

2026 Raising Vocations Collection Promotion Schedule

A successful Raising Vocation Collection requires at least four weekends of active promotion at Masses. To come close to reaching each Catholic family at Mass, we would recommend the collection be promoted over several weeks, with the initial emphasis being on the kickoff weekend.

Two weeks before the Collection Kickoff (*July 18 & 19, 2026*)

- Weekly reports begin to be sent to parishes from the Foundation.
- Begin using bulletin announcements.

One week before the Collection Kickoff (*July 25 & July 26, 2026*)

- Display posters and informational materials in the Church.
- Continue using bulletin announcements.
- Ask the parish to watch their mailboxes for the letter from Bishop Ricken that will arrive the week of July 27.

Week One: Kickoff Weekend (*August 1 & 2, 2026*)

- Collection message and request for support: (choose one of the following options)
 - Seminarian provides a talk; or
 - Pastor/celebrant/leader/speaker mentions in announcement or post-communion talk; or
 - Bishop's audio message is played.

Sample Ask: During this past week, you should have received a letter from Bishop Ricken requesting your help in supporting our Raising Vocations Collection. This collection will support ministries that help young people discover Christ and accompany them on their vocation journey. Please consider making a gift of \$25, \$100, \$250, or more. Help us grow this Collection in whatever way you are able. If you did not receive the mailing, please take a blank pledge card and envelope with you. You will also be receiving with your mailing a Called by Name card. Please use the card to write down someone you believe would make an excellent priest or religious and return it in the yellow envelope with your gift. Thank you in advance for responding in faith to our Raising Vocations Collection. Together, let's help them say "yes" to God's call!

- Make pledge cards and envelopes available along with other informational materials to visitors or parishioners who may not receive the direct mail request. Keep pledge cards and envelopes available throughout August.
- Continue using the bulletin announcements and post Collection social media content.

Week Two

- Take time to explain the importance of the Called by Name card. This will allow the Vocations Office the opportunity to reach out to the individuals mentioned.

(OVER)

- Use Called by Name promotional pieces. Utilize the mini story, bulletin article and pulpit announcement all found in the parish resources at:
catholicfoundationgb.org/raising-vocations-collection-materials/
- Place extra Called by Name cards and envelopes around the parish.
 - **Sample Announcement:** Included with your Raising Vocations mailing from Bishop Ricken, there is also a Called by Name card. The intention of this card is to help our Diocese grow our numbers in priests and religious. If you haven't already, please write down someone you have in mind who would make an excellent priest or religious, so the Vocations Office can reach out to them. If you did not receive the mailing, please take a blank pledge card, Called by Name card, and envelope with you from the back of Church. This will help us directly support these young people as they discover Jesus and hear God's call for them. Thank you for your support!

Week Three & Four

- Priest and/or Pastoral Leader provides an announcement that reminds and encourages worshippers to give to the Raising Vocations Collection.
- An update is given sharing the good news about how much parishioners have given to the collection.
- Continue using the bulletin announcements and post Collection social media content.