Sample Bishop’s Letter

*May be read from the pulpit or inserted into the parish bulletins.*

*The Christian exists to serve, not to be served.*

—Pope Francis, Homily of the Mass at Santa Marta, April 26, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Peter’s Pence Collection is an opportunity for the Church around the world to stand in solidarity with Pope Francis. With roots in the early Church, through the Middle Ages and down to today, Peter’s Pence is a sign of unity with the Pope and a source of support for the activities of the Holy See, as well as for the Holy Father’s charitable relief efforts around the world. In September and October 2018 for example, violent earthquakes and a tsunami in Indonesia killed 1,500 and injured thousands more. On the island of Sulawesi, the Mount Soputan volcano erupted hours after the earthquake, further endangering people already affected by the first disaster.

Your generosity to the Peter’s Pence Collection facilitated much-needed support for victims of the Indonesian catastrophes. Pope Francis responded with a contribution of $100,000 to be distributed to those in areas most affected by the disaster, with a prayer that “the Lord comfort them and support those working in the rescue efforts” (Angelus, September 30, 2018). Your contributions support the works of the Holy See and help Pope Francis fulfill his prayer that the Church will reach out with acts of mercy.

Please join with our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe and prayerfully consider supporting this year’s collection as an act of mercy and charity. For more information about the collection, please visit *http://www.peterspence.va/en.html.*

Thank you, and may God bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

[*Bishop’s name, signature, title, diocese*]

For more information, please visit [*http://www.peterspence.va/en.html*](http://www.peterspence.va/en.html).