

Prague 19th April 2013

Your Eminence, dear brother Archbishop,

it has been a very short time since we both had the opportunity to meet personally and to witness the working of the Holy Spirit in the Church through the conclave. What a wonderful result we have in the Holy Father Francis.

Your Eminence, Cardinal Seán, please allow me to express you in the name of the Catholic Church in the Czech Republic my feeling of compassion, grief and shock over the very recent event in the capital of your diocese. The result of evil hatred piled up in the hearts of two young men has exploded on the street of Boston. I heard on the news the parents of one dead girl meditating on whether it is just for their daughter to die so young being so innocent. I heard also other people commenting on the death of 8year old boy that he had his life before him. We certainly do not have all the answers but we know the Lord loves us all and put his only beloved Son to die instead of us. Thanks to him we have all the wonderful possibility of eternal life before each of us.

I would like to assure you as the Shepherd of the people in distress and shock of my spiritual closeness and sincere prayers. I pray for the souls of the dead, for the pain of those who grieve and for conversion of the hearts unable to love. I thought it may be good to let you know about these my feelings. We are with you in the struggle of the present time which seems to be a struggle over the future of the world we live in. May the Lord "heal your city".

+ Cardinal Dominik Duka OP

Archbishop of Prague

President of the Czech Bishops' Conference

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