



*Give to the LORD, you families of nations,
give to the LORD glory and praise;
give to the LORD the glory due his name!
Bring gifts, and enter his courts.
Psalm 96:7,8*

October 22, 2017

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Everything we have, everything! is a gift of God, the Creator. God offers His covenant to us; that we might grow in friendship with Him, returning all that we are given to flourish the earth. We are called to live fully in God's offering, so that we might give to the *LORD* the glory due His name because of our love of Him.

The Annual Collection of Catholic Charities of Central Florida is our opportunity to give to the *LORD* glory and praise. The Annual Collection is a gift to God, supporting important services which assist our neighbors with essentials for their daily living. Through Catholic Charities of Central Florida, we are uniquely poised to bring forth God's mercy to the weary and brokenhearted. We carry each one through the difficult storms, not just through a weekend or a season, but until each one receives the calming sustenance of justice anointed in hope.

"Jesus does not take the Cross from us," Pope Francis said; rather "He carries it with us." This is the treasure of Catholic Charities of Central Florida. We are as Christ to each other, carrying the Cross for each other in Jesus' name. Let us be concerned with repaying God with the good deeds that are His due.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John Noonan
Bishop of Orlando