



BISHOP OF HAMILTON

October 2, 2020

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

2020 has been a year like no other. COVID-19 continues to have many impacts on our lives, our communities, our country, and the world. One of these impacts has fallen on the various charities that each and every year receive so much generous support from the faithful of the Diocese. Sadly, many of these charities have seen their needs increase, while at the same time facing far more hurdles in their ability to raise the funds they need to accomplish their work.

During the period of shutdown, collections that would have supported these charities often could not take place. For this reason, I have called for a ***Combined Special Collection*** in order to help provide for their needs. Envelopes for this collection are available today, and can be returned to the parish next Sunday. All funds raised from this collection will support the following charities, based on the percentages received during last year's collections: *Share Lent; Pope's Pastoral Works; Holy Land (Good Friday); Cura Pastorum Association (Care of Retired Priests); Needs of the Church in Canada; and World Mission Sunday.*

I know many of you have continued to support not only your parish but also these special collections even through the period of shutdown. For this generosity - which you show time and time again - I sincerely thank you! If you did not have the opportunity to provide for these needs during the year, I would ask you to consider making a contribution through this collection. While the needs are great, your generosity never wavers. I ask once again for your help, and I thank you in advance on behalf of all these charities for your kindness and generosity.

May God bless you, keep you and your loved ones safe, and reward you for your ongoing generosity!

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+Douglas Crosby, OMI

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI
Bishop of Hamilton

/cd