

July 6, 2015

Dear Pastors and Pastoral Leaders:

The kickoff weekend for our annual **Seminarian Collection** is fast approaching. **This is the ten year anniversary of this annual collection.** Your communication and support at the parish level is still the biggest factor to a successful campaign. The approach to this collection is really three-fold. Inform, Inspire, Encourage. We need to **inform** the parishioners about the purpose of this collection and the impact that it has made. **Inspire** them with signs of hope from within the arena of priestly vocations (a seminarian speaker helps with this). **Encourage** the people to return the collection envelope that was sent to their residence. Last year's collection reached an unparalleled \$766,000. This still does not cover our entire annual budget for vocations, but we are getting closer to closing the gap. I appreciate your help with this mission.

- **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 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of August, it is imperative every parish highlight the collection during the kickoff weekend. We want all of the people to be prepared for Bishop Ricken's letter to arrive in their mailboxes so they may discern how they can make an impact.**

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 and our newly ordained priest, with 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 priest.
- **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](http://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 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  
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**For additional materials (posters, envelopes, postcards, CD), or to ask questions, please contact:**

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