

Dear Brother in Christ,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

Special Ash Wednesday Appeal for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

The regularly scheduled second collection on Ash Wednesday, March 2 is for the Church in the Developing World in light of the great humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and the surrounding countries. Cardinal Gregory, along with Archbishop Jose Gomez, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), encourages you to specifically promote the Collection to Aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe on Ash Wednesday.

Linked <u>here</u> is a letter from Bishop Jeffrey Monforton, Chairman of the USCCB Subcommittee on Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe in which Bishop Monforton encourages the promotion of this collection which will allow the Faithful to provide assistance to the victims of the war in Ukraine.

Listed below is additional information about ways the Faithful can donate. This can be shared with your communities in the way you determine is best.

Parishioners should be encouraged on Ash Wednesday to give generously to the second collection or donate directly to the collection here: <u>https://www.usccb.org/committees/church-central-eastern-europe/how-give.</u>

Parishioners can also donate to Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the U.S. Bishops main international charitable arm. CRS already has staff in Ukraine providing humanitarian relief. Donations can be made at the following link: <u>https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine?ms=agicrs2022ukr00her00& ga=2.19546751.618301534.1646083796-735720520.1646083796</u>

May the Holy Spirit strengthen and protect the people of Ukraine in this war.

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see <u>adw.org/coronavirus</u> for information related to the coronavirus, <u>adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/</u> for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and <u>cathstan.org</u> and <u>elpreg.org</u> for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office and the Pastoral Center, please let us know.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am Sincerely in Christ, Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia