



Développement et Paix

L'organisme officiel de solidarité internationale de l'Église catholique au Canada

March 11, 2008

Jean-Claude Cardinal Turcotte,
2000 Sherbrooke St., West,
Montreal (QC) H3H 1G4

Eminence,

Please receive our warmest greetings as we approach Easter.

March 9th was a special Sunday for Development and Peace. As you know, on that day, in the Christian communities throughout Canada, the special « Share Lent » collection took place. These Lenten contributions are essential to projects we share with our partners in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and for educational work here in Canada. This year's objective is 10 million dollars.

Over the last weekend of March 8th and 9th, Quebec, Ontario and the Maritime provinces were struck by large snowstorms generating extremely difficult and dangerous travel conditions throughout these areas. We were made aware that as a result of these harsh conditions, participation in the weekend liturgies was far less numerous than usual in many of these regions.

This unfortunate situation could have very serious consequences on the « Share Lent » collection revenues that total half our annual income. With your help, we would like to take up that collection once more in the parishes, this coming weekend of March 15th and 16th. If you could extend an invitation to this effect to those responsible for the parishes in your diocese, or at another weekend in the near future that is more convenient, we would be very grateful.

We thank you for your important collaboration, in the extraordinary circumstances that affect us in this matter.

In solidarity,

(Signed)
Michael Casey
General Director
Development and Peace