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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3610

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 9974/19

October 30, 2019

Your Excellency,

At the request of the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, I have the honor to transmit to you the following message:

**The Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez  
Bishop of Cleveland**

**The Holy Father was saddened to learn of the death of Bishop Emeritus Richard G. Lennon, and he offers heartfelt condolences to you and to the clergy, religious and lay faithful of the Diocese. Recalling with gratitude Bishop Lennon's years of episcopal ministry to the Church in Cleveland, he joins you and all present at the Mass of Christian Burial in commending his soul to the merciful love of God our heavenly Father. To all who mourn the late Bishop in the sure hope of the resurrection, His Holiness cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of peace and consolation in the Lord.**

**Cardinal Pietro Parolin  
Secretary of State**

With cordial regards and prayerful best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

✠ Christophe Pierre  
*Apostolic Nuncio*

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His Excellency  
Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez  
Bishop of Cleveland  
Cathedral Square Plaza  
1404 East 9th Street  
Cleveland, OH 44114