

# Peter's Pence Collection

## *Be a sign of* mercy.

“Let us hasten to pursue paths of peace and fraternity. Let us rejoice at the concrete signs of hope that reach us from so many countries.”

—Pope Francis, “Urbi et Orbi” Message, April 9, 2023



Dear Diocesan Director,

Catholics are called to unity with one another—not merely as individuals in their own communities, but as the Body of Christ united in prayer and fraternity with their bishops in communion with the Holy Father, Pope Francis. Soon parishes in your diocese will have the opportunity to express this unity with the Pope in a practical way by giving to the Peter's Pence Collection.

Since the earliest days of the Church, Christian disciples have given of their resources to support the preaching mission of the Apostles and to give aid to the poor and needy, both in their local communities and abroad. Based on this foundation, Catholics throughout the centuries have given an annual collection to the Holy Father as a sign of unity with his mission of mercy to preach the Gospel and aid those most in need.

This tradition continues to this day, when Catholics around the world answer Pope Francis's call with “concrete signs of hope” by supporting the twofold mission of the Peter's Pence Collection as set by the Holy See: “(1) **To support the Holy Father's mission**, which extends throughout the entire world, from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education, peace, and brotherhood among peoples: thanks also to the many activities of service carried out by the dicasteries, bodies and organs of the Holy See that assist him every day; and (2) **To support the numerous charitable works** in aid of people and families in difficulty, populations afflicted by natural disasters and wars, or who are in need of humanitarian assistance or support for development.”

For more information on Peter's Pence, please visit the Vatican's Peter's Pence website:  
[www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html](http://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html) (English) or [www.obolodisanpietro.va/es.html](http://www.obolodisanpietro.va/es.html) (español).

You can support this year's collection by encouraging pastors to mention it at Mass and use the parish appeal and bulletin announcements available at [www.usccb.org/peters-pence/collection](http://www.usccb.org/peters-pence/collection). If you have questions, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or [mhren@usccb.org](mailto:mhren@usccb.org). Thank you for your continued support for the national collections.

With gratitude,

Margaret Hren  
Assistant Director, Promotions



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