



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL
1011 FIRST AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

April 30, 2017
Paschaltide

Dear friends in the Lord,

This weekend our archdiocese takes up the special *Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE)*. This collection provides vital funding for our brothers and sisters living in countries that were once under communist rule. Restoring the Church, in both its structures and its spiritual life, has been difficult, but with your support we can help build a brighter future for this region.

In Estonia, for instance, religious observance is rare, and very little funding is available to assist youth in learning about Christianity or the Catholic faith. Last year, the collection for *CCEE* provided support to a summer camp program for youth. Some thirty middle-school aged boys attended the camp where they not only learned about the Catholic faith but also had opportunities to attend Mass and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Once they are in high school, the boys who previously attended are excited to return as staff members to lead and help the new group of campers grow in their faith. With your support, the faith is able to flourish through this younger generation.

Your generous donations will make the difference for those who are still struggling in the aftermath of communist rule. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the *Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe* this year. For more information about the collection and those supported by it, visit www.usccb.org/ccee.

Thank you for your assistance in restoring the Church and in building its future in Central and Eastern Europe.

With prayerful best wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

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Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York