



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

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December 6, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious is next weekend, December 14/15. This campaign is crucial, benefiting more than 24,000 elderly sisters, brothers and religious-order priests who have been faithful servants within the Church.

Most senior religious worked many years for little pay, leaving their religious communities with a shortage of retirement savings. Rising health care costs and decreased income compound the challenge to meet day-to-day needs for medications, nursing assistance and other necessities.

Since 1988, the Catholic bishops of the United States have organized a collection to address the deficit in retirement funds among religious communities. Proceeds from the collection help communities across the country to provide for the ongoing needs of aging religious priests, sisters and brothers.

I am grateful for the impact these women and men religious have had on our faith journeys. Their steadfast service has impacted our Diocese, inspiring and guiding us as we grow in faith. Your contributions to the Retirement Fund for Religious play a vital role in providing necessary financial support. In addition to your financial support, please keep all our women and men religious in your prayers.

With gratitude for your continued support and every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach