



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE**  
**OF CHARLESTON**  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Peter's Pence Collection allows participants to support the Universal Church and help the Holy Father as he shows mercy to the neediest people around the world, in recognition of the common humanity shared by peoples of all ethnicities and religious backgrounds.

In this spirit of mercy, Pope Francis helped the people of Iran when they suffered death and catastrophic damage from floods in March and April 2019. More than 10 million people suffered property damage, and the city of Ahwaz and numerous villages were evacuated. Two million people required immediate assistance. Pope Francis donated €100,000 to direct relief efforts coordinated by the Iranian Red Crescent Society, in which Caritas Iran also participated.

By participating in the Peter's Pence Collection, you join the Holy Father's efforts to show mercy to all in two ways: you support the ongoing activities of the Holy See, and you contribute to the charitable works of the Holy Father on behalf of those who are most in need. Our Catholic tradition calls us to provide for the material needs of the Church, and the Peter's Pence Collection is one of the opportunities we have to do so. When you answer the call, you build up the Church so that it will continue to minister to all for generations to come.

For more information, please visit [www.peterspence.va/en.html](http://www.peterspence.va/en.html).

Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection as an act of mercy and charity. Join our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe to help Pope Francis in his ministry to the Universal Church and in reaching out to the most marginalized in our world.

Thank you, and may God bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmo  
Bishop of Charleston