

maintain himself against the sacrilegious encroachments of his plunderers, as well as to support the dignity of his exalted position, he must rely on the charity of the Catholic world. That charity will not fail him—already, on the other side of the Atlantic, the old and time honored association of St. Peter's Pence has been revived. In every part of Europe, thanks to the generosity and devotedness of the laity, it has been established on a firm and solid basis, and promises in a short time to furnish to the Sovereign Pontiff, if not ample means to meet all his wants, at least sufficient to provide for the most urgent and pressing. There is no true Catholic, who in view of the good which will result to us from a continued and well combined association among ourselves, independent of the aid offered to the Pope, will hesitate for a moment in joining it, as it will not be merely an association, each member furnishing his contribution however small at fixed periods for the maintenance and dignity of the Holy See, but one also in which, united in the bonds of holy fellowship, we will offer up our prayers to the great God for strength and protection to the Holy Father against the wicked designs of the inveterate enemies of the Church and the Papacy.

We then invite you most earnestly, Beloved Brethren, to join this Pious Association which we so ardently desire to see established in every portion of this Diocess, and which should count amongst its members every Catholic, without one single exception. The obligations of the association are but slight, the advantages to be derived are very great and precious. The Holy Father, with a view of encouraging the noble spirit of attachment to his sacred person and the inalienable rights of the Holy See, has been pleased to grant to this pious society of St. Peter numerous privileges and indulgences. The contribution required from the members is so exceedingly small as to come within the means of all, and even the poorest among us can enrol themselves as members of this truly Catholic Association, which has for its object the exaltation of our Holy Mother Church and the freedom and independence of our Sovereign Pontiff. Let then, both young and old have their names inscribed on the Registers of the Association, and let all fulfil with piety and exactitude the duties it prescribes. What a beautiful sight, and how consoling to the heart of our Beloved Pontiff, to see all his children united in this Association. It will be a sure means of bringing down a blessing on you and your families, and obtain for you all an increase of Divine faith and a still more ardent attachment for the Church of Christ.

Wherefore, having previously invoked the Holy Name of God, We have decreed and do hereby decree as follows:

1. The Confraternity of Saint Peter the Apostle, affiliated with the Arch-confraternity in Rome, shall be established in all the Missions of the Diocess.
2. A Register shall be kept in each Mission in which shall be inscribed the names of the members of the confraternity.
3. The collection of the St. Peter's Pence, of one penny per month, will be taken up twice in the year, on the first Sunday in March and September, and the amounts collected sent to Us in order that they may be transmitted to Rome.

This our Pastoral Letter is to be read in all the Churches and Chapels of the Diocess on the first Sunday after its reception.

Given at the Episcopal Palace at Kingston, under our signature, the seal of our arms, and the counter-signature of our Secretary, the eleventh of February, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

†E. J., *Bp. of Kingston.*

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By His Lordship's command,

J. SAUVE, *Pro-Secret.*