



Commissariat of the Holy Land in Canada

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Ottawa, March 15, 2023

Dear Father,

After several years of disruptions due to the pandemic, Canadian society has finally returned to some sense of order and security; and, in our Church, the Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land has been reallocated to Good Friday, which this year falls on April 7th.

The security which we enjoy in our country unfortunately is not experienced throughout the world, and perhaps less in the Middle East and the Holy Land than elsewhere. There Christians face political and economic discrimination and persecution and are often forced to seek an existence outside of their homeland. And at the same time, the Church struggles just to retain possession and maintain the holy places that have existed since the time of Christ, and which are so important for Christians throughout the world.

In the midst of such struggles, we do well to recall that Christ has fulfilled God's promise made to us through the prophet Isaiah – "the glory of the Lord has risen upon us." The Easter Triduum recalls that reality and renews the hope that we share with all our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

This Good Friday, the Holy See asks us more fortunate Christians to remember and support these brothers and sisters who feel more greatly the weight of Christ's cross. May they, by our solidarity, experience something of the blessings Christ in his glory has brought to all of us.

As usual, the Commissariat includes in this package a poster so that your parishioners might recall the glory in which they now share and be reminded to support their less fortunate sisters and brothers of the Church throughout the Holy Land. I have also included an announcement for earlier insertion in the parish bulletin, whether published electronically or printed, and one to be read at the time of collection.

On behalf of the Custody of Holy Land, I would like to express in advance my gratitude for your support and the contributions of your parishioners.

With gratitude,

Fr. Bob Mokry, OFM

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Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land on Good Friday

*To be published in the Parish Bulletin
on Sunday March 26 and Sunday April 2, 2023
(please find this text at www.commissariat.ca)*

The Good Friday Collection is requested by the Holy See to help maintain the Church's holy places in the Holy Land, so important to the faith of Christians everywhere, and also to support the faithful who struggle to survive under political and economic oppression and persecution.

This Pontifical Collection will be taken during the Good Friday celebration on April 7 2023. Those who are unable to attend the service, or who prefer to contribute online, may do so by Interac e-transfer or CanadaHelps by visiting www.commissariat.ca/supporting-us

*An announcement to be read at the time of the collection,
on Good Friday, April 7, 2023*

Today's Pontifical collection is taken to maintain the Christian sites and to support the Church and people of the Holy Land.

We thank you for giving generously and showing your solidarity with a Church in need.

Thank you.