

# Peter's Pence Collection

## *Be a sign of* **mercy.**

I SHOULD NO LONGER SAY THAT I HAVE  
NEIGHBORS TO HELP, BUT THAT I MUST  
MYSELF BE A NEIGHBOR TO OTHERS.

—POPE FRANCIS, *FRATELLI TUTTI*, NO. 81



### Your Eminence/Excellency,

The COVID pandemic caused deaths, strained health-care systems, and led to economic hardship in even the most developed countries in the world. For the countries in Southwest Asia, the Middle East, and Central and Eastern Europe, the effects of the pandemic were even more drastic. To meet the need for medical equipment, sanitary supplies, food, and other necessities, the Vatican's Congregation for the Oriental Churches (COC) established the COC Emergency Fund in April 2020. In cooperation with agencies that are members of the Reunion of Aid Agencies for the Oriental Churches, the COC contributed more than €479,000 to a relief effort totaling more than €9.5 million sent to countries from India to Poland. The complete list of projects is available here: <https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en/carita-del-papa/emergenza-covid-19.html>.

Your contribution to the Peter's Pence Collection helps fund not only the activities of the Roman Curia that assist the pope in the exercise of his ministry but also solidarity projects that aid those most in need, like the COC Emergency Fund. To learn more about the ways in which Peter's Pence supports the Holy Father's ministry of mercy, visit [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 your pastors to mention it at Mass and by using the parish appeal, bulletin announcements, available at [www.usccb.org/peters-pence/collection](http://www.usccb.org/peters-pence/collection).** If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Germain, assistant director for promotions at 202-541-3365 or [ngerman@usccb.org](mailto:ngerman@usccb.org). Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James S. Wall".

Most Rev. James S. Wall  
Bishop of Gallup  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on National Collections

