

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

CAST THE LIGHT OF CHRIST UPON THE WORLD.



Dear Diocesan Coordinator,

As we approach this year's Peter's Pence Collection, we call you to remember how Pope Benedict XVI inspired, encouraged, and blessed our nation during his apostolic journey to the United States last year. This year's theme, **Cast the Light of Christ upon the World**, expresses the purpose of the Collection and echoes the Holy Father's call to action for the Church in the United States:

"In the finest traditions of the Church in this country, may you also be the first friend of the poor, the homeless, the stranger, the sick and all who suffer. Act as beacons of hope, casting the light of Christ upon the world."

—Pope Benedict XVI,
Homily at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, April 19, 2008

The Peter's Pence Collection enables the Holy Father to provide emergency assistance to the most disadvantaged—those who suffer because of war, oppression, disease, and natural disaster.

As we participate in this special appeal, standing in solidarity with those in need and with the Holy Father, we ask your help to ensure its success. Please confirm that your parishes received their promotional materials, encourage parishes to use these materials, send the bulletin announcements and images to parish bulletin/newsletter vendors, and utilize additional materials available at www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

We thank you sincerely for your help in promoting the works of the Holy Father through the Peter's Pence Collection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
Chairman, USCCB Committee on National Collections

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