

# Thank You From Bishop Gates



Dear Friends,

Wow! Super Bowl Sunday was a great day, not just for Patriots fans but for all those whose lives will be touched by the ministries of compassion extended by Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD).

Thanks to you, the Super Bowl Challenge between the dioceses of Olympia and Massachusetts raised \$40,000 for Episcopal Relief and Development! Patriots fans donated some \$26,000. Seahawks partisans offered some \$13,000. Our original combined goal was \$15,000--far exceeded by your generosity. Our Patriots team reached its astonishing total thanks to church school collections; loose offering designations; loyal Patriots fans living in exile around the country; friendly support from our neighboring New England dioceses; and all your individual contributions large and small.

According to the original challenge, the bishop of the diocese whose team lost the football game will wear sports gear from the victorious team. I thank you for sparing me this indignity! Most of all, I thank you for your generosity. The outcome of the football game was breathtaking; the outcome of the ERD challenge was life-giving!

Grateful blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan M. Gates".

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates

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