



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

1400 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367
317-236-1403

25 January 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On 21 February 2021, our Archdiocese will be taking up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE). Just as we here in the United States continue to struggle with the outbreak of the coronavirus, we are reminded that people are suffering worldwide. In the countries of Eastern Europe where economies are weak the elderly as well as doctors, nurses and medical chaplains are among those most vulnerable to the spread of the disease. In Ukraine, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC) came to the aid of homebound senior citizens in many cities, using Church facilities to organize the work and engage both local volunteers and assistance from abroad. In addition, the UGCC mobilized its network of about 120 hospital chaplains to collect and distribute urgently needed protective gowns, masks, and sanitizer so that they could safely minister to the sick in their region.

“When you know that someone cares about you and that you are not alone in your struggles,” said Father Volodymyr Malchin of the UGCC, “it is easier to go through all kinds of challenges.” Your participation in the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe expresses your care and support for the people in Ukraine and throughout the region, especially in this time of crisis and disruption.

Over the last 25 years your generous gifts have had a significant impact on rebuilding the Church following the fall of communism. I am confident your continued support will help foster and nurture communities in over 25 countries in which Catholics can share and grow in faith. Thank you for bringing about a brighter future for our sisters and brothers in Central and Eastern Europe.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Charles C. Thompson

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archbishop of Indianapolis