

Retirement Fund for Religious

Sponsored by the National Religious Retirement Office

Fall 2020

Your Eminence/Your Excellency,

On behalf of nearly 30,000 elderly religious and their communities, thank you for supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Donations underwrite funding that helps hundreds of US religious communities care for their aging members.

The 2020 appeal is scheduled for December 12–13 in most (arch)dioceses, and this year it may be challenging for many Catholics to participate. Across the nation, ongoing precautions related to the coronavirus pandemic may mean that Masses are livestreamed, or parishioner attendance is limited. Traditional in-parish promotional activities and a physical collection may not be possible.

Your continued support is thus appreciated more than ever. Please consider distributing a letter to parishioners that endorses the appeal. (*See below to access sample text.*) Also, please encourage pastors to announce the collection during Mass or to include a reminder in electronic parish communications. If possible, please add the Retirement Fund for Religious as an option for parish and (arch)diocesan online giving platforms.

For numerous religious communities, Covid-19 has increased the challenge to provide adequate eldercare. At the same time, we recognize that many parishes and (arch)dioceses are also struggling. The pandemic crisis surely affects all of us. Please be assured that women and men religious across the country hold you and your parishioners in prayer and hope.

With gratitude,



Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM
Executive Director

**To download the following items and more, please visit
and click on the Resources bar.**

- (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
Leadership Conference of Women Religious • United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

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Above, from left: Sister Alice Garcia, SSCJ, 91; Brother Martin Gonzales, OCSO, 95; Sister Theresa McGrath, CCVI, 86; Sister Anne Cecile Muldoon, OSU, 93; Abbot Emeritus Peter Eberle, OSB, 79.
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