Use your publications, website, social media channels, or any other outlets available to you to help get the word out about the collection. Tell the story of the work being done to strengthen Ukrainian families, or use the additional resources available online, including the social media tool kit. These resources can be found at [www.usccb.org/cceecollection](http://www.usccb.org/cceecollection). If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or at [ngermain@usccb.org](mailto:ngermain@usccb.org).

Gratefully in Christ,



Nicole Germain  
Assistant Director, Promotions, Office of National Collections



## Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

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