



COMMISSARIAT OF THE HOLY LAND
Washington, DC

January 28, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the Lord give you his Peace.

I write to you with deep gratitude for the encouragement and support of last year's Pontifical Good Friday Collection. Your generous faithful allowed the Franciscan Friars in the Holy Land to continue their work of maintaining the sacred shrines and providing hope to Christians.

Pilgrims are finally, slowly returning to the Holy Places after two very difficult years that really put to the test the small and fragile Christian presence in the Holy Land. But challenges are not over yet. Pilgrimages are still far from pre-pandemic numbers and the actual political situation, bringing new threats to the Christian community, makes your support more needed than ever.

As you know, each year the Holy Father asks every Catholic parish around the world to take up a Collection on Good Friday to keep a Christian presence in the Holy Land. The Collection supports the work of the Franciscans in the sacred shrines, ministers to the parishes, provides formation and education in the communities and schools, and cares for the basic needs of people in the Holy Land. It also assists the Congregation for the Oriental Churches to sustain the Eastern Rite Catholic Churches present in the region. During such a difficult season, your advancement of this important collection is essential to our ministry.

Once again, we ask for your prayers and encouragement for the Holy Father's Good Friday Collection. Our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land are counting on you and your parishes for help.

If you would like additional materials or more information, please email GoodFriday@myfranciscan.com. We also have digital resources on our website at www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

With your help, the Franciscans, together with the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, can continue to be a light of hope to those living in darkness in the Holy Land. Thank you for encouraging your parishes to be generous.

May Christ continue to bless you abundantly in all the holy work that you do.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Fr. David Grenier, OFM, Commissary
Commissariat of the Holy Land, Washington, DC