DIOCESE OF DES MOINES
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

June 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

From the time of the Acts of the Apostles, Catholic Christians have supported the Church's mission of evangelization and charity by supporting both local and global Churches. The annual Peter's Pence Collection is a tangible way for us to express our unity with the successor of Saint Peter, the Pope. It is a distinct sign of the apostolic foundations of our faith and our solidarity with fellow believers in need around the world.

In recent months of this Jubilee Year, we have commended Pope Francis to the heavenly Father and witnessed the election of a native Chicagoan, Pope Leo XIV. We have a ripe opportunity to collaborate with our new Holy Father to address the priorities set by the Holy See for this Collection. We will "support the Holy Father's mission which extends throughout the entire world--from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education and peace." All of these aims are accomplished through the various branches of the Vatican that assist the Vicar of Christ each day. We will also "support the numerous charitable works in support of people in difficulty, populations afflicted by natural disasters and wars, or who are in need of humanitarian assistance or support for development."

Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection as a concrete way to be an agent of hope for others. Together, we collaborate as pilgrims of hope enabling Pope Leo carry out his sacred ministry for the Universal Church and thereby lift up our most marginalized sisters and brothers.

May God shower his grace upon you and refresh you during these summer months!

Faithfully in Christ,

+ Wm. M. Joensen

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