



Commissariat of the Holy Land in Canada

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Ottawa, March 11, 2024

Dear Father,

St. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, tells the Gentile people that what once separated them from the salvation promised to the Jews has been overcome in Christ who has “broken down the dividing wall ... and reconciled both ... through the cross.” We believe and proclaim that Christ’s gift to us of God’s Spirit gives us a new lease on life and empowers us to live in peace.

Unfortunately, this new lease on life and peace is not always apparent to Christians in the Holy Land. Political and economic instability, poverty, and discrimination make it difficult to live in the lands where Christ once walked. The continuing hope and prayer of our brothers and sisters is for peace and a sense of security.

This year, as for the last 50 years, the Holy See urges all parishes around the world to support their brothers and sisters during these difficult times. The Good Friday collection is the major source of income for their Church, and it permits many social, educational, and parish renewal projects, and a measure of peace, for Christians who more than ever depend on our generous support.

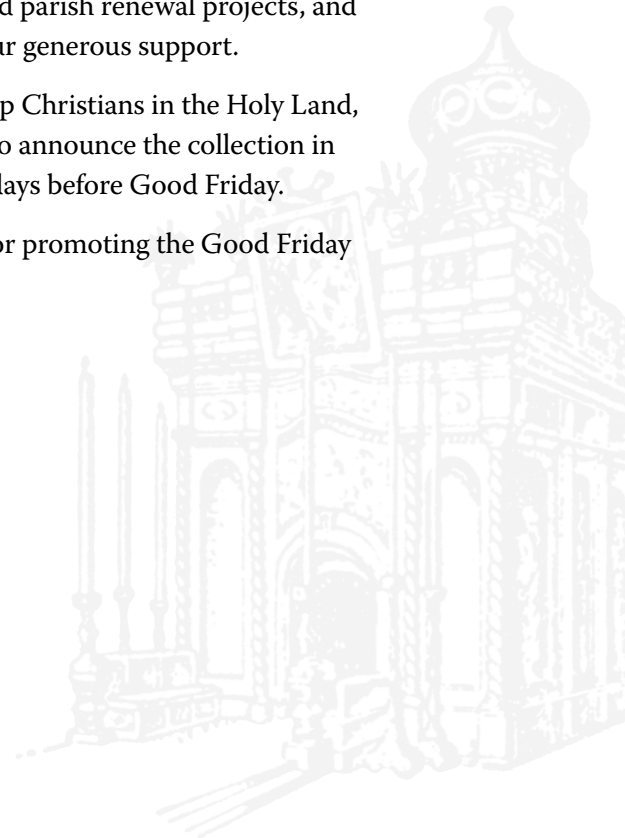
So that your parishioners may be aware of the collection taken to help Christians in the Holy Land, I humbly ask you to display the poster included in this package and to announce the collection in online and printed bulletins, and by word of mouth, on the two Sundays before Good Friday.

On behalf of the Custody of the Holy Land, I thank you in advance for promoting the Good Friday Collection and submitting it to your diocesan offices.

Yours, in the risen Christ,

Fr. Robert Mokry, OFM

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Pontifical Collection for the Church in the Holy Land on Good Friday, March 29, 2024

To be published in the Parish Bulletin on March 17 and March 24, 2024

(please find this text at www.commissariat.ca)

The annual Good Friday Collection was first taken at Pope Paul VI's request fifty years ago. It is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world to assist the Church in the Holy Land. The monies collected support its pastoral, educational, and social works and help to maintain the Holy Places so important for the faith of Christians everywhere.

For the sake of our brothers and sisters enduring hardships, please give generously during your parish's Good Friday celebrations on March 29, 2024. If you are unable to attend the service, it is possible to contribute by Interact e-transfer to terresainte@bellnet.ca or online at Commissariat.ca – receipts will be issued.

On behalf of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, to whom the Holy See has entrusted this ministry for nearly 700 years, I sincerely thank you for your support.

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

An announcement to be read at the time of the collection, March 29, 2024

Today's Good Friday Collection is taken at the request of the Holy See. It is for the support of the many social, educational, and parish projects of the Church throughout the Holy Land, and it helps to assure the Church's presence and a measure of security and peace for our brothers and sisters.

Please give generously to support the Church of the Holy Land and our brothers and sisters in their need.