



ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

1 March 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Season of Lent is an extraordinary gift to us. It is a season of penance that reminds us of the truths proclaimed in the Scriptures: that the Lord has saved us through His passion, death and resurrection.

The Holy Father is calling us to a renewal in our parishes to make them intentionally mission oriented. The objective is to make our parishes places where families and individuals can encounter the Risen Jesus, mature as disciples, and be ready to accompany one another within our parish communities. As we accompany the catechumens approaching their baptism, we recall that in baptism Jesus shares His divine life with us, as well sharing the responsibility of the mission of the Church. For this reason, as we take on our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we do so with great joy and hope that through repentance and mortification, our hearts are renewed with His passion for souls.

On March 17th, 2024, we will again take up our **Archdiocesan Lenten Collection**. Through your incredible and generous support last year, we were able to allocate \$95,478 to various works of charities within our Archdiocese and beyond. Your contributions made a profound difference in the lives of many. It is my aim that we – in solidarity – continue this well-meaning practice of supporting our local ministries as much as possible.

Traditionally, our Lenten collection has been taken up on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, but in 2025 we are moving it to Ash Wednesday. This adjustment not only aligns with the spirit of almsgiving at the beginning of Lent, but also allows us to extend our support throughout the entire Holy Season.

Let us use this gift of Lent wisely, recognizing once more that giving alms is one of our responses to all that the Lord has done for us. May God bless you during the remainder of 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