



November 11, 2020

Dear Pastors, Pastoral Leaders and Pastoral Coordinators:

The **2020 Retirement Collection – SHARE IN THE CARE** – will take place the **weekend of December 12 and 13**. This combined collection will benefit the women and men religious as well as our senior diocesan priests. The additional challenges brought about by Covid-19 have compounded an already difficult situation. Proceeds from the Retirement Collection offer critical funding to help meet ongoing eldercare expenses.

Last year, a total of \$426,136 was raised in support of this collection. \$203,752 was given to the National Retirement Fund for Religious and \$222,384 to our own Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund. This amount is up more than \$12,775 from the previous year. I am grateful for all your work that made the 2019 collection a success. I look forward to working together to increase awareness of the Retirement Collection and raise the much needed funds for the men and women who have dedicated their lives to serving our Lord and us.

In thanksgiving for all that our senior diocesan priests and religious have done, please ask your parishioners to join in supporting this Retirement Collection. Please pray for God's continued blessing on our diocesan priests, religious order priests, sisters and brothers. I am grateful for your continued generosity. Nationally, we are among the Dioceses that contribute the most to this collection.

To assist you in this endeavor, you are receiving parish materials from the Catholic Foundation. These materials include: posters, bulletin and pulpit announcements, a general intercession and contribution envelopes. These materials may also be found on the Catholic Foundation website at www.catholicfoundationgb.org.

On behalf of all our diocesan priests and the men and women religious in our Diocese, we offer our deepest thanks for all your efforts in encouraging your parishioners to **SHARE IN THE CARE**. May our loving God bless you and your parishioners abundantly.

Reverend Luke Ferris

Vicar for Clergy and Pastoral Leaders

*P.S. As our retired religious have faithfully served our Lord and us, let us now generously support them in their retirement years. Please **SHARE IN THE CARE** by promoting the 2020 Retirement Collection in your parish. Thank you!*