



Archdiocese of Vancouver  
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

March 6, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I appeal to you to take part during this year's *Share Lent* campaign. As Catholics in Canada, it is our way of helping the poor, the marginalized and those suffering the effects of war, violence and natural disasters throughout the world. One recent example is the famine in the Sahel in Africa. Emergency relief, while very necessary, was not enough. Continued support for agricultural and development programs is needed for real change to take place.

This year we are focusing on the fundamental principle of Catholic social teaching: human dignity. The human person made in the image of God is at the heart of the Church's role in fostering development and peace. This understanding of human dignity gives a special quality to our work, which would be impossible without your generous support of our *Share Lent* campaign.

What is this special quality? The conviction that poverty is not just a material problem to be solved. Rather, poverty is a call to journey together with the poor in search of the justice and peace of God's kingdom. The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace visibly expresses our solidarity with the human family and our hope that the world can truly be a better place.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your families during this holy season of renewal and conversion of heart.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ J. Michael Miller CSB

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Archbishop of Vancouver