

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The war in Ukraine continues to claim lives, divide families, and shatter the future of millions. The most vulnerable – children, the elderly, the sick, and the displaced – suffer from the loss of home, safety, and hope. In the midst of this tragedy, Caritas remains a steadfast source of support, bringing life-saving assistance to thousands, especially in areas close to the frontlines.

As the Catholic Bishops of the Nordic countries we wish to express our solidarity with the Ukrainian people and support the efforts of Caritas in Ukraine. We therefore invite all Catholic parishes and religious communities in our five countries to take up **a special collection on Sunday, 1 June 2025**, the 7th Sunday of Easter.

The funds collected will support a new humanitarian project by Caritas in Ukraine, which aims to assist over 5,000 people with cash for basic needs, hygiene supplies, and when winter comes give heating support. This initiative prioritizes those living close to the frontlines with limited access to other forms of aid. Our contribution will go directly to those most affected, serving as a tangible expression of Christian charity and hope.

We urge all pastors to inform the faithful about this collection and its purpose, and to include special prayers for peace in Ukraine during the intercessions at Mass that Sunday.

Let us pray for peace, and respond with generous hearts.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for Ukraine!

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Nordic Countries,

- **Bishop Erik Varden O.C.S.O.**, Trondheim and apostolic administrator of Tromsø, President
- **Bishop Raimon Goyarrola**, Helsinki, Vice President
- **Cardinal Anders Arborelius OCD**, Stockholm
- **Bishop Czeslaw Kozon**, Copenhagen
- **Bishop Bernt Eidsvig Can.Reg.**, Oslo
- **Bishop David Tencer OFMCap**, Reykjavik
- **Koadjutor-bishop, Fredrik Hansen**, Oslo