



# ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

## Letter for Archdiocesan Lenten Collection

March 2022

My Dear Faithful of the Archdiocese:

Saturday, March 26, marks the fifty-fifth anniversary of the promulgation of the Encyclical Letter, *Populorum progressio* (on the Development of Peoples), of Pope St. Paul VI in 1967. This Encyclical of the Holy Father added to the existing social teaching of the Church in a context of increasing development in the post-war world. The document created within the Church a sincere impulse to address the areas of injustice and human suffering throughout the world.

This call has continued to develop in the Church through the initiatives which Catholics undertake through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It has been especially edifying for me to have experienced parish-based projects that continue to answer the invitation of Paul VI.

In this spirit, I call each of you to be generous in your offerings to the Archdiocesan Lenten Collection, which will be taken up in our parishes on Palm Sunday. I have begun to select a group of young members of our parishes who, under the patronage of St. Martin de Porres, will assist me with the distribution of the funds collected. As we begin our work in the coming weeks, we will be identifying the needs of those who are most vulnerable, both at home and abroad, to which our humble offerings can be directed. The needs in our own communities of the Archdiocese are daunting – homelessness, the scourge of the opioid crisis, and hidden poverty. Across Canada, assistance to our Indigenous communities in Canada will be an ongoing concern. Beyond our borders, the tragic war in Ukraine has caused a catastrophic refugee crisis, and the two year long civil war in Ethiopia has caused the death of hundreds of thousands from the violence of war and starvation.

It is my prayer that, as we continue to pray for and address these needs, we in our local Church may be ennobled in our own humanity. May the opening of our hearts to the sufferings of our brothers and sisters assist us to take full responsibility for our own acts of mercy. May this lead to a deepening appreciation for the saving actions of Christ in the Sacraments of the Church.

In the coming months, I will be providing you with updates in our progress, as well as a comprehensive report on the distribution of the funds offered by the faithful.

This Archdiocesan sponsored collection will take the place of the Share Lent Collection of past years. (Please refer to my [letter of Lent 2021 on the Archdiocesan website](#)). The faithful are encouraged also to make individual offerings to the many worthy local, national and international charities.

May the Lord bless our Lenten acts of almsgiving, our prayer and our fasting. May He guide us in grace to a worthy celebration of Easter.

Know of my prayers for all of you, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read '+Michael Mulhall', with a stylized flourish at the end.

+Michael Mulhall  
Archbishop of Kingston