

2023 Raising Vocations Collection

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How does your gift to the Raising Vocations Collection support Vocations?

This important collection supports ministries that help young men and women answer God's call to a holy vocation. Some ministries that will benefit from the Raising Vocations Collection campus ministry at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and campus ministry at our Catholic High School campuses. They will provide support to these young men and women through retreats, spiritual direction and being part of a Catholic community when they are away from home and journeying with their peers.

2. Why is the Diocese starting the Raising Vocations Collection?

The Diocese of Green Bay has been blessed by the prayers and generosity of thousands of people. With the help of a beautiful, anonymous donation to the *one by One* campaign, our seminarians' tuition, room and board, and the Karios formation year expenses will be covered for five years.

This wonderful gift will allow our Diocese to shift the focus to supporting the efforts of helping more young men and women answer God's call to a holy vocation. After months of prayerful discernment and having consulted with the Catholic Foundation team and Vocations Director, Rev. Mark C. Mleziva, Bishop David Ricken has decided that every parish in the Diocese will undertake a new campaign called the Raising Vocations Collection. This shift will help us further our Diocesan goal of calling forth and forming 30 men in seminary formation by 2025. These holy men have been formed by ministries that encourage our young people to explore their vocation.

3. How are the funds raised from the Raising Vocations Collection different from the *one by One* campaign?

The Raising Vocations Collection supports ministries that help young men and women answer God's call to a holy vocation. Some examples of potential ministries that may be supported include college campus ministry, support of campus ministers at Catholic high schools, vocation retreats for young adults and other ministries that increase vocations.

Through the *one by One* campaign our diocesan goal was to support strengthening parishes, helping others discover Christ, bringing Christ to those in need and growing priestly vocations. In the growing priestly vocations case section one of the campaign goals was to invest more fully college campus ministry with an emphasis on the capital needs of their facilities first. This represents 3% of what was raised in the campaign.

The Raising Vocations Collection has the potential to provide ongoing support for the ministerial needs of campus ministries. This important collection will also open the opportunity to invest in other ministries that have helped increase vocations in our Diocese.

4. How do I make a gift?

Gifts to the Raising Vocations Collection can be made via check, credit card, debit card, automatic withdrawal, gifts of stock, IRA or other non-cash gifts. Checks can be made payable to CF-Raising Vocations Collection. Gifts of stock, IRA and other non-liquid assets, including real estate, should be made by contacting the Josh Diedrich, Catholic Foundation Executive Director at (920) 272-8197. Gifts are subject to acceptance policies of the Catholic Foundation. Gifts to the collection are tax deductible as allowed by law.

5. Who will be asked to support the Raising Vocations Collection?

Every family in the Diocese of Green Bay will be asked to participate in this collection through direct mail.

6. How should we handle gifts placed in the collection basket?

Although this is a direct mail appeal, sometimes responses end up in the collection basket. If any gifts end up in the parish offertory, they can be forwarded to the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay, Inc. PO Box 23001, Green Bay, WI 54305-3001.

7. Are the dates of the Raising Vocations Collection flexible?

The kickoff weekend is August 5-6. The dates are not flexible because of the complexity of the all-household mailing. There will be a timeline published that will help keep the focus of the Collection centered on the arrival of the mailing and if applicable, the speech given by a seminarian.

8. Should I request a seminarian speaker?

Fr. Mark Mleziva, the Vocation Director, highly encourages you to request a seminarian. This practice really inspires people to have hope for the future, to get to know their future priests and to allow the seminarians to share about their own vocation experience. It also provides a wonderful learning experience for our seminarians to be present to your community.

9. What if my parish has a Missionary Cooperation Appeal taking place during the kickoff weekend?

Although this is not an ideal situation, the two events may coincide. If your parish has a visiting Missionary Cooperation Appeal speaker, we suggest your parish still mention during the announcements that parishioners should expect a letter regarding the Raising Vocations Collection from Bishop Ricken. Then share with them that more information on the collection will be presented next weekend.

10. Should my parish produce Raising Vocations Collection envelopes to be inserted with our regular parish collection envelopes?

No. Most people will be receiving a direct mail appeal. Additional materials, including additional pledge cards and envelopes will also be sent to parishes so they can be made available to visitors and those who are not on the mailing list. Those materials should be visible during the month of August and beyond. Please do not put the envelopes out early since we need to focus on the mailing.

11. Will my parish get regular updates on how much has been collected?

The Catholic Foundation will send regular updates to parishes letting them know how the collection is going. Updates are posted weekly to the Catholic Foundation website.

12. Is there a goal for my parish?

No. There is no set goal for any parish. As a Diocese our goal is to have 30 men in seminary by 2025 and beyond. For our Diocese to be successful in this goal we will need to support these ministries that help support vocations in a significant way.

13. Is there a way to make a gift online?

Yes. Please go to: www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give. Then follow the website's easy and helpful prompts.