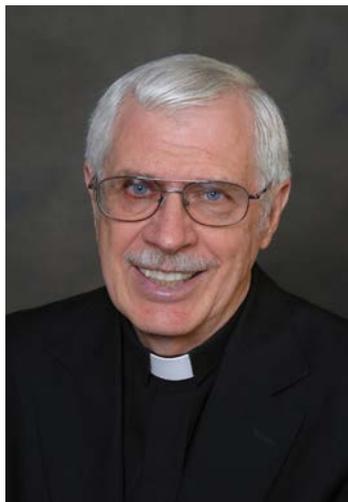


Rockford Diocesan Priests' Pension Plan



Rev. Karl P. Ganss

Our priests devote their lives to bringing people closer to Christ. In retirement, our priests continue to serve as spiritual leaders, counselors, ministers to the sick and much more. With gratitude for their years of faithful ministry, the Diocese has a Priests' Pension Plan to support our 57 currently retired priests and those who will retire in the future.

Father Karl Ganss has served our Diocese for more than 49 years. He continues to do so by assisting the pastors in celebrating the sacraments in parishes, and teaching in the Diaconate Formation program during his retirement. We thank you, Father Ganss, and all our priests for your continued faithful service in retirement.

Last year, the faithful of our Diocese contributed \$141,886.

To make your donation on-line, please visit: www.rockforddiocese.org/donate

2018



INTERNATIONAL APPEAL

COMBINED COLLECTION FOR THE **UNIVERSAL CATHOLIC CHURCH**

To donate on-line please visit:
www.rockforddiocese.org/donate

March 10-11, 2018

March, 2018

A Message from Bishop Malloy

On the weekend of March 10 – 11, we in the Diocese of Rockford will be given an opportunity to assist our fellow Catholics and others in need throughout the world.

That weekend, we will take up the International Appeal Collection. Central to that offering is the Peter's Pence offering which goes to assist the Holy Father in his world-wide mission of charity. Our offering allows us to fulfill our duty of charity beyond our national borders. As Pope Francis has said, "Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid."

As part of that collection, we also contribute to the excellent international world of Catholic Relief Services, to the U.S. Bishops' work for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, and to worldwide and domestic disaster relief.

As always, the collection is also an occasion to contribute to the pensions of the priests of the Diocese of Rockford who have served us and our families over the years. And we can contribute to the on-going needs for support of Catholic Elementary School programs as we pass on the faith to the next generation.

In all of these elements of that collection, we stand with the Church in Her work of love and charity. Please pray over these needs and then give generously what you are able.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *David J. Malloy*

Most Reverend David J. Malloy
Bishop of Rockford



Most Reverend David J. Malloy

Peter's Pence

The Peter's Pence Collection provides the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his most important charitable works. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Your gift makes you a pilgrim of charity around the globe. Last year, the people of our Diocese contributed \$172,997 to this appeal.

Visit: www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/peters-pence



Aid to the Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe

This collection funds projects in 28 countries to build the pastoral capacity of the Church and to rebuild and restore the faith and the light of Christ in these countries that have dark pasts but bright futures. The funds are used to grant monies to support seminaries, social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral centers, church construction and renovation. Last year the faithful of the Diocese contributed \$21,480 to this appeal.

Visit: www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunitiesfor-giving/central-and-eastern-europe/

Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRS)

The Catholic Relief Services Collection values families. Their work includes resettling and welcoming displaced individuals and families, and advocating on behalf of victims of atrocities such as human trafficking. CRS provides for their basic humanitarian needs, and encourages legislation that reflects the importance of family in society. The reach of this Collection spans the globe, helping families on every continent, with an array of ethnicities and backgrounds, addressing a myriad of needs. Last year, \$69,213 was distributed to this appeal.

Visit: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Worldwide and U.S. Disaster Relief Fund Rockford Diocese Response

Whenever a natural disaster occurs and/or a significant need exists, Most Reverend David J. Malloy receives numerous petitions for financial assistance from his brother bishops in the affected area. With the creation of this fund, he has resources available to respond on behalf of the people of the Rockford Diocese. This past year, Bishop Malloy distributed a total of \$20,000 to aid the Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Harvey victims, in addition to the multiple emergency collections taken up at parishes this year.

Catholic Elementary School Financial Support for the Diocese of Rockford

To ensure that we maintain the opportunity for parents to enroll their children in the excellent Catholic elementary schools within our Diocese, we have created a special way for you to assist the Diocese of Rockford in supporting schools that have operating deficits and need your help to become financially viable.



Your support through prayer and donations will help our schools continue to provide a quality education, and religious and moral formation in a world badly in need of Gospel values.

Thanks to your generous gifts, we gave \$45,392 to needy schools in our Diocese this year!

For more information or to donate visit:
www.rockforddiocese.org/donate