



# Commissariat of the Holy Land in Canada

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Ottawa, February 21, 2020

*Dear Father:*

This year the Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land is taken up on Good Friday, April 10, 2020. We have chosen as a theme: "Creation Waits in Hope". It speaks to several issues in the Holy Land and our own world, uniting us by the hope Christ places in our hearts.

We know that the people and the Church in the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East have been contending with conflict for years. All the while that they have been in turmoil, they continue to care for the displaced and to hope for an end to the abuse and destruction of the lives and land that God has lovingly created and given to them. They are "waiting with eager longing to obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God" (Rm 8:19-21).

This theme of waiting in hope, of course, extends beyond the Holy Land to all peoples and to creation itself. Pope Francis, in his September 2019 Letter for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, reminded us that "Now is the time to rediscover our vocation as children of God, brothers and sisters, and stewards of creation. Now is the time to repent, to be converted and to return to our roots. We are beloved creatures of God, who in his goodness calls us to love life and live it in communion with the rest of creation."

During our Good Friday and Easter celebrations, we recall that, thanks to the new life Jesus Christ has given us, we have become children of God called to show forth and to restore God's glory. On this Good Friday, by our support of the church in the Holy Land, we recognize their needs and our common vocation to live so that all people and all God's creation "will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God".

To announce the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, please find enclosed:

- Two posters announcing the Collection, which should be displayed as of Palm Sunday.
- A notice to be published in the parish leaflet for Palm Sunday, i.e. on April 5, 2020.
- An announcement to be read during the Good Friday service, at collection time.

We thank you for sending this Pontifical Collection to your bishop who, in turn, will pass on the total offering of your diocese to us. These offerings are then forwarded in their entirety to the Holy Land.

With gratitude,

Father Robert Mokry, OFM  
*Commissary of the Holy Land in Canada*

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*To be published in the Parish Bulletin (please find this text at [www.commissariat.ca](http://www.commissariat.ca))*

## **Pontifical Collection for the Custody of the Holy Land on Good Friday, April 10, 2020 for the benefit of the Church and the Christians of the Holy Land**

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As a Pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection not only helps to maintain churches and shrines located at Holy Places, but, above all, helps to support the pastoral, welfare, educational and social works that the Church undertakes in caring for our Christian brothers and sisters and the local population.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, invites you to support the Church and the Christians in the Holy Land, many of whom depend on your support for their lives.

This year, the Pontifical Collection for the support of the Holy Land will be taken up during the Good Friday services on April 10, 2020.

On behalf of the Custody of the Holy Land, I sincerely thank you for your support,

Fr. Robert Mokry, OFM  
*Commissary of Holy Land in Canada*

*An announcement to be read at the time of the collection, April 10, 2020 :*

### **Pontifical Good Friday Collection**

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Today's Pontifical collection is taken for the support of the Holy Land – for the work of the Church, the support of Christian communities, the upkeep of the Holy Sites, and the formation of future priests.

Let us give generously to support this Church and these people in their need, and to show our solidarity as we strive in hope with them and all creation to attain the fulness of the glory of the children of God.

***Thank you***

### **Resources**

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Several resources for Lenten and Good Friday celebrations are available on the Commissariat's website:



**[www.commissariat.ca](http://www.commissariat.ca)**