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Caring Sunday 2025

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year we have welcomed a new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, who has taken forward the theme for this Jubilee Year called by Pope Francis. That theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

That call to be pilgrims of hope resonates deeply at a time when so much of our world is torn by conflict and unrest. Wars continue to rage, families are displaced, and many live in fear and uncertainty.

Closer to home, it may seem hard to be a 'pilgrim of hope' when all around us hardship weighs heavily on individuals and families in our communities.

More than 30 years ago, moved by compassion, the late Cardinal Winning founded what was to become the St Nicholas Care Fund as a practical response to the suffering he witnessed in the Archdiocese. Today that mission is just as urgent.

Thanks to your generosity, the Fund continues to:

- Support families struggling with poverty and isolation.
- Assist refugees and those forced to flee violence.
- Offer dignity and hope to those facing addiction, homelessness, or loneliness.

These are not distant issues, but realities faced by people here among us. At a time when the world seems fractured and peace elusive, our small acts of charity become seeds of God's kingdom.

We are reminded of the words of St Paul: "*Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good*" (Romans 12:21). Each gift to the Care Fund is a living testimony to that truth, transforming despair into hope and exclusion into welcome.

I once again appeal for your kindness and support. Together, we can continue to strengthen the hands of those working in schools, parishes, and community groups across the Archdiocese, so that the vulnerable may know they are not forgotten.

By your generosity to the St Nicholas Care Fund you are being a *pilgrim* bringing that great gift of *hope* to those who desperately need it

With gratitude for your faith, hope, and generosity, and with every blessing,

Yours devotedly,

+William Nolan
Archbishop of Glasgow