

Retirement Fund for Religious

Sponsored by the National Religious Retirement Office

Fall 2022

Your Eminence/Your Excellency,

As always, I begin with deepest thanks for your continued support of the Retirement Fund for Religious collection. The 2021 appeal raised nearly \$28.5 million. We are profoundly grateful for the tremendous generosity US Catholics share with senior religious and their communities.

Ongoing support for the collection has helped numerous religious congregations stabilize their retirement outlooks, yet many others are still struggling to meet eldercare needs. Of the 517 congregations providing data to our office, only 36 are adequately funded for retirement.

In many communities, these challenges are compounded by a lack of both overall members and those able to serve in leadership roles. Our data show that 43 percent of institutes have 25 or fewer members.

I ask for your continued assistance in promoting a generous response among the faithful. Please consider distributing a letter to parishioners that endorses the collection. (*See below right to access sample text.*) Also, please encourage pastors to announce the collection during Mass, host a Retirement Fund for Religious speaker, or both.

Religious communities are deeply thankful for the assistance the collection offers. They remain diligent in their efforts to implement comprehensive retirement strategies while serving the People of God. I join them in holding you and all who support the collection close in prayer.

With gratitude,



Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Standing, from left: Fr. William Graham, OFM Cap, 75; Sr. Mary Lucille Stelly, SSF, 89; Sr. Angele Marie Sadlier, O Carm, 91; Fr. Bertrand Ebben, OP, 90.

Seated, from left: Sr. Joan Flores, SSF, 81; Sr. Denis Rodrigue, O Carm, 93; Sr. Ann Martinez, MSC, 82.

Please visit retiredreligious.org/materials and click on the **Resources** bar to download the following items and more:

- (Arch)bishop to Parishioners Letter
- (Arch)bishop to Pastors Letter
- Bulletin Inserts
- Bulletin/Pulpit announcements



National Religious Retirement Office

Sponsor of the Retirement Fund for Religious

Conference of Major Superiors of Men • Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious
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