17 February 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

March 1, 2020 marks the date that parishes of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. It is hard to believe that it’s been more than 25 years since the fall of communism in that region of the world. While governments have relaxed restrictions on religious practice, Catholic communities still struggle to restore churches and pass on the faith to the next generation.

Your support of this collection gives hope to people by allowing the Church to minister not only to their spiritual needs but also to care for their physical needs. Seminaries are being built to form priests, and schools are being opened to educate children. In Armenia funding is provided for youth to be formed worship, study, pilgrimage and service. And a Crisis Pregnancy Center in Lithuania is open to help women face challenging pregnancies or losses. The impoverished of Georgia receive assistance to meet basic human needs while young people are discovering their spiritual heritage.

The generous support of U.S. Catholics to the 2018 Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe resulted in over $8 million being distributed in grants to rebuild and restore the Church. Please be as generous as you can, because your support makes a difference and brings the light of Christ to the region.

As always, I am grateful for your financial sacrifices and the prayers you offer for our brothers and sisters in need.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Charles C. Thompson

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archbishop of Indianapolis