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## PULPIT LETTER

July 21, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Each year, the annual **Peter's Pence Collection** in support of the works of the Holy Father is held in parishes throughout the world. The proceeds from this collection fund emergency relief assistance to those who suffer from war, oppression, disease and natural disasters. Through works of charity, Catholics stand in solidarity with the weak, the defenseless, and the voiceless, and they sustain those who suffer.

The theme for this year's Collection – ***Be a Pilgrim of CHARITY*** - reflects the message that each of us has the opportunity to become a pilgrim of charity around the world.

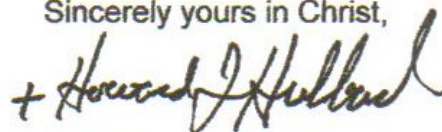
In his address of March 20, 2013, Pope Francis spoke of our responsibility before the world and creation. **"There is much that we can do to benefit the poor, the needy and those who suffer, and to favor justice, promote reconciliation and build peace,"** he said.

The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters. We share in the concern of the universal Church and for the relief of those most in need around the globe.

This year the collection in our diocese is scheduled for the weekend of July 27-28, 2013.

I ask you to consider contributing to the collection this year, and I am grateful for your generosity. Together let us ask the Lord to bless the Holy Father and us as well as those in need throughout the world.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Howard J. Hubbard  
Bishop of Albany