



# Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

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October 15, 2020

Dear Pastors, Parish Administrators, Development and Peace Parish Reps and Parishioners,

The COVID-19 restrictions since March 2020 have prevented the taking up of our regular National Collections as we normally would do. This also includes the Development and Peace Share Lent Collection for 2020. In our Archdiocese the Deaneries are discussing how this matter of the National Collections can occur within the new reality of the epidemic. In general, the parishes within deaneries have decided to pursue this goal according to a variety of timetables and methods. I pray that good fruit will come from these efforts.

With specific reference to Development and Peace-Caritas Canada, I include some materials that should be helpful to pastors in regards to the Share Lent Collection. They are provided to you by Development and Peace and are for your discernment and assistance. The funds raised through the Share Lent Collection are designated for communities in the Global South who were already facing hardship due to the devastating impact of the pandemic and to assist in their recovery.

## The global reality and your support

Development and Peace is reminding us that we are connected as one human family as expressed in Pope Francis' new Encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*. The pandemic has put the international community in a state of crisis on a number of levels. It is estimated that 265 million people could face starvation by the end of 2020. The economic fallout from COVID could push an additional half a billion people into poverty.

Pope Francis reminds us in *Fratelli Tutti* that we are indeed brothers and sisters *as much as we are far away from each other as when we are close to one another*. The Holy Father focuses on the human community as one which has been fractured and further aggravated by the pandemic, he states: *No one can face life in isolation...we need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead*. As such, this year, Development and Peace has decided to launch a special COVID-19 campaign: *Recovering Together* in support of a just recovery.

Our parishes' generosity will support the work of D&P's partners, who are developing local responses with their communities that provide immediate aid, build resilience, demand access to services from their governments, ensure that human and environmental rights are respected and provide information on how people can stay safe.

## Planning for this special collection

We are grateful to all who have already donated to the 2020 Share Lent collection. Your generous contribution goes to support our brothers and sisters in the Global South who very much need our assistance and prayers during these difficult times.

For those who missed the Share lent 2020 collection or for those who have the means to support this special COVID-19 collection, we are reminded to either:

- a. Use the Share Lent envelope and place it into the collection plate (if Share Lent envelopes are needed , please contact Janelle Delorme, Regional Animator for Manitoba and Thunder Bay, at [jdelorme@devp.org](mailto:jdelorme@devp.org) or 204 231-2848)
- b. OR mail directly to:  
Development and Peace  
1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, 3rd Floor  
Montreal QC H3G 1T7
- c. Call the National Office to donate over the phone using a credit card at 1-888-234-8533
- d. Or donate online by going directly to the Development and Peace website at [devp.org](http://devp.org).  
(The Archdiocese of Winnipeg website also has a link to the Development and Peace website under "LATEST NEWS", "THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH – Ministries of the Church go on amidst the pandemic")

Development and Peace has developed digital resources to promote this collection in your parish. (Attached are: Campaign Guide, Parish bulletin announcements, Prayer, Faith-Based reflection, Printable Poster, Social media kit & web buttons, Printable images to glue on special collection box). Again, if you have any questions on the campaign, how to plan for the special collection or use of the provided resources, please contact Janelle Delorme, Regional Animator for Manitoba and Thunder Bay, at [jdelorme@devp.org](mailto:jdelorme@devp.org) or 204 231-2848.

Yours in Christ,



+Richard Gagnon  
Archbishop of Winnipeg