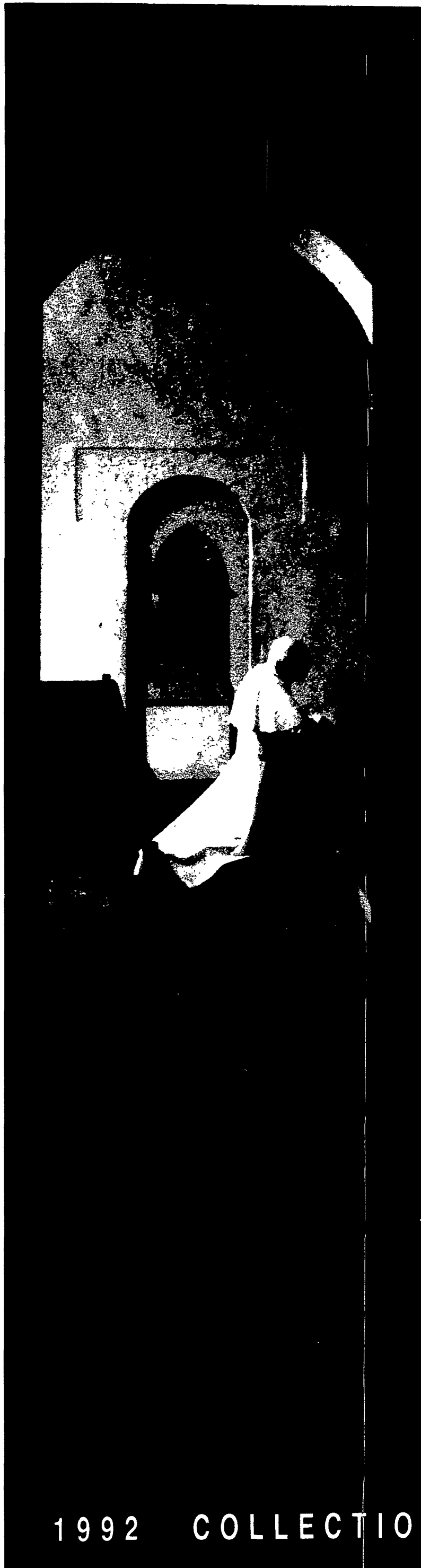


1992 COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER

(Peter's Pence)

WEEKEND OF JUNE 27-28



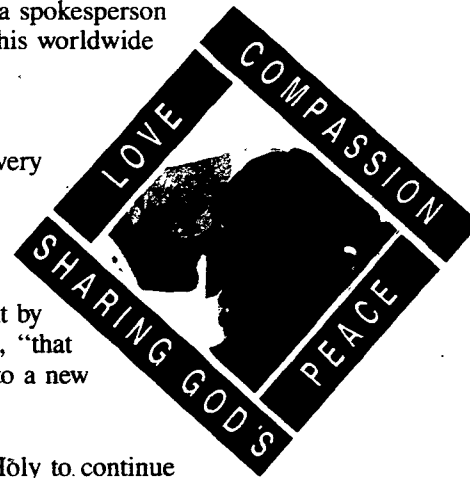
THE HOLY FATHER'S CONCERNS

During this fifth centenary of the evangelization of the Americas, Pope John Paul II especially encourages us to join with him in "a new evangelization." As a spokesperson for peace, the Holy Father looks to all the Church to support his worldwide mission of evangelization.

The Holy Father has clearly demonstrated his concern for evangelization in his pastoral visits throughout the world. In every country where he has traveled, he has brought the gospel message of love, compassion, and peace.

In his 1991 encyclical on the Church's mission, *Redemptoris Missio*, John Paul II emphasizes the importance of involvement by all Catholics in the Church's mission. He states his conviction, "that the moment has come to commit all of the Church's energies to a new evangelization..."

Our participation in the Peter's Pence Collection enables the Holy to continue his worldwide mission as a spokesperson for peace and pastor to the universal Church.



THE ORIGINS OF PETER'S PENCE

The Collection for the Holy Father, originally known as Peter's Pence, began in ninth century England. King Alfred the Great assessed a penny tax from each landowner as a form of financial assistance for the pope. The tradition continued until the Reformation. The practice was reinstated in the 1860s by Pope Pius IX to compensate for the revenue lost from the Italian state's seizure of papal lands.

THE NEED CONTINUES

In 1980 the Holy See requested that bishops' conferences throughout the world find ways to assist the Holy Father in his spiritual and charitable works. In response to this request, the U.S. bishops' conference formed the Ad Hoc Committee on the Economic Concerns of the Holy See. This committee, now chaired by the Most Rev. James P. Keleher, Bishop of Belleville, initiates and administers the annual Collection for the Holy Father in the United States.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SEE

◆ The Holy See, in its vital work for the universal Church, has a yearly operating budget that is less than some of the major universities and archdioceses in this country.

◆ The Holy Father needs our help to maintain the Holy See's many departments and agencies which oversee the Church's administration in more than 100 countries, serving a total Catholic population of 700 million.

◆ More than 98 cents of every dollar contributed to the Collection for the Holy Father goes directly to concerns designated by him. Less than 2 cents per dollar is used for the collection's administrative costs.

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTION HELPS

Pastoral Activities: Through his pastoral visits throughout the world, Pope John Paul II strengthens the spiritual life of millions. As a spokesperson for peace, he encourages dialogue and negotiation among the nations of the world.

Mission Dioceses: Bishops from more than 900 mission dioceses rely on His Holiness to help them with the basic necessities to support their diocesan activities.

Emergency Relief: Throughout the world, when war, oppression, and natural disasters leave people unprotected, the Holy Father provides emergency aid.

Papal Representatives: The State of Vatican City maintains diplomatic relations with 127 countries, including the United States. Through his papal representatives, the pope offers a clear moral voice among the world's governments. The Holy See's emissaries work to build sound relations with governments and are often called upon to mediate disputes.

The Work of the Holy See: To administer all these programs and departments, the Holy See employs more than 2,300 employees. Adequate salaries and pensions must be provided for those who have dedicated their lives to serve the Church.

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED

Your support of the 1992 Collection for the Holy Father makes you a participant in the worldwide mission of Pope John Paul II. Please also remember him in your prayers, that God will strengthen him in his service to Christ and to the Church.



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