



# ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

## ARCHDIOCESE LENTEN COLLECTION

21 February 2025

**St. Peter Damian, Bishop**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Season of Lent will begin shortly. It is a pruning season meant to cut back the dead wood of our hearts to receive the joyful Good News of the Easter Season well: that is, we are made new and called to relationship through our Lord's passion, death and resurrection. The forty days of Lent are traditionally marked by three pillars intended to help in this pruning process: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

It is the third pillar, almsgiving, which we focus on together as an Archdiocese with the **Archdiocesan Lenten Collection**, beginning this year on **5 March 2025**. Taking up our collection on Ash Wednesday allows us to cultivate a collective spirit of detachment and charity throughout the entire Holy Season. As we have done in recent years, a committee of parishioners under the age of 40 will convene in the coming months under the patronage of St. Martin De Porres. Together they will identify local initiatives and organizations that are currently addressing the greatest needs in our Archdiocese and beyond. The fruit of their discernment informs the final suggestion of agencies selected for donations.

Through your incredible and generous support last year, we raised \$88,176.18 and allocated \$88,000 to various works of charities within our Archdiocese and beyond. The remaining \$176.18 will be rolled into this year's collection for ease of distribution. Please be assured that your ongoing contributions are making a profound difference in the lives of many.

This Lent, let us remember that giving is not merely a nice gesture or obligation, but an invitation to creatively collaborate with Christ's mission to "rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, and plead for the widow." (Isaiah 1:17) Let us therefore enter this season with a spirit of expectation that our Lord wants to use all things, even our almsgiving, as a means of transformation within us and our communities. May God bless you during this sacred time, and bring you spiritually renewed to the celebrations of the Easter Mysteries.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Michael Mulhall  
Archbishop of Kingston