

July 6, 2016

Dear Pastors and Pastoral Leaders:

The kickoff weekend for our annual **Seminarian Collection** is fast approaching. **We really want people to know that all of our efforts to renew vocations are working.** The parish family is where it all happens. Your communication and support at the parish level is the biggest factor to a successful campaign. The approach to this collection is really three-fold this year. Affirm. Ask. Increase. We need to **affirm** the parishioners about all they do through prayers, sacrifices, and gifts. **Ask** them to partake in this mission through the mailing campaign that arrived at their houses. **Increase** the intensity, the prayerfulness, and the generosity of what we are already doing. Last year's collection reached \$865,000. We are getting very close to closing the gap on income and expense, and it is only because of the faith of our parishioners. I appreciate your help with this collection.

- **The collection is 100% direct mail.**
- **Please utilize the bulletin announcements, especially for the kickoff weekend.**
- **Even if you do not have a seminarian speaker the 1st weekend of August, it is imperative every parish highlight the collection during the kickoff weekend.**

The following materials are included in this mailing:

- **Instruction Guide** for Pastors, Pastoral Leaders and Parish Personnel, including bulletin announcements.
- **Audio CD** from Bishop Ricken, a newly ordained priest and a seminarian, including the script for you to use during Mass on the kickoff weekend of the collection if you do not have a seminarian speaker.
- **Hope for the Future Posters** (If you need additional posters, please contact the Catholic Foundation.)
- **Postcards** featuring our newly ordained priests.
- **Bulletin Announcements** to be printed in your bulletin the weekends before the collection kickoff and during the month of August.
- **Background Information** regarding the collection.
- **Seminarian Collection Promotion Schedule**
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
- **A Website** is available with these materials for you to download. This website is www.catholicfoundationgb.org. Donations may also be made directly through this website.
- **Envelopes** to be placed around your Church to be taken home after Mass by visitors or parishioners who have misplaced their mailing.

Thank you again for your support of priestly vocations, and in particular, your support of this collection. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Peace and Blessings,



Rev. Daniel Schuster
Vocation Director
vocations@gbdioc.org

For additional materials (posters, envelopes, postcards, CD), or to ask questions, please contact:

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