



Dear Communications Director/Editor,

The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE) supports those still struggling to cope with the aftermath of living under Soviet rule. Those in Eastern European countries and parts of Russia often experience poverty, infrequent pastoral care, and lack of buildings in which to worship. The Church in these areas still faces major challenges as it not only rebuilds church structures but continues to support the spiritual needs of its people. This collection allows us in the United States to **restore the Church and build the future** by supporting our brothers and sisters who experience these struggles on a daily basis.

In southeast Poland, the town of Rymanów-Zdrój struggles with high unemployment since the largest business is a spa, offering only seasonal work. Because of this, many residents live in poverty and do not have access to quality education for their children. The Daughters of Charity are working to provide greater spiritual formation and education for children and parents alike, focused on Christian virtue and the love of God.

Thanks to a grant from CCEE, the sisters have increased their ministry at the preschool, which serves children who come from these poor and often broken families. In addition to providing for the educational and spiritual needs of the students and their families, the sisters are offering much-needed support for the students with learning disabilities. They work with school personnel and families to deliver a quality education and learning environment for the students, both in and outside of the classroom, setting the children on a path of success.

The national date for the collection is on Ash Wednesday, February 10. However, your (arch)diocese may choose to take it up at a different time. Please use the posters, fliers, and bulletin announcements to promote the collection. Additional materials, such as ads and web banners, are available at www.usccb.org/ccee under the “Collection Resources” tab on the left. Your support is vital to our success.

For more information, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or bkennedy@usccb.org. We truly appreciate your support of the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

With gratitude,

Bevin Kennedy
Assistant Director, Promotions, Office of National Collections



Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

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