

ProtN.38/20/43

17 March 2020

Dear Rev. Fathers, dear Brothers and Sisters,

As every year, towards the conclusion of Lent, we celebrate during the Holy week the passion, death, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. As a symbol of our love and solidarity, we generously contribute the Good Friday collection to the Holy Father for the protection of the Holy Land and its people. This year too, although we are now in the grip of Coronavirus and its aftereffects, let us be generous to the Holy Land and its people during the collection of Good Friday.

In this context let me quote a few words from the letter (dated 26 February 2020) of Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Church addressed to me:

"The Holy Land is the physical place where Jesus lived this agony and this suffering, transforming it into redemptive action thanks to an infinite love...The Holy Land and especially the Christian community that lives there has always occupied an important place in the heart of the universal Church...The Church continues to work to safeguard the Christian presence and to give voice to the voiceless. The care of the Sanctuaries, which would be impossible without the collection for the Holy Land, is also of fundamental importance."

"To Your Excellency, to the priests, to the consecrated men and women, and to the faithful who strive for the success of the Collection, I have the joy of transmitting the deep gratitude of the Holy Father, Pope Francis."

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I would like to acknowledge with gratitude that the amount we sent to the Holy Father from the Good Friday Collection of 2019 is AUD 22,076.95. Thereby we stand in the 11th place among the 28 Dioceses and 5 Eparchies in Australia.

I call upon you to continue with our prayer and generosity for the protection of the Holy Land and its people.

Yours in Jesus,

Boutath



+Bosco Puthur