



Archdiocese of Vancouver
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
August 22, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Nearly two million refugees have fled the recent violence in Syria, with thousands continuing to pour across borders every day. It is estimated that half the country's population will need humanitarian assistance by the end of this year.

Pope Francis has called for peace in Syria and assured its people that the Church will not abandon them. He has asked that we, together with the international community, provide humanitarian aid for the displaced and refugees.

To respond to the Holy Father's appeal, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace are launching an emergency humanitarian campaign. It will culminate in a Day of Prayer and Fasting for the People of Syria and the Middle East on Saturday, September 14th, 2013. On September 15th, a special second collection in the Archdiocese will be taken for those suffering displacement on account of the ravages of this war in Syria.

In order to make your donation, please use the special collection envelopes that you will find in your pews or donate online at www.devp.org/donate.

With gratitude for your generous caring for our refugee brothers and sisters and with my prayers for you and your family, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ J. Michael Miller CSB

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Archbishop of Vancouver