



May 2024

Dear Pastor/Administrator/Parish Director,

This year's annual Combined Collections: Church in the United States appeal will take place next month, and I wanted to take this opportunity to share details about the collection with you.

This year's collection will be held June 8-9, 2024 and will focus on four ministries that have a meaningful impact on our local and national communities. These ministries include:

- Black and Indian Missions
- Catholic Communication Campaign
- Catholic University of America
- Fund for Religious Retirement

Four bulletin inserts (available in English and Spanish) have been created for use within your parish community, and are excellent educational tools. The ideal timing for use of these inserts would be in the weeks leading up to the collection weekend. Of course, you are free to use these inserts at any time during the year to share information about these important ministries.

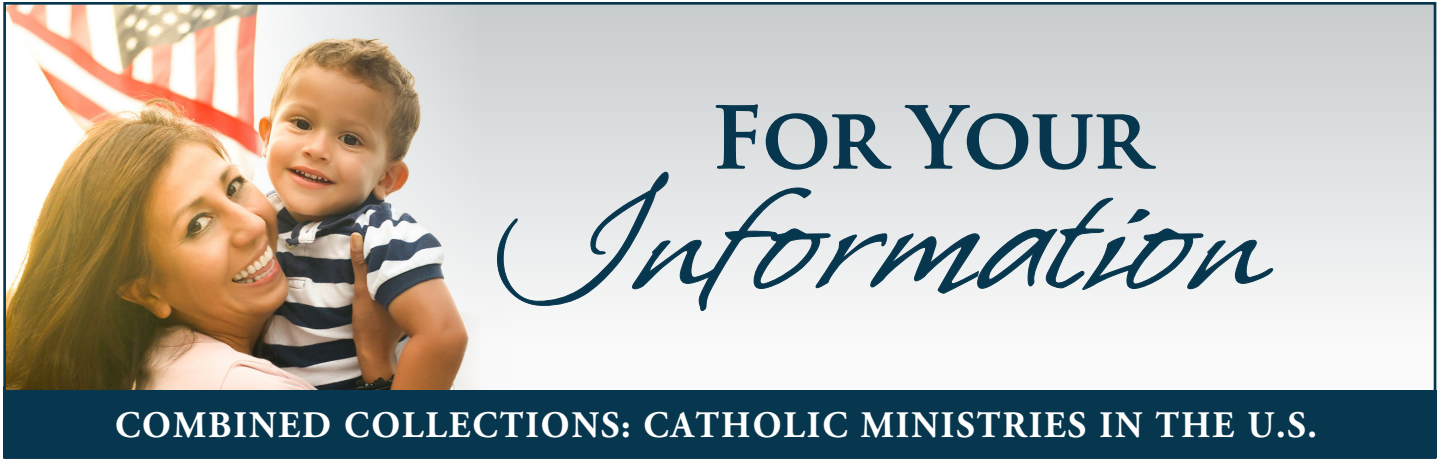
Your enthusiastic support of the appeal is an important factor in good participation in the collection. We realize that it may be difficult to preach on four causes, as there are many other demands. However, your endorsement of the appeal would be most helpful and very much appreciated.

The mailing your parishioners receive will include return envelopes addressed to our bank lockbox for deposit and recording. *If parishioners return these envelopes in your collection basket, please send the unopened envelopes to the bank in the specially addressed envelopes we have provided you.* It is critical that we receive the return envelopes this way in order to give proper credit to each parishioner's record. This is especially important for tax purposes. We have also enclosed extra envelopes for visitors or for new parishioners who may not be a part of our database. If there are parish staff members or volunteers who assist with the **Combined Collections: Church in the United States** appeal, please share this information with them or provide them with my contact information so I can answer any questions.

Thank you so much for all that you have done and continue to do to help make the **Combined Collections: Church in the United States** appeal a success. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Archdiocesan Development Office at (414) 769-3570 or 1-800-769-3300, ext. 570.

