



**April 15, 2022**

Dear Friends,

Each year on Good Friday, the Diocese of Joliet participates in the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which supports Christians living in the Holy Land.

Your generosity allows the Franciscan Friars in the Holy Land to continue their work of providing hope to Christians. The pandemic that is affecting the whole world struck particularly hard on the Catholic population of the Holy Land, which is usually strongly supported by pilgrims visiting the holy sites.

Each year, the Holy Father asks Catholic parishes around the world to take up a Good Friday collection to keep Christians in the Holy Land. This collection supports the work of the Franciscans in maintaining the sacred shrines, ministering to the parishes, providing formation and education in the communities and schools, and caring for the basic needs of the people in the Holy Land.

With your help, the Franciscans can continue to be a light of hope to those living in darkness in the Holy Land.

Paz y bien,

**Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks**

Bishop of Joliet