



HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT

Franciscan Provincial Office
47 Victoria Street, Waverley NSW 2024
Tel: (02) 9369 9300 Email: admin@franciscans.org.au

HOLY LAND COLLECTION - GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18th 2025

SUGGESTED BULLETIN NOTICE for Palm Sunday April 13th 2025

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 18th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2024 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.5 million (\$1.4 million [2023], \$1.4 million [2022] and \$1,126,098 [2021]). The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges, financial and spiritual, and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.

Where to send the collection: All **cash** should be sent to the person responsible for the financial affairs of your Diocese. Please assist by sending it promptly. The Commissariat then receives a cheque or bank transfer from your Diocese once most returns have been received.

Please note: All credit card offerings (made on the back of the Holy Land Collection envelopes) and all personal cheques, made out to the Holy Land Commissariat, should be sent directly to the Commissariat office within one month (Holy Land Commissariat, Franciscan Provincial Office 47 Victoria Street, Waverley NSW 2024). Offerings received in this way will be added to the final amount from your parish and you will be advised of this amount in writing.

Some parishes may choose to remit their collection directly to the Commissariat by cheque (payable to "Holy Land Commissariat"), at the address above, or by electronic transfer. The money is banked immediately into the Commissariat account and a receipt is issued by the Commissariat office.

Name of Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Waverley NSW

Name of Account: Holy Land Commissariat

BSB / Account Number: 062 267 / 1001 4847

Your Reference: Suburb/town + postcode + parish name as per the Catholic Directory, using abbreviations if necessary.

e.g. Campbelltown 2560 St John.

Please notify the details of your electronic transfer to admin@franciscans.org.au if you require a receipt.

The Commissariat transfers the Collection to the Holy Land in the latter half of the year (or earlier if requested). The annual statement is closed in mid-December and late receipts from dioceses or parishes are credited to the collection for the following year.

Papal Decrees direct that the entire Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection is to be used for the Holy Land and divided between the Congregation for the Oriental Churches and the Latin Patriarchate (35%) and the Custody of the Holy Land (65%)

The Responsibilities of the Custody of the Holy Land are:

Biblical Shrines	74
Schools	22 (7,000+ students)
Parishes	29
'Casa Nova' Guest Houses	4
Other religious centres	19
Orphanages and refuges	6
Charitable programmes:	Home rental assistance, educational scholarships, medical centres.
Institutions:	Franciscan Biblical Centre, Seminary, Christian Information Centre, Franciscan Printing Press, Centre for Oriental Christian Studies.

Please display (or publish in your parish or Mass Centre:

- the Australian Holy Land Commissary's Letter to the People
- the Statement of Income for 2024
- the Good Friday Poster (available electronically)

This material is either included with this Information Sheet or downloadable as follows:

Please Note: All material needed for the Good Friday Collection 2025, including the Good Friday Poster, is available electronically: <http://holylandfranciscansaustralia.org/resources/>

Thank you very much for your assistance and co-operation in this Collection.

Peace and every good,



Fr Bernie Thomas ofm
Commissary of the Holy Land (Australia)

