**2016 Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR)** [**www.retiredreligious.org**](http://www.retiredreligious.org)

Parish Appeal/Pulpit Announcement

Please read from the pulpit or include with the weekly announcements.

Aging religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies—often for little pay. Their sacrifices leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Mass Resources

December 3–4, 2016, Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10 / Rom 15:4-9 / Mt 3:1-12

December 10–11, 2016, Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10 / Jas 5:7-10 / Mt 11:2-11

General Intercessions

For elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests, that they may enjoy the dignified care they so richly deserve as they continue to devote their lives to prayer and service. Let us pray to the Lord. R/.

Following the example of the Year of Mercy, we pray especially for the elderly in our nation, that they may be treated with respect and compassion and that we as a society may more fully embrace their gifts of wisdom and grace. Let us pray to the Lord. R/.

Bulletin Announcements

Week before the collection

**Your donation works for aging religious.** “I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious,” a donor writes. “That’s wonderful when we truly want our donations to *work*.” Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.

Week of the collection

**Aging religious need your help.** Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others—educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today’s second collection.

Week after the collection

**Thank you for supporting senior religious.** A sister from Indiana writes, “Because of your kindness, our elderly sisters will have the comfort, security, and joy of living out their remaining years here in their home. You truly honor them and their many years of service by your generosity.” Religious across the United States offer sincere thanks for your generosity to last week’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.