



7 November 2018

His Eminence Leopoldo Cardinal Brenes Solórzano
Archbishop of Managua
President, Conferencia Episcopal de Nicaragua (CEN)
Apartado postal 2407
De Ferretería Lang 1 cuadra al Norte y 1 cuadra al Este
Managua, NICARAGUA

Your Eminence,

Fraternal Greetings in Christ Jesus from the Church in Canada.

As President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops I am reaching out on behalf of the Bishops of Canada to convey our solidarity and spiritual closeness to you, our brother Bishops of Nicaragua, and to the flock entrusted to your care – the clergy, consecrated persons and lay faithful – during this deeply painful and violent period of your nation's history.

The efforts of your Church to promote dialogue and non-violent means to resolve your country's current political problems are a powerful example of our call as Christians to live peaceably with everyone and to overcome evil with good (Rm 12:17-21). Thank you for your powerful witness.

It is with great sadness and revulsion, however, that we have learned of certain heinous acts committed against the Church in your country, including the desecration of churches, and even acts of physical violence against your own person, as well as the Apostolic Nuncio, and other Bishops and clergy.

We all wish for you to know that we are in solidarity with you and to assure you of the fervent prayers of the Bishops and faithful of Canada for a speedy, peaceful, and just resolution of the societal malaise and disorder currently afflicting Nicaraguan society. May The Immaculate Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows and Queen of Peace, intercede on your behalf and allow for God's grace to touch, change and transform hearts according to his divine will.

Sincerely yours in Christ
our Suffering Lord,



+Lionel Gendron, P.S.S.
Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil
President, Canadian Conference
of Catholic Bishops

- c.c.: - The Most Reverend César Bosco Vivas Robelo, Bishop of León (CEN Vice President)
- The Most Reverend Silvio José Báez Ortega, Auxiliary Bishop of Managua (CEN General Secretary)
 - The Most Reverend René Sócrates Sándigo Jirón, Bishop of Juigalpa
 - The Most Reverend Jorge Solórzano Pérez, Bishop of Granada
 - The Most Reverend Rolando José Álvarez Lagos, Bishop of Matagalpa
 - The Most Reverend Juan Abelardo Mata Guevara, Bishop of Estelí
 - The Most Reverend Carlos Enrique Herrera Gutiérrez, Bishop of Jinotega
 - The Most Reverend Pablo Ervin Schmitz Simon, Vicar Apostolic of Bluefields
 - The Most Reverend David Albin Zywiec Sidor, Auxiliary Bishop, Apostolic Vicariate of Bluefields