Sincerely,

Michele Nabih
Systems and Operations Director
Development Office



PACKAGE ENCLOSURE CHECK LIST:

- Cover letter
- “For your information” sheet
- Poster, sample bulletin insert, “in pew” collection envelopes (for visitors and for new parishioners who did not receive the mailing) and self-addressed bank lockbox envelopes.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN BE ACCESSED AT:

<https://www.archmil.org/giving/Combined-Collections.htm>

- Letter from Archbishop ListECKi (This letter will be sent to all households)
- Pulpit/bulletin announcements and sample intercessions
- Bulletin Ad
- Social Media Graphic
- Bulletin Inserts

ACTION STEPS:

1. Make sure all materials listed above are enclosed.
2. Promotional weekend for the **Combined Collections: Catholic Ministries in The United States** is **June 1-2, 2024**. Please...
 - Use bulletin insert and announcement
 - Include the bulletin inserts in bulletins during the weeks preceding the collection
 - Read the letter from Archbishop ListECKi
 - Read pulpit announcement; use background information and sample intercessions
 - Remind parishioners about the **Combined Collections: Church in the United States** mailing they will receive at home. The mail date will be **May 28, 2024**. Encourage them to use the pledge card and envelope they receive to make their gift.
 - Announce that the collection will be taken **June 8-9, 2024** for the **Combined Collections: Catholic Ministries in the United States**. They may bring their envelope to church.
3. Even though most will mail their donations directly, please take a collection for the **Combined Collections: Catholic Ministries in the United States** at all Masses in June. This is an important invitation for non-registered members to support these valuable causes.
4. Any returns to parishes should be sent to the bank lockbox (in the self-addressed envelopes provided) by July 12. Parishes will receive Combined Collections reports from the Development Office along with their September Catholic Stewardship Appeal reports. The report shows the amount contributed and total of parishioners from your parish.

Parishioner response will parallel your level of encouragement.



SAMPLE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS

Your contribution to the Combined Collections: Catholic Ministries in the United States aids the work of the National Religious Retirement Office, Catholic Communication Campaign, Catholic University of America, and Black and Indian Mission. Soon you will receive information in your mail about these collections. Please be generous in your support. You may mail in your contribution or bring it to Mass the weekend of June 8-9, 2024.

SAMPLE INTERCESSIONS

That the Holy Spirit will fill our hearts, calling us to consider prayerfully our support for the Combined Collections causes, we pray to the Lord ...

That, even amid our own pressures and responsibilities, the Holy Spirit will fill us with the grace to respond generously to people in need through the Combined Collections, we pray to the Lord ...

EJEMPLO DE AVISOS PARROQUIALES EN EL BOLETÍN

A TODOS NUESTROS FELIGRESES

Su contribución a las Colectas Diversas para los Ministerios Católicos en los Estados Unidos apoya el esfuerzo de la Oficina Nacional de Religiosos Jubilados, la Campaña Católica para la Comunicación, la Universidad Católica de América y las Misiones Afroamericanas e Indígenas. Muy pronto usted recibirá información sobre estas colectas por medio del correo ordinario. Por favor sea generoso. Puede enviar su donativo por medio del correo o llevarlo directamente a su parroquia el día 8 y 9 de junio de 2024.

EJEMPLO DE INTERCESIONES

Que el Espíritu Santo mueva nuestros corazones motivándonos a brindar apoyo a la colecta de las diversas causas, roguemos al Señor ...

Que, a pesar de nuestras propias preocupaciones y responsabilidades, el Espíritu Santo nos conceda la gracia necesaria para corresponder generosamente a la gente más necesitada a través de las diversas colectas, roguemos al Señor ...



SAMPLE PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Combined Collections: Catholic Ministries in the United States will be held next week, June 8-9, 2024 supporting four causes important to Catholics throughout the country:

- Black and Indian Mission — Funds projects which help communities here in southeastern Wisconsin and across the United States.
- The Catholic Communication Campaign — Provides for local and national communication needs.
- Catholic University of America — Educates students in a spirit of faith.
- Retirement Fund for Religious — Helps to ensure adequate retirement funding for elderly religious throughout the country.

This collection offers a wonderful opportunity to support hands-on efforts to help people in need. Please give generously ... your gift does make a difference!

EJEMPLO DE AVISOS DESDE EL PÚLPITO

Las Colectas Diversas para los Ministerios Católicos en los Estados Unidos tendrán lugar la próxima semana, 8 y 9 de junio de 2024, con el fin de apoyar cuatro importantes causas para los católicos en todo el país:

- Misiones Afroamericanas e Indígenas — Proporciona fondos para proyectos que beneficiarán a comunidades en el sureste de Wisconsin y a través de todo el país.
- Campaña Católica para la Comunicación — Apoya las necesidades de comunicación local y nacional.
- Universidad Católica de América — Educando a los estudiantes en un espíritu de fe.
- Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos — Ayuda a asegurar un adecuado fondo de jubilación para religiosos ancianos en todo el país.

Esta colecta ofrece la maravillosa oportunidad de apoyar a la gente más necesitada. ¡Por favor sea generoso ... su donativo hace la diferencia!