

**For publication in the parish bulletin the weekend preceding the collection  
(16-17 September 2017)**

**Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada: Why is there such a collection?**

Every year, the Bishops of Canada make an appeal for financial assistance to support their work and the work of each diocese/eparchy by means of the Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada. The President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB), the Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., Bishop of Hamilton, has described this Collection as an invitation to “all the faithful to participate in the life and mission of the Church through their active involvement in the life of their parish community, their prayers, their diverse charisms, their moral support, and the contributions of their time and talents. The Collection for the Needs of the Church is an opportunity for Catholics to truly help their diocese/eparchy participate in the regional episcopal assemblies and the CCCC. Any additional revenue which is raised is used by the diocese/eparchy for its own pastoral programs and other activities.”

The Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will take place on 23 and 24 September 2017. This annual charitable initiative furthers the collegiality and synodality of the Bishops’ ministry in leading, shepherding, teaching, guiding, sanctifying and pastorally caring for all of God’s children, disciples of Christ in Canada.

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**For publication in the parish bulletin the weekend of the collection  
(23-24 September 2017)**

**Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada: An invitation to support the faith and evangelization mission of the Church!**

The Bishops of Canada gather in four Regional Assemblies (Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario and the West), as well as in their national Conference. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) is mandated by the Holy See and the Bishops who are its members to work in a number of areas of pastoral life and evangelization: faith formation and catechesis, doctrinal questions, ecumenical initiatives, international relations, interreligious conversations, liturgical resources, relations with Indigenous Peoples, social justice questions, and building a culture of life and family. The CCCC is the national assembly of the Catholic Bishops in Canada, and includes the Bishops (Eparchs) of the Eastern Catholic Churches as well. Thank you in advance for your generous contribution for ensuring the success of the collection and the ongoing work of evangelization.

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