Dear Parish Priests and Executive Members,

As last year, we hoped to support our local communities by continuing our efforts with the **UOCC Annual Lenten Food Drive: “For the Love of God”** (March 2, 2020-April 20, 2020).

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed all of our lives and in ways we have not yet fully realized. We believe the food donations that were being collected in our parishes and were to be distributed after Pascha may be better used in our local communities now.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Yurij, we are encouraging each parish to donate whatever food donations you have collected to your local food bank as there are increasing needs in our communities as a result of the pandemic. Redirecting our efforts now can hopefully make a difference to helping those less fortunate and improving the communities in which we live.

Each parish can send their Eparchial representative the weight of the **food donation** or however you want to record your donation. Please also feel welcome to make an **individual contribution** with your name and amount (optional) to your local food bank. In this way, we can include individual donations in our total as well. As last year, we will then report the **national total** contributed by parishes in the UOCC. All contributions big or small are encouraged and each contribution, **parish food donation** and/or **individual monetary donation,** will be recorded as anonymous when shared with the UOCC membership. Please send the above information to your Eparchial representative by **April 30, 2020**.

As a Committee, we can then report that XX number of parishes who made donations during this difficult time and provide a report to the consistory board as last year and include in the Visnyk, social media, and on the UOCC website.

Please stay healthy and follow the guidelines of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

God bless you and your family, and a blessed Lent.

In Christ,

Dobr. Dr. Sonia Udod

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