



To: Pastors, Parish Life Directors, Parish Staff members; Social Justice committees, D&P parish reps

From: Diocesan Development and Peace leadership

per Bernice Daratha, Diocesan chair

October 7, 2020

Greetings,

Development and Peace/Caritas Canada, the official development organization of the Canadian Catholic Church, has not been exempt from the consequences of Covid19. Because there was no Share Lent collection in parishes during March, a \$5 million shortfall resulted. Commitments to partners were kept but no new projects have been accepted. Significant cutbacks and staff layoffs had to be made, e.g. Armella Sonntag, our public engagement officer for the West, and Louise Bitz, our Catholic Schools program officer. We are grateful to some parishioners who dropped off their envelopes at the parish office or donated virtually (\$500,000 was collected across Canada and \$500,000 for the Emergency collection for Beirut, Lebanon).

In Bishop Mark Hagemoen's appeal letter we read, **"The status and treatment of the orphan, the stranger, the poor and marginalized – are now manifest in new ways as our diocese, country and world confronts new awareness of the history of how we treat brothers and sisters."**

In response to D&P's request to hold a Recovery Collection this fall, Bishop Mark has responded with the following, **"As a special Diocesan collection for Diocesan Mission work is taking place the weekend of November 15, 2020, fifty percent of the collection will be designated to Development Peace initiatives in response to COVID-19 around the globe."**

Therefore we request that you make the Fall Campaign, **Recovering Together**, and this special collection known to your parishioners with whatever means are available to you. Promotion materials can be found at <https://www.devp.org/en/education/fall2020/materials>. No materials for the Fall Action campaign were mailed out this fall as you may have noticed.

A Fall Presentation/Workshop will take place virtually. Priva Hang'andu, our Regional Animator will facilitate this session. Please join us or inform those in your parish who take leadership for these campaigns. Here is the bulletin/web announcement and link information:

Development and Peace Fall 2020 Campaign Presentation/ Workshop: The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us how interconnected our human family is and that we cannot recover alone. As Pope Francis has said, "An emergency like that of COVID-19 is overcome with, above all, the antibodies of solidarity." Please join D&P on Saturday, October 17 at 10 am for a Zoom meeting to discuss the effects of COVID-19 on the most marginalized communities in the Global South and how we, along with our partners in the Global South, can work at Recovering Together.

The link and telephone numbers to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83426057977?pwd=azN5Y056YmxGNnVZZzRBclRWT3B3QT09>

Meeting ID: 834 2605 7977, Passcode: 602175 One
tapmobile +17789072071,,83426057977#,,,,,0#,,602175#
Canada +14388097799,,83426057977#,,,,,0#,,602175# Canada

Questions? D&P animator, Priva Hang'andu, +1 306 205-2334 ext. 210 |
phangandu@devp.org or D&P diocesan chair, Bernice
Daratha, bdaratha@sasktel.net."

You may also contact your D&P Deanery leaders for further information:

- **Saskatoon** - Betty Jmaeff (bejandy@shaw.ca) and Joanne Steckler (stecklerjoanne15@gmail.com);
- **Saskatoon Rural** – Armella Rollheiser (arollheiser@sasktel.net),
- **Eatonia** – Dale McIlmoyl (lcc@sasktel.net),
- **Kerrobert** – Zena Deibert (zdeibert@gmail.com),
- **Humboldt** – Lucille and Vic Granger (vlgrx@hotmail.com),
- **Wadena** – Garth McCutcheon (ggmccutcheon@shaw.ca)

Please ensure that this communication is shared with those who are involved.

With gratitude for all your efforts,

Bernice Daratha, Diocesan Development and Peace chair

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