



Diocese of Edmundston

Bishop's Office, 60, Bouchard Street, Edmundston, NB E3V 3K1

Téléphone: 506-735-5578

Courriel : diocese@nbnet.nb.ca

Télécopieur: 506-735-4271

Site : www.diocese-edmundston.ca

October 14, 2015

*To the Priests, Religious Congregations
and all the Faithful in the Diocese of Edmundston*

Subject: Joint Fundraising Campaign for Syrian Refugees
by Development and Peace, CNEWA Canada
and ACN Canada

Dear Confreres,
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Recently, The Most Reverend Paul-André Durocher, Archbishop of Gatineau and President of the Catholic Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) informed that the CCCB has endorsed a joint fundraising campaign aimed at involving all the Church in Canada in order to assist Syrian refugees seeking shelter and protection in the Middle East and parts of Europe. The joint campaign, already being supported by Bishops across the country, involves the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Canada, and CNEWA Canada. Development and Peace will work to expand its ongoing efforts to support Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries in the Middle East, while ACN and CNEWA will continue to support all refugees affected by this war.

The Government of Canada announced last month that it has established the Syria Emergency Relief Fund. Every eligible dollar donated by individual Canadians to registered Canadian charities like Development and Peace, CNEWA and Aid to the Church in Need in response to the impact of the conflict in Syria, will be matched by the government. **Donations made immediately and until December 31, 2015 will be accepted.** For more information on the Government of Canada's Syria Emergency Relief Fund, as well as for updates on activities in the Middle East and on behalf of Syrian refugees involving Development and Peace, Aid to the Church in Need Canada, and CNEWA Canada, consult the following websites :

-Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
<http://www.international.gc.ca/media/dev/news-communiques2015/09/12a.aspx?lang=eng>
-Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace
<http://www.devp.org>
-CNEWA Canada, <http://www.cnewa.ca/>
-Aid to the Church in Need Canada,
<http://www.acn-aed-ca.org/press-release-syria-the-catholic-church-launches-appeal-in-response-to-refugee-crisis/>

The outstanding work of aid and development agencies is only possible through the generous donations and support of people of good will. Envelopes will be provided to parishes for this special collection: the envelopes are to be placed in the church and the collection is to take place after mass. Donations are to be sent to the Diocesan Centre, 60 Bouchard Street, Edmundston, N.B., E3V 3K1 at your earliest convenience.

The refugee crisis is an important moment to deepen our faith, extend our charity, summon up hope and live compassion. Together let us continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in distress and in need of our assistance.

Thanking you in advance for your collaboration, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ our Lord,

+ Claude Champagne O.M.I.

+ Claude Champagne, O.M.I.
Bishop of Edmundston

Enclosure : (Parish Bulletin Insert)



PARISH BULLETIN INSERT

**For your Parish bulletin of
October 18, October 25 and November 1st, 2015**

Joint Fundraising Campaign for Syrian Refugees
by Development and Peace, CNEWA Canada
and Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Canada

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP), are jointly organizing a **FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES**.

During the week-end masses of **OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 1, 2015**, there will be a special collection in all the parishes and areas of worship in the diocese. The Government of Canada will match your donation to Development and Peace (Refugee Crisis) providing donations are made before **December 31, 2015**. Donations may also be made after that date.

Please use the special envelopes placed in the church; collection will take place after mass.

I thank you sincerely for your ongoing support and solidarity towards those in need.

Source :

† Claude Champagne, O.M.I.
Bishop of Edmundston