



SUPPORT THE WORKS OF THE
HOLY FATHER THROUGH THE

Peter's Pence Collection

*Be a sign of
mercy.*

Turkey and Syria are situated in a region that experiences frequent, major earthquakes. In early February 2023, central Turkey's most powerful earthquake since 1939 struck with a magnitude of 7.8. More than 10,000 aftershocks continued for weeks afterward, including a powerful magnitude 6.4 aftershock that struck the biblical city of Antioch, known as Antakya. More than 50,000 people in Turkey and neighboring Syria were killed by the initial earthquake, followed by more deaths and the destruction of structures damaged by the first earthquake. UN officials estimated that more than 1.5 million people were left homeless in what is believed to be the largest natural disaster in Turkey's history.

In a mid-February meeting with Turkey's new ambassador to the Holy See, Pope Francis asked what sort of aid Turkey most needed. Within 24 hours, Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, the papal almoner and prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Service of Charity, organized a shipment of canned food, diapers, thermal garments, and other necessities, to be sent from Rome to a warehouse in Turkey for distribution to those in need. At the same time, economic aid to Syrian victims was entrusted to the apostolic nunciature in Syria. In addition to this material relief, the Vatican's prefect for the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches, Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, visited Syria and Turkey to provide a ministry of presence to victims.

The Holy Father's charitable outreach to victims of war, migrants and refugees, the poor, and those affected by illness and natural disasters is supported by your contributions to the Peter's Pence Collection. When you

participate in the collection, you join Catholics across the globe in supporting the pope's mission of mercy as well as the Holy See dicasteries that assist his ministry.

For more information on Peter's Pence, please visit the Vatican's Peter's Pence website: www.obolodisanpietro.va/en/cos-e-l-obolo.html (English) or www.obolodisanpietro.va/es/cos-e-l-obolo.html (español).

A Tradition of Support for the Holy Father

Support for such papal efforts is rooted in the scriptural message exhorting us to take care of the poor, and it expresses unity with the Holy Father in two ways: through the ongoing activities of the Holy See and through the charitable works of the Holy Father on behalf of those most in need.

How You Can Help

PRAY

Pray for the Holy Father, for those he serves in compassion, and for the ongoing activities of the Holy See, all of which benefit from the Peter's Pence Collection.

SHARE

Share this bulletin insert with anyone who might be interested.

GIVE

Give generously to this collection as a sign of mercy to those who suffer around the globe and of your support for the ongoing work of the Holy See. By doing so, you help build up the Church so that it can minister to all for generations to come.



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