



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

February 11, 2022

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This year, as we approach Ash Wednesday and mark the beginning of Lent, let us remember that the liturgical season of Lent is a season of conversion. It is a time set apart for deepening our relationship with Christ and seeking inner transformation through fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

As the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada provides an ideal way to offer alms to those most in need through their annual *Share Lent* campaign. The theme of this year's campaign is *People and Planet First*, highlighting the work of their partners who, despite their challenges, are finding ways to live in harmony with their environment. Let us join in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the Global South who are feeling the most significant impacts of the changing climate by opening our hearts to the message of this campaign.

Since 1967, the CCCB has set aside the fifth Sunday of Lent as Solidarity Sunday. At that time, we will have a collection in support of Development and Peace's *Share Lent* campaign in each parish and I encourage you to give generously. Contributions can also be made online at www.devp.org/sharelent, by mailing a cheque, or by calling 1-888-234-8533.

Please consider contributing to the Share Lent Campaign this year.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
Bishop of St. Catharines