

November 18, 2021

Dear Pastors, Pastoral Leaders and Pastoral Coordinators:

The **2021 Retirement Collection** – SHARE IN THE CARE – will take place the **weekend of December 11 and 12**. This combined collection will benefit the women and men religious as well as our senior diocesan priests. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to compound an already difficult situation. Proceeds from the Retirement Collection provide critical funding to help meet ongoing eldercare expenses.

Last year, a total of \$366,948 was raised in support of this collection. \$176,211 was given to the National Retirement Fund for Religious and \$190,737 to our own Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund. We 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. We are 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.



Sister Leonette Kochan, OSF
Representative for Religious



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 2021 Retirement Collection in your parish. Thank you!