



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

## DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

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May 18, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In April 2008, Pope Benedict XVI made a historic journey to the United States. During this time, in his homily at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York, he made a call to action for the Church in the United States: "In the finest traditions of the Church in this country, may you also be the first friend of the poor, the homeless, the stranger, the sick and all who suffer. Act as beacons of hope, casting the light of Christ upon the world."

Every year, when the Peter's Pence Collection is taken up around the world to support the works of the Holy Father, Catholics in the United States are extraordinarily generous. The proceeds of this Collection, held this year the weekend of June 27-28, are used to provide emergency funds to those who suffer from oppression, disease, war, or natural disaster.

The family of faith in Fairfield County can be beacons of hope to those of our brothers and sisters who are most in need. Let us answer the call to cast the light of Christ upon the world. I ask you to be as generous as possible in the upcoming Peter's Pence Collection. Together, let us ask the Lord to bless the Holy Father, us, and all those in need throughout the world.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Lori  
Bishop of Bridgeport