

Retirement Fund for Religious

Sponsored by the National Religious Retirement Office

Fall 2018

Dear Pastor/Pastoral Administrator,

On behalf of the roughly 31,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious, I extend heartfelt thanks to you and your parishioners for your ongoing support.

As you likely know, most senior religious ministered for years for little pay, leaving their religious communities with insufficient retirement savings. Rising health-care costs and decreased income compound the struggle to provide adequate care. Proceeds from the annual collection offer religious communities supplemental assistance for necessities such as medications and nursing care. They also underwrite retirement planning and education.

So I ask you to make the needs of older religious known to your parish family. Please share our bulletin announcements with your bulletin editor and consider promoting the collection in your parish bulletin or on social media. (Text and images are provided at retiredreligious.org.) Please also take one minute during Mass to read our pulpit announcement (*see page 2*) or to offer your own endorsement. With the growing

prevalence of online giving over offertory envelopes, your promotion may be the only opportunity to alert parishioners to the crisis in retirement funding among U.S. religious communities.

Thanks be to God for you and all those who share in our mission to ensure a safe, modest retirement for all our nation's elderly religious.

Gratefully,



Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM
Executive Director

Enclosure: Posters



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.



Two steps to help elderly religious

1. Announce the collection during Mass.

Pulpit Announcement

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

Our second collection today is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years for little to no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your support helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Anuncios desde el púlpito

Tenga la bondad de leerlos desde el púlpito o de incluirlos con los anuncios semanales.

La segunda colecta de hoy es a favor del Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos. Muchas hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes de órdenes religiosas sirvieron durante muchos años con poco o ningún pago. Hoy día, las comunidades religiosas a menudo carecen de ahorros suficientes para cubrir las necesidades de su jubilación. Su donativo ayuda a proporcionar fondos vitales para recetas médicas, cuidados de enfermería y más. Done a aquellos que dieron toda una vida.

2. Post collection reminders.

Choose options that work best for your parish.

Bulletin Announcements

Use prepared bulletin announcements (*see back page*).

Or try including the 2018 campaign image with an announcement, as shown in the example below.

Visit retiredreligious.org/materials to download both.



Ageing religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

Bulletin Advertisements

Insert our quarter-page advertisement into your parish bulletin.

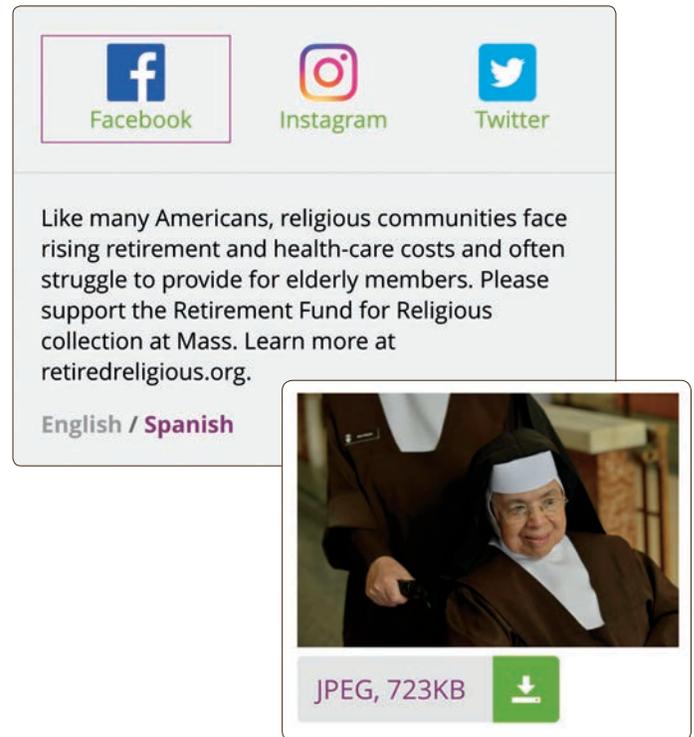
Visit retiredreligious.org/materials to download the prepared image.



Social Media

Include a notice of the collection on your parish app or social media site(s).

Visit retiredreligious.org/social-media-toolkit to download text and images.



All materials are available in English and Spanish.

Looking for more resources?
Visit our website to download bilingual bulletin inserts, web banners, Retirement Fund for Religious Facts, and more.

retiredreligious.org

Note: Printed posters, bulletin inserts, and supplemental envelopes are provided to parishes at no charge to promote the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Shipments for this year’s collection have already been processed, but if you would like to increase or decrease future shipments, please contact your (arch) diocesan coordinator.

Bulletin Announcements

Week before the collection

Support the Retirement Fund for Religious. A donor writes, “Your flyer touched my heart—seeing the retired religious, such memories surfaced.” Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Please give to next week’s second collection.

Week of the collection

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today’s second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

Week after the collection

Religious give thanks. “This money is pure gift,” writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. “It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters.” Your gift to last week’s collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Thank you for your generosity!

Anuncios para el boletín

Semana antes de la colecta

Ayude al Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos. Un donante escribe: “Su volante me llegó hasta el corazón —al ver a los religiosos jubilados, salieron a la luz tantos recuerdos”. ¿Recuerdas a las hermanas, hermanos o sacerdotes de órdenes religiosas que afectaron su vida positivamente? Hoy, muchos son ancianos y necesitan ayuda. Sus congregaciones luchan para satisfacer las necesidades de su jubilación y continuar sirviendo al Pueblo de Dios. Haga su donativo a la segunda colecta de la próxima semana.

Semana de la colecta

Los religiosos ancianos necesitan su ayuda. Hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes católicos de órdenes religiosas de edad avanzada laboraron durante muchos años con poco o ningún pago. Sus sacrificios ahora dejan a sus comunidades religiosas sin ahorros suficientes para su jubilación. Su donativo a la segunda colecta de hoy al Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos proporciona fondos vitales para medicamentos, enfermeros y más, para cientos de miles de religiosos ancianos. Sean generosos.

Semana después de la colecta

Los religiosos expresan su gratitud. “Este dinero es un don completo”, escribe una religiosa acerca de lo que el Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos hace posible. “Nos permite seguir cuidando a nuestras hermanas ancianas”. Su donativo a la campaña de la semana pasada ayuda a cientos de comunidades religiosas a satisfacer las necesidades apremiantes de jubilación mientras que siguen sirviendo al Pueblo de Dios. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!



National Religious Retirement Office

Sponsor of the Retirement Fund for Religious

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For campaign materials, visit:
retiredreligious.org