

In retirement, many of our priests continue to serve as spiritual leaders, counselors, ministers to the sick, and much more. To continue to care for those who have cared for us, the Diocese of Rockford has a Priests' Pension Program that supports our 40 currently retired priests and those that will retire in the future. We are grateful for the years of faithful service provided by now-retired Rev. Paul M. Lipinski, for example.

Last year, the faithful of our Diocese contributed \$136,793 to support our retired priests.

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ROCKFORD DIOCESAN PRIESTS' PENSION



2022 | ROCKFORD DIOCESE
COMBINED APPEALS
for The Universal Catholic Church

ONE IN CHRIST

JANUARY 15-16



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A Message from Bishop Malloy

JANUARY 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

Your support for the 2022 National Appeal in the Diocese of Rockford empowers local communities, shares the Gospel message with our neighbors, and cares for elderly religious. Through this combined appeal collection on January 15-16, we continue the work of building the Kingdom of God right here in our own country and within our own Diocese. Rather than make separate collections for the requests in this appeal, and the many other needs of the church, our Diocese has opted to combine these requests into three separate appeals spaced throughout the year. The National Appeal is the first of these combined appeals in 2022.

Benefited by the National Appeal are more than 26,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who are living witnesses to the Gospel. After long lives of service to Catholic schools, hospitals, and communities, many of these retired religious now volunteer in ministry, while others are frail and need assistance. Our combined collection helps care for these elderly men and women, including in our own Diocese, who have given so much to the Church.

Our National Appeal aids The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC in providing academic scholarships to students and meeting other needs of the university. The school was founded by a papal charter in 1887 and is the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States. By giving to this collection, you help support our country's future Catholic leaders - both religious and lay - in receiving educations rooted in faith.

The Catholic Communication Campaign receives funding through our combined appeal, as well, with half of the contributions directed to this campaign remaining in our own diocese. These local efforts share the Gospel through the televised Catholic Mass as well as "Top O' the Morning" weekday broadcasts, periodic livestreamed Masses from our diocesan Cathedral, Be Reconciled Day and other communications projects. Another portion of this appeal supports the national anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops. Of those contributions made toward the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, 25% will remain in our diocese to empower those locally living in poverty to transform their lives and our very own communities in the process.

Finally, the National Appeal directly benefits our Catholic elementary schools throughout the Diocese of Rockford and our 40 retired priests, most of whom continue to serve our parishes as they are able. These funds are used to support our grade schools that directly impact the religious and moral formation of our future Church and our retired priests' pensions.

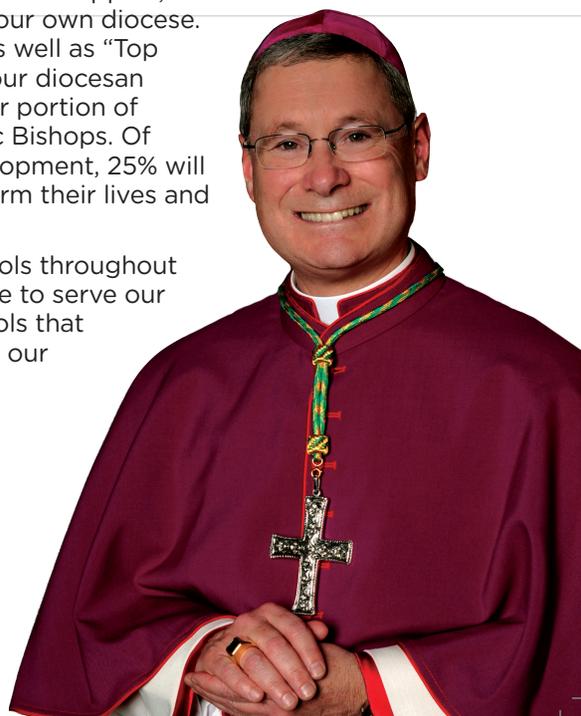
Thank you for considering generous support of the 2022 National Appeal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *David J. Malloy*

Most Reverend David J. Malloy
Bishop of Rockford

"Through this combined appeal collection we continue the work of building the Kingdom of God."





RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS (RFR)

This annual appeal benefits over 26,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.

For most of their lives, religious men and women worked for small stipends and room and board. There were no 401(k) plans or pensions. Many religious communities struggle to provide for aging members. Rising health-care costs and decreased

income compound the struggle to provide adequate care. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations implement long-range retirement strategies, even as they continue to serve the People of God. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$165,918 last year.

retiredreligious.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (CCC)

Through Internet, television, radio or newspapers, the Catholic Church embraces technologies, old and new, to spread the Gospel message. The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) supports Catholic media projects in our Diocese and all over the United States. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$90,066 last year.

usccb.org



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CCHD)

The collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) works to interrupt the root causes of poverty across the United States through grants to community-based groups who create jobs, improve education, and strengthen neighborhoods. Twenty-five percent of the CCHD collection stays in the Diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$21,981 last year.

usccb.org/cchd

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA (CUA)

The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. has served the Church, its students and the nation since its establishment in 1887. CUA offers over 6,000 students per year an exceptional Catholic education that is grounded in the Catholic intellectual tradition. Every dollar given directly supports financial assistance for students from dioceses across the country. There are over 40 students from Illinois including 7 from our own diocese attending the undergraduate, Law or Graduate programs. With your help, the Diocese distributed \$6,424 last year.

engage.catholic.edu/giving/how-give/national-collection

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD

This part of the appeal provides a special way for you to assist the Diocese of Rockford to support schools that have operating deficits and need your help to become and remain financially viable. Your support through prayer and donations will help our underprivileged schools to continue to provide quality academic education along with religious and moral formation. Thanks to your generous gifts, \$286,833 was distributed last year to needy schools in our Diocese.

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