

## Diocese of Kamloops BISHOP'S OFFICE

March 25, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we journey through this sacred season of Lent, we are called to deepen our prayer, embrace penance through fasting, and extend our hearts and hands in charity. One powerful way to live out this Lenten call is by contributing to the parish collection for Development and Peace, taking place on Share Lent Sunday, April 6th.

Rooted in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, we are reminded of our sacred duty to care for the most vulnerable and to safeguard our common home. This year, as celebrate the Jubilee 2025 under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope," we are invited to become living witnesses of hope. Pope Francis urges us to "create a world of hope," reminding us that "hope should be granted to the billions of the poor who often lack the essentials of life" and that "the goods of the Earth are not destined for a privileged few but for everyone." (Spes Non Confundit, 15-16).

In response to this call for justice, we are joining Caritas Internationalis' global campaign, "Turn Debt into Hope" an initiative dedicated to transforming the burdens of debt into pathways for dignity, growth, and a more just world.

The faithful of our diocese have always demonstrated extraordinary generosity, standing in solidarity with the poorest of the poor. Thanks to your past support, Caritas Canada is actively working in 34 countries, providing urgent humanitarian aid and fostering long-term development and peace-building initiatives, each rooted in the core values of our faith.

With heartfelt gratitude, I entrust this appeal to your kindness and generosity. May God bless you abundantly as you respond to this call to love and bear witness to hope.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**♣**Joseph Phuong Nguyen

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Bishop of Kamloops