



RESTORE THE CHURCH BUILD THE FUTURE



Dear Diocesan Director,

As Catholics we are called to bring the light of Christ to our brothers and sisters. To those who have given up, we bring hope. To the downhearted, we bring encouragement. To those who are abandoned, we bring warmth. And you have done all of this for our brothers and sisters in former communist regions by supporting the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

The upheaval of the war in eastern Ukraine has created new and overwhelming pastoral challenges. For every two thousand people, there is only one priest. This is not enough to answer the growing needs for ministry and support. But with your help, lay ministers are receiving the training they need to serve their communities in this challenging time. Your contributions to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe have provided training in evangelization, Scripture study, and ministry. You have afforded lay ministers the opportunity to participate in a pilgrimage to strengthen their call. Forty ministers have returned to their parishes to serve their communities, including those suffering the repercussions of the war in eastern Ukraine. The people of Ukraine need your support to stand strong and help one another as a community of faith during this troubled time.

Collection materials are available and free for download at www.usccb.org/ccee/collection. There you will find a sample letter from the bishop, Web banners, and a social media tool kit, among other resources. Please use these materials, and encourage your parish staff to use these items as well, to support our efforts to promote the collection.

Thank you for your continued support of this collection. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or at ngermain@usccb.org.

Gratefully in Christ,

Nicole Germain
Assistant Director, Promotions, Office of National Collections



Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

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