**DIOCESE OF SHREVEPORT**

**Second Collections for the Year 2023**

**Collection Announcement Dates Collection Dates**

The Church in Latin America January 7/8 & 14/15 January 21 & 22

Diocesan Catholic Schools \*\*\* January 14/15 & 21/22 January 28 & 29

Black and Indian Missions\* January 21/22 & 28/29 February 4 & 5

Diocesan Retired Priests’ Fund\*\*\* Feb. 11/12 & 18/19 (Main Collection) Ash Wed. – Feb. 22

*and* Collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE) Feb. 11/12 & 18/19 (Second Collection) Ash Wed. – Feb. 22

Operation Rice Bowl\*\* February 11/12 & 18/19 Feb. 22 – April 9

 (Ash Wed. – Easter Sun.)

The CRS Collection March 4/5 & 11/12 March 19

Pontifical Good Friday Collection March 26/26 & April 1/2 April 7

for the Holy Land (Good Friday)

Diocesan Church Vocations\*\*\* March 25/26 & April 1/2 April 8 & 9

 (Easter Sunday)

Catholic Home Missions Appeal\* April 15/16 & 22/23 April 29 & 30

Catholic Communications Campaign\*\* May 6/7 & 13/14 May 20 & 21

Peter’s Pence June 17/18 & 24/25 July 1 & 2

Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa July 1/2 & 8/9 July 15 & 16

Diocesan Hispanic Ministry\*\*\* July 29/30 & August 5/6 August 12 & 13

The Catholic University of America August 26/27 & September 2/3 September 9 & 10

World Mission Sunday October 7/8 & 14/15 October 21 & 22

Mary’s House\*\*\* October 21/22 & 28/29 November 4 & 5

(Archdiocese for Military Service not taken up in 2023)

Catholic Campaign for November 4/5 & 11/12 November 18 & 19

Human Development

Retirement Fund for Religious\* November 25/26 & December 2/3 December 9 & 10

Diocesan Infirm Priests’ Fund\*\*\* December 9/10 & 16/17 December 24 & 25

 (Christmas Eve & Day)

***Fathers: Please encourage strong participation from your parishioners for these collections.***

\*Indicates our diocese receives a significant grant from these national collections.

\*\*Indicates that a percentage of these collections are retained in or returned to our diocese.

\*\*\*Indicates 100% of these collections remain in our diocese.

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**

All funds collected for parish support belong to the parish. This includes Saturday, Sunday and Holy Day collections. The pastor (parish priest) is ultimately responsible for the safekeeping of all parish funds, including Day Ledger and Journal of Receipts.

Pastors and other priests of the parish must follow the approved diocesan procedure for the collection counting or accounting of parish collections. Although the pastor/priest is not a member of the counting team, he is nonetheless responsible for maintaining the counting/accounting process.

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

Second collections for diocesan and universal needs are to be taken up according to the annual schedule (attached). **Special Second Collections require the permission of the local Ordinary.** All funds for second collections are to be sent within **three weeks** to the Diocesan Business Office. Under no circumstances are these funds to be retained in the parish beyond **three weeks**.

Follow approved diocesan procedures for collecting and counting parish collections. Pastor, parochial vicar, associate priests, or any staff member who is involved in the depositing or accounting of the proceeds must not be a member of the collecting and counting teams. The counting team is ultimately responsible for the accuracy of the count and adhering to the procedure.

**EMERGENCY COLLECTIONS**

The Diocese of Shreveport is always moved by all tragedies and natural disasters, locally and worldwide, that result in severe loss of life and property leaving our brothers and sisters in Christ in dire situations.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is quick to establish a procedure to request funding for these calamities. Once a determination has been made regarding a special collection and a procedure for collecting, processing, and passing the donations along, the diocese will issue a request through the parishes to be coordinated by each pastor.

In the event of an emergency, collections authorized by the Bishop or USCCB, the same procedures established for second collections should be followed.

Thank you for your support in funding these special requests.