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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The annual Peter's Pence Collection that will take place June 22-23 provides essential support for the Holy See's activities and helps Pope Francis assist the victims of wars, oppression, and natural disaster around the world.

Migrants and refugees from southwestern and southern Asian countries—such as Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh—travel to Europe by the Balkan route, which runs through southeastern Europe. Since 2018, migrants traveling this way have ended their journeys in refugee camps. Late in 2020, a fire in one camp in Lipa, Bosnia-Herzegovina, forced 1,500 of these refugees to live outdoors during the cold and snow of winter. Pope Francis responded with a donation to build structures to accommodate the refugee families and unaccompanied minors.

Your contribution to Peter's Pence helps fund not only all the activities of the dicasteries of the Roman Curia that assist the pope in his ministry, but also several solidarity projects that aid those most in need. To learn more about the ways in which Peter's Pence supports the Holy Father's ministry of mercy, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en/cos-e-l-obolo.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 carry out his ministry to the Universal Church and reach out to the most marginalized in our world.

Thank you and may God bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+William A. Wack, CSC

Most Reverend William A. Wack, CSC Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee