



## THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

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March 3, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Pope Francis has asked our diocese to support Christians in the Holy Land. Through the Good Friday Collection, we join with Catholics around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace in a troubled land.

In these challenging times in the Middle East, your support means that our Church will conduct parish ministry, provide Catholic education, feed the hungry, build housing for Christians, maintain shrines and operate refugee centers in the Holy Land. The unrest and instability of the region have been especially hard on Christians. Christians, along with all of the clergy and religious who serve in the Holy Land, will deeply appreciate your prayers and financial help.

Having been a pilgrim to the Holy Land twice in my life, I realize that keeping Christianity alive in the Holy Land is an urgent need. The Holy Land Franciscans are counting on our financial support to assist them in providing presence, care and service; please be as generous as you are able.

May God bless you and your family during this most holy season; you are remembered daily in my prayers.

In our Lord,

Most Reverend Michael McGovern  
Bishop of Belleville

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