

July 2023



Dear Pastors and Pastoral Leaders:

The kickoff weekend for our annual **Raising Vocations Collection** is fast approaching. As you know, last year we suspended the Seminarian Collection because of a beautiful anonymous gift through the *one by One* campaign to fund seminarian education and Kairos House for five years. This gift provided Bishop Ricken and our Vocations Office the opportunity to dream even greater about how as a Diocese we might be able to invite more young people to consider religious life.

This campaign will provide funding for ministries that accompany young men and women in discernment of priesthood or religious life. Much of this work happens through campus ministers at Catholic high schools, college campus ministry programs, and other ministries. I humbly ask you to help make this collection a success. In order to do so, please take a look at the resources enclosed. As always, we encourage you to remind the faithful that **the collection is done exclusively by direct mail. Please utilize the bulletin announcements, especially for the kickoff weekend this year on August 5 and 6. Even if you do not have a seminarian speaker this weekend, it is imperative every parish highlight the collection during the kickoff weekend.** Thank you in advance for your continued help in Raising Vocations for Tomorrow, help them say Yes!

The following materials are included in this mailing:

- **Instruction Guide** for Pastors, Pastoral Leaders and Parish Personnel.
- **Audio CD** from Bishop Ricken and Sister Laura, including the script for you to use during Mass on the kickoff weekend of the collection if you do not have a seminarian speaker.
- **Posters** (If you need additional posters, please contact the Catholic Foundation. Spanish posters available or included if you have a Spanish Mass.)
- **Brochures** featuring ministries that accompany young people on vocations.
- **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.
- **Promotion Schedule** is included in this packet. (Spanish available or included if you have a Spanish Mass.)
- **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 & Blank Pledge cards** to be placed around your Church to be taken home after Mass by visitors or parishioners who have misplaced their mailing. (Spanish available or included if you have Spanish Mass.)

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Mark Mleziva  
Vocations Director  
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**For additional materials (posters, envelopes, postcards, CD), or to ask questions, please contact:**  
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