


## DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

# Memo

To: Clergy  
From: Auxiliary Bishop Myron J. Cotta   
Date: September 2, 2014  
Re: **Special Collection for the Middle East**

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This is a follow-up of the July 31 Memo: **Praying for Peace.**

Many parishioners may have been asking for ways to help the refugees from Iraq, Gaza, Syria and the surrounding areas. We just received this announcement from the Office of the National Collections:

“Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), is asking that a special collection be taken up on September 6-7. These funds will be used by Catholic Relief Services and other Catholic agencies working in partnership with the local Church to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs facing the people in Iraq, Gaza, Syria and surrounding countries where refugees have fled. These organizations have well-established partnerships with the Catholic Church in the region which allow them to respond quickly and efficiently to victims in some of the hardest to reach areas. Collection funds will also be used to support Church programs to aid persecuted Christians and to respond to rebuilding needs of Catholic dioceses in the impacted areas.”

Please preface the Special Collection this weekend with a brief announcement that a second collection will be taken up on September 6-7.

Send the proceeds to the Diocese of Sacramento and under the Memo portion, write: “Special Collection for the Middle East”. They will be forwarded by the Diocese of Sacramento to the USCCB Office of National Collection.

For further information about this special collection or any of the National Collections please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the National Collections at (202) 541-3365 or [bkjennedy@usccb.org](mailto:bkjennedy@usccb.org).