Dear Father,

Each year, countless Catholics living in countries once dominated by the Soviet regime are assisted in rebuilding their faith communities through the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

In Bucharest, Romania, the Collection is funding a repair of the New Home Centre, run by the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart. The Centre provides a home for abandoned children, offering them nursery care and preschool education. However, the sisters’ building was poorly insulated and overcrowded. The repair and expansion project will provide living quarters for children and a separate kindergarten, ensuring that the children live in a safe and welcoming environment.

Approximately 40,000 Ukrainians die each year from alcoholism, a remnant of the hopelessness fostered by generations of communist oppression. In response to this tragic predicament, Fr. Andriy Lohin founded four centers to care for those struggling with alcohol addiction and their families. This dynamic priest designed the centers to provide for the physical and spiritual welfare of those suffering the consequences of alcoholism. The centers focus on direct counseling and spiritual therapy, as well as educational outreach to rural villages. Thus far, the program has reached 15,000 people; therapists have conducted more than 350 consultations and visited over 150 villages.

The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe helps to fund Fr. Lohin’s travel—amounting to 19,000 miles per year over poorly maintained roads—so that he can visit and supervise the centers. Our continued support of Fr. Lohin’s visits will allow the centers to remain open and continue their mission of outreach and support for the Ukrainian people.

In order to fund projects like these, the Collection needs your help. The most important thing you can do to help us promote the Collection is to tell your parishioners about it from the pulpit. You will soon receive additional materials your diocese or eparchy ordered for you. If you have any questions, please contact Bevin Kennedy, promotions director in the Office of National Collections, at 202-541-3346 or ncpromo@usccb.org. Thank you for support and for helping to restore the Church and build the future in the region.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Most Rev. Blase J. Cupich
Chairman, Subcommittee on Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe
Parish Appeal

ENGLISH

For many in the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as parts of Asia, the aftermath of 70 years of Soviet rule is still experienced through poverty, infrequent pastoral care, and lack of buildings for the faithful to worship in and in which to cultivate their faith. Your support strengthens the Church of this region through grants that provide pastoral care, affordable shelter, and a cultural and spiritual education to those in need. Please be generous in your parish Collection. Your donation will restore the Church and build the future of Central and Eastern Europe.

SPANISH

Para muchas personas en la Iglesia en Europa Central y Oriental, así como en algunas zonas de Asia, las consecuencias de los 70 años de dominio soviético todavía se sienten en forma de pobreza, en un cuidado pastoral infrecuente y en la falta de edificaciones para que los fieles puedan rendir culto y en donde puedan cultivar su fe. Su apoyo fortalece a la Iglesia en esta región a través de donaciones que les proporcionan cuidado pastoral, viviendas asequibles y educación cultural y espiritual a los más necesitados. Por favor, sean generosos en la Colecta de su parroquia. Sus donativos restaurarán la Iglesia y construirán el futuro de Europa Central y Oriental.

Simple Steps

Here are five simple steps for promoting the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe:

USE the bulletin announcements, parish appeal, collection envelopes, and posters that have been provided to educate your parishioners about the Collection and the people it supports.

INSERT the flier for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe into your bulletins.

PREACH about the troubles facing the people in the region and the work being done by the Church in Central and Eastern Europe to combat them.

ANNOUNCE the Collection from the pulpit. This is the easiest and most effective way to help make the Collection successful.

PRAY as a community for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, that God will strengthen those who serve and relieve those who suffer.
**Bulletin Announcements**

**ENGLISH**

**Week Before the Collection**

Next week we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This Collection supports Catholic organizations that provide affordable shelter and training for seminarians in a region that still struggles with the effects of Soviet rule. By providing pastoral care, catechesis, and funding for building renovations, your donations help to **restore the Church and build the future** in the region. Please give generously to the Collection next week. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (search “Church in Central and Eastern Europe”) to learn more.

**Week of the Collection**

The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe illuminates the way for the people of the region by helping Catholic organizations offer affordable shelter, training for seminarians, pastoral care, and catechesis. Your donation today helps to **restore the Church and build the future** in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Please be generous to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (search “Church in Central and Eastern Europe”) to learn more about the important projects funded by the Collection.

**Week After the Collection**

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your gift is an expression of solidarity with the suffering people of this region. Through joining in the work of this Collection, you are helping to **restore the Church and build the future**. Please visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (search “Church in Central and Eastern Europe”) to learn more about what your donations have accomplished.

**SPANISH**

**Semana antes de la Colecta**

La próxima semana realizaremos la Colecta para la Iglesia en Europa Central y Oriental. Esta Colecta otorga donaciones a organizaciones católicas que proporcionan viviendas asequibles y formación a seminaristas en una región que todavía lucha con las secuelas del régimen soviético. Al brindar cuidado pastoral, catequesis y fondos para la renovación de edificios, sus donativos ayudan a **restaurar la Iglesia y a construir el futuro** en la región. Por favor, contribuyan generosamente a la Colecta de la próxima semana. Visiten [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (busquen “Church in Central and Eastern Europe”) para más información.

**Semana de la Colecta**

La Colecta para la Iglesia en Europa Central y Oriental ilumina el camino de las personas que viven en la región ayudando a organizaciones católicas para que puedan ofrecer viviendas asequibles, formación para seminaristas, cuidado pastoral y catequesis. Sus donativos de hoy ayudan a **restaurar la Iglesia y a construir el futuro** luego del dominio soviético. Por favor, sean generosos en la Colecta para la Iglesia en Europa Central y Oriental. Visiten [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (busquen “Church in Central and Eastern Europe”) para informarse más acerca de los importantes proyectos financiados por la Colecta.

**Semana después de la Colecta**

Muchas gracias por sus generosas contribuciones a la Colecta para la Iglesia en Europa Central y Oriental. Sus ofrendas son una expresión de solidaridad con el sufriente pueblo de esa región. Al unirse a la labor de esta Colecta, ustedes están ayudando a restaurar la Iglesia y a construir el futuro. Por favor, visiten [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (busquen “Church in Central and Eastern Europe”) para informarse más acerca de lo que se viene logrando con sus donativos.
In 2012, the Church in Central and Eastern Europe Subcommittee approved 306 grants for the total amount of $5,909,903. These grants represent both scholarship and regular grants that come from your donations. In 2012, 88 scholarship grants were given, totaling $743,976. The remainder of collection donations was allocated to support construction, pastoral, social justice, and peace projects. All grants (regular and scholarship) serve one purpose—that of rebuilding pastoral capacity and creating future leaders of the Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

En el 2012, el Subcomité para la Iglesia en Europa Central y Oriental aprobó 306 subvenciones por la cantidad total de $5,909,903. Estas subvenciones representan becas y donaciones regulares provenientes de sus donativos. En el 2012, se otorgaron 88 becas por la suma de $743,976. El resto de lo donado a la colecta fue asignado para financiar proyectos de construcción, de pastoral, de justicia social y de paz. Todas las donaciones (tanto regulares como becas) sirven un propósito—el de restaurar la capacidad pastoral y crear futuros líderes de la Iglesia Católica en Europa Central y Oriental